STARVING ANONYMOUS

Story by Yuu Kuraishi × *Art by* Kazu Inabe

Original concept by Kengo Mizutani

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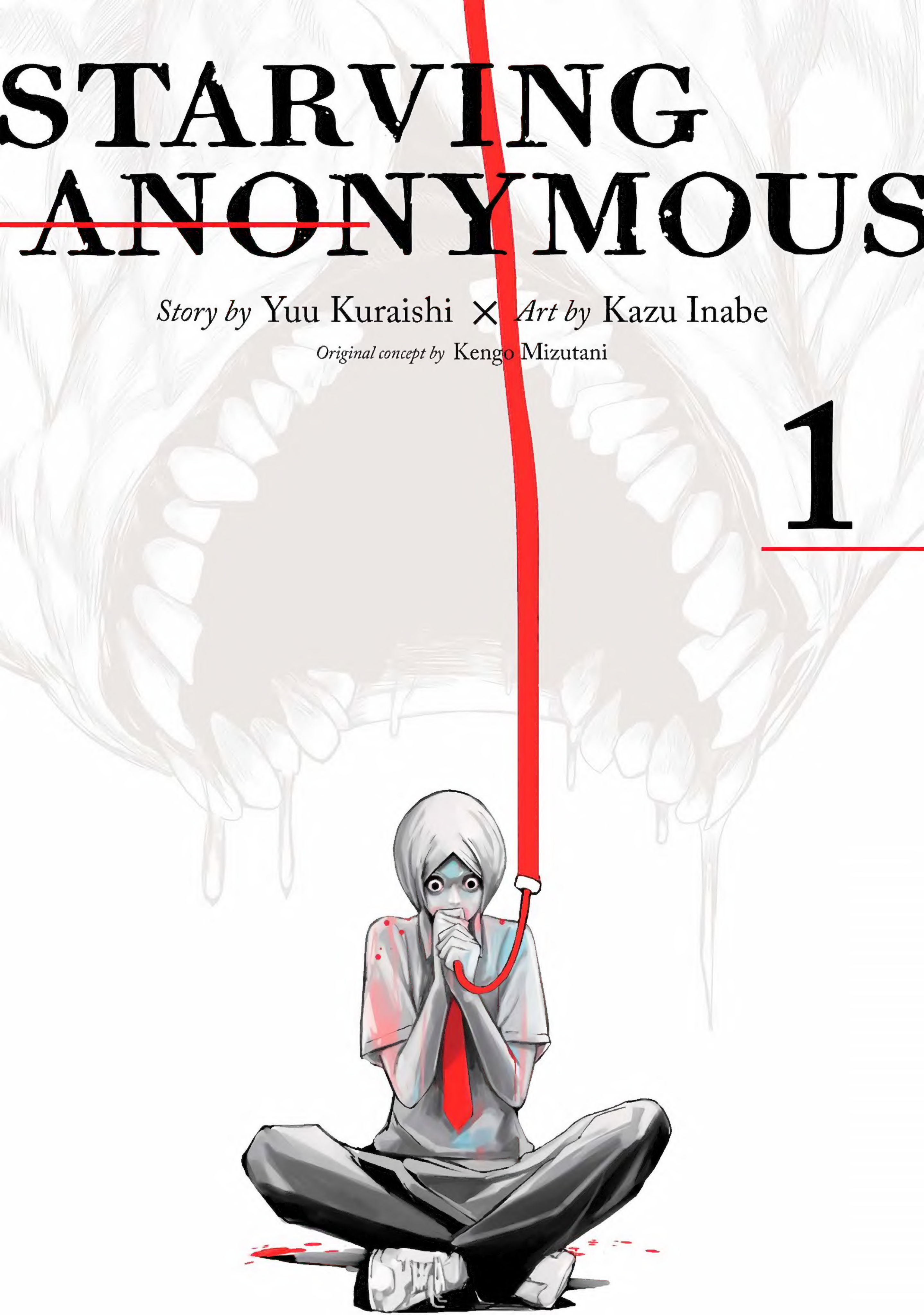

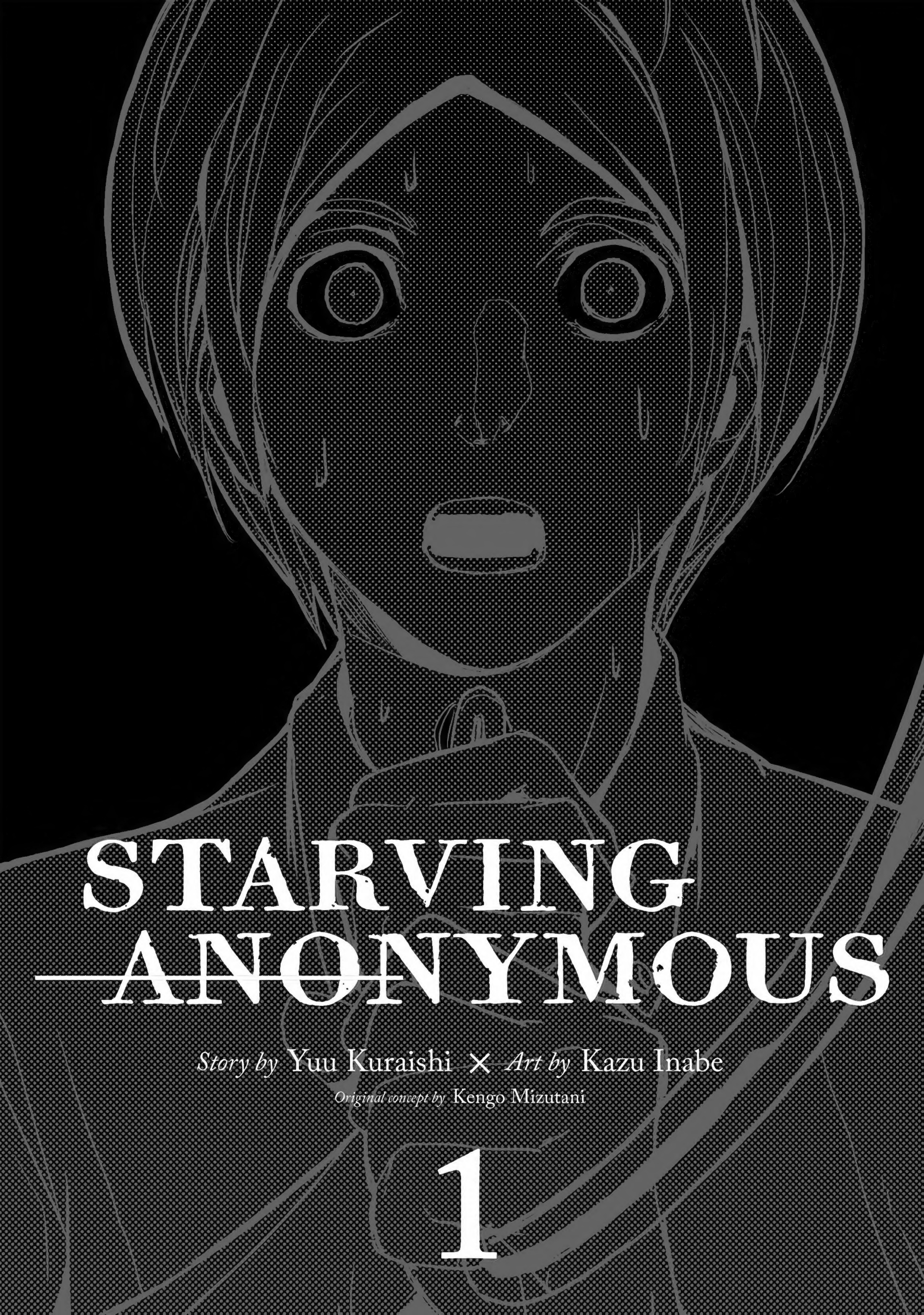

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1

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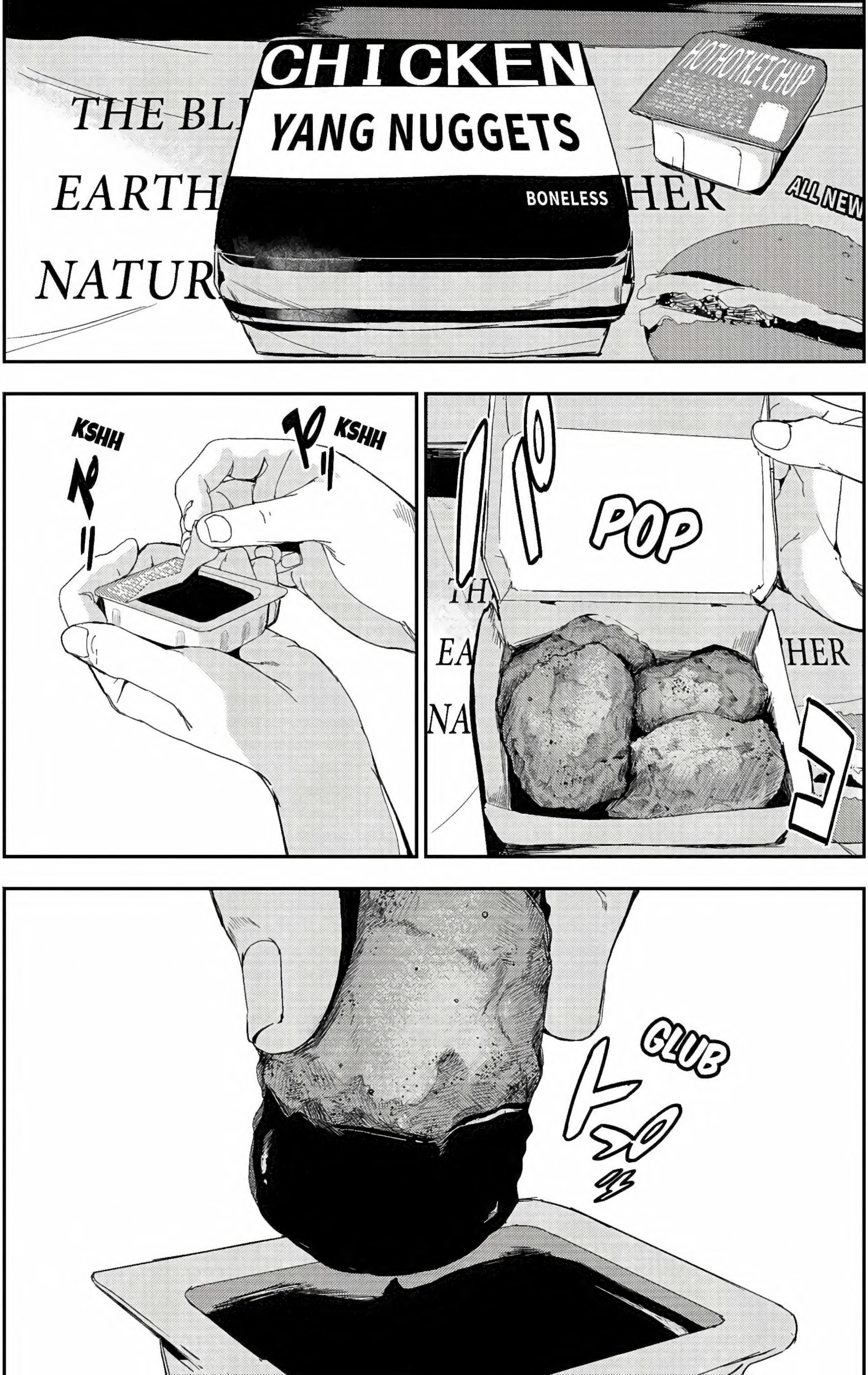
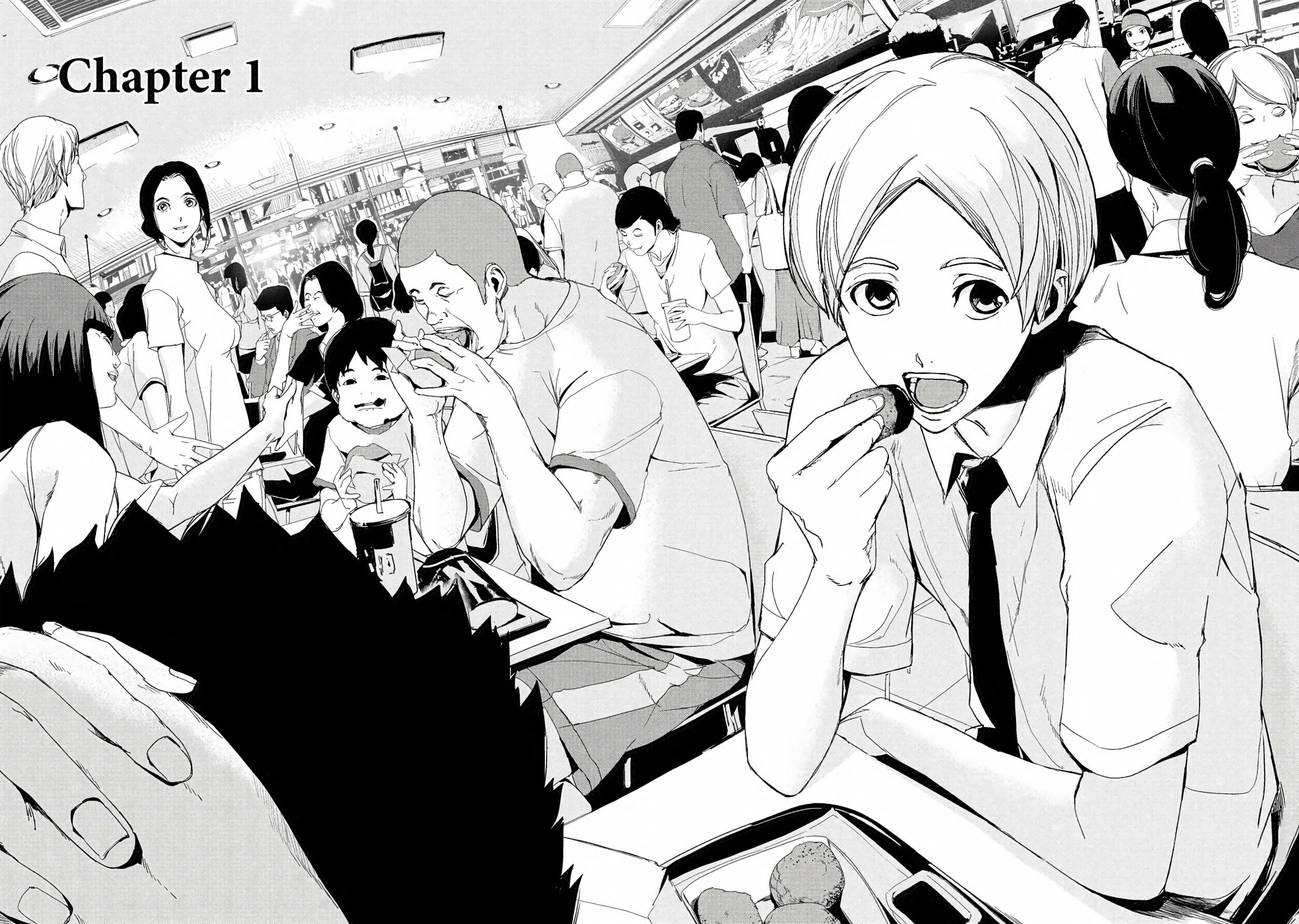
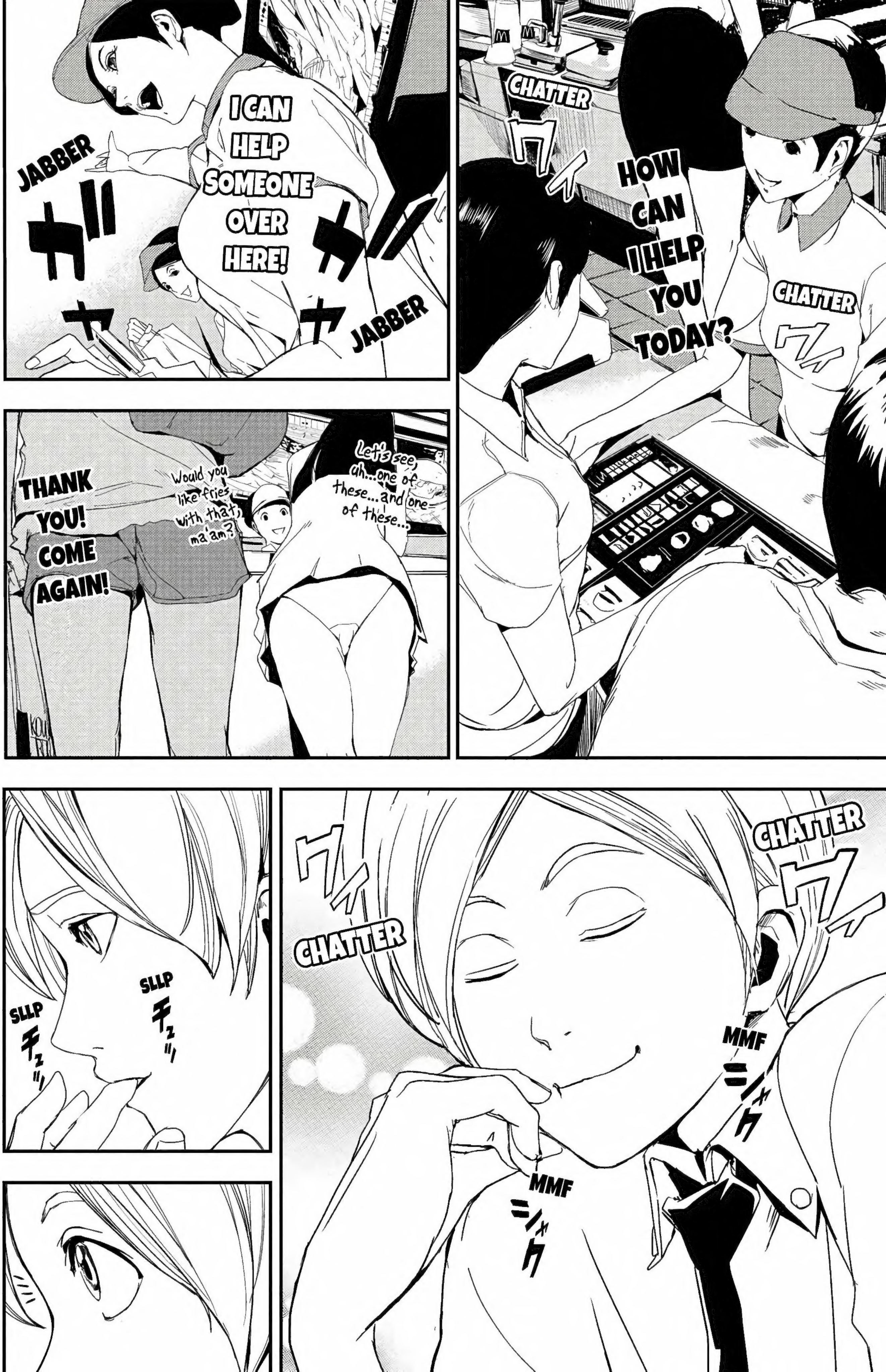
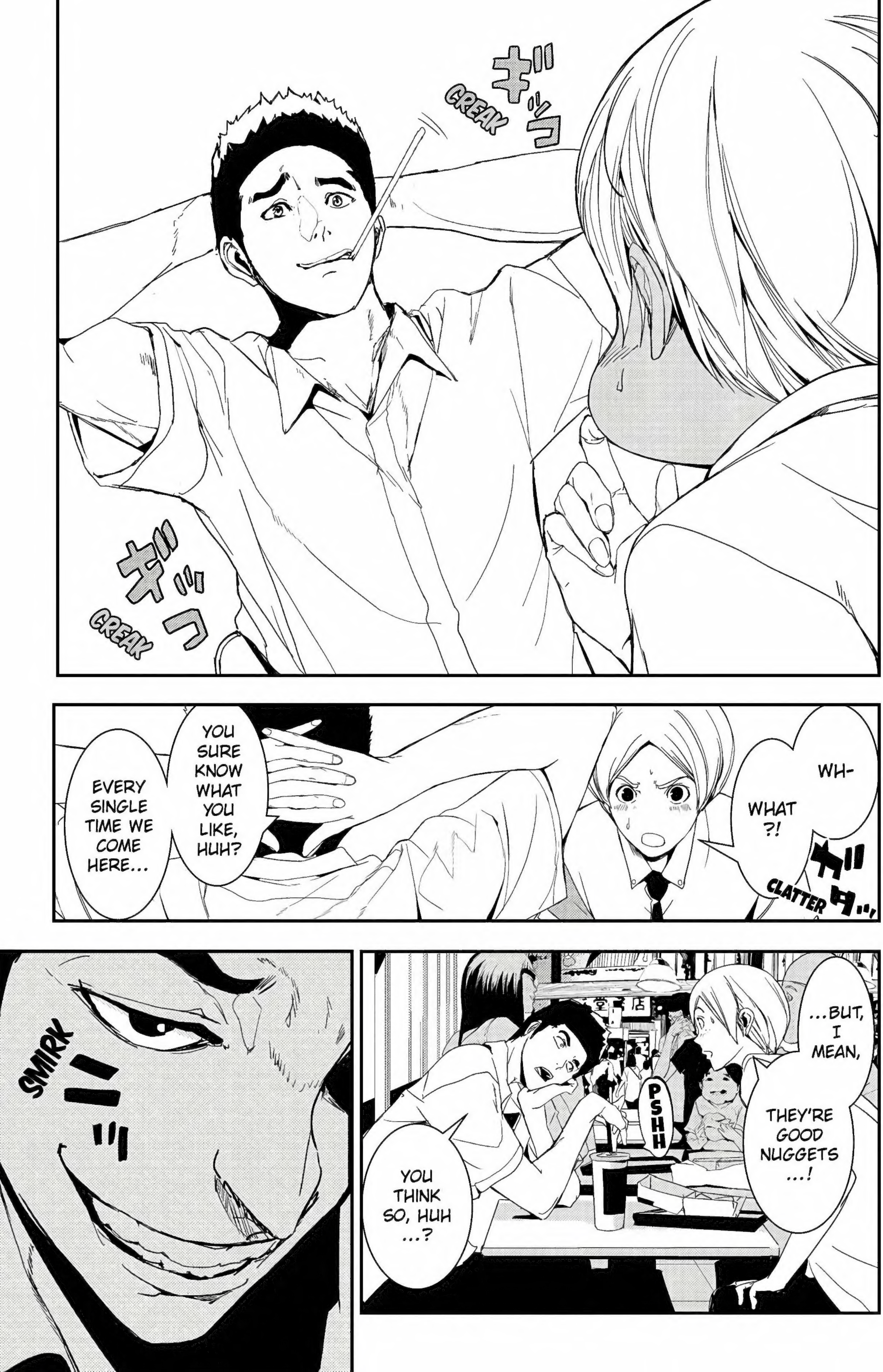


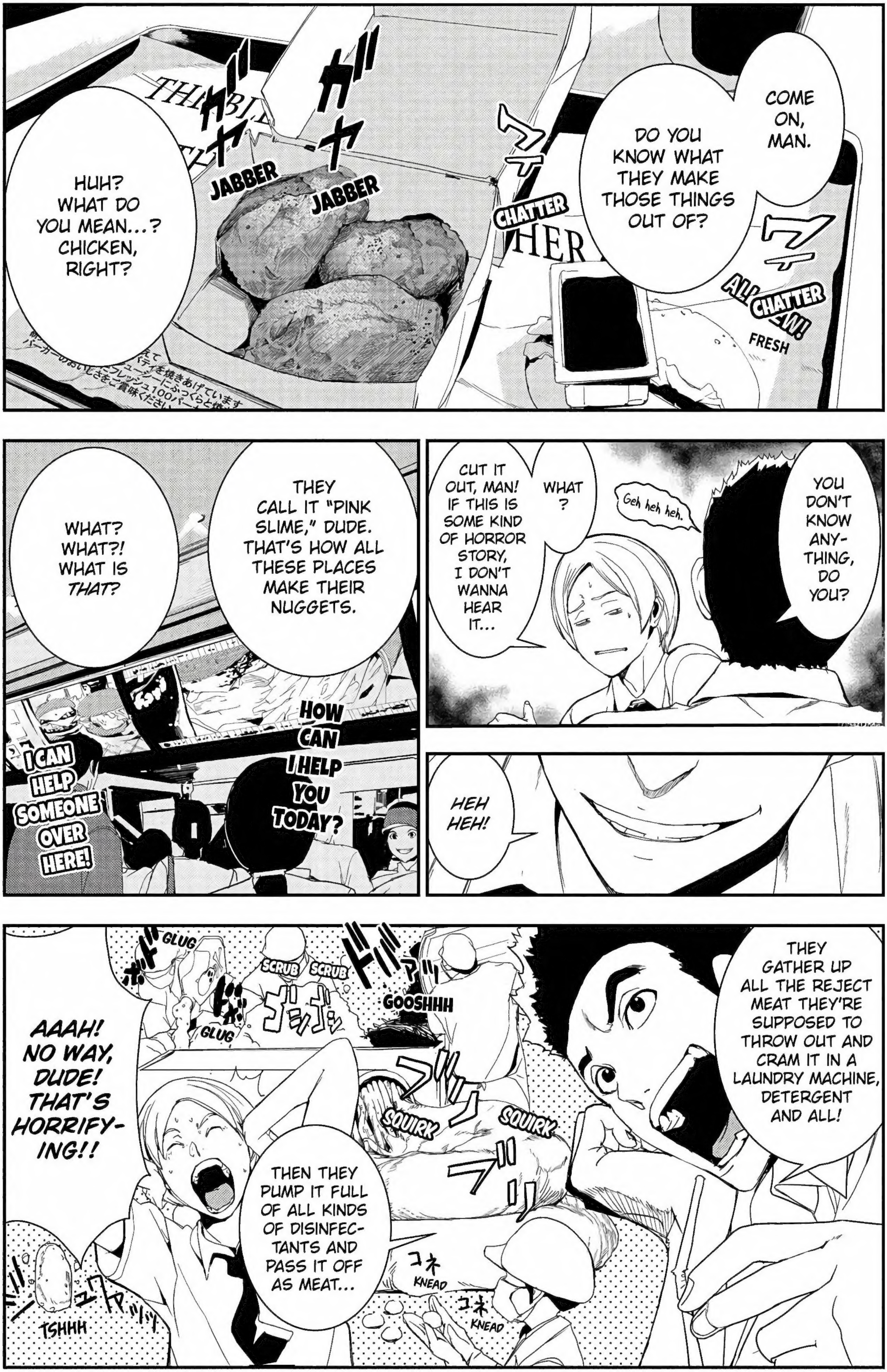
CHICKEN
YANG NUGGETS
BONELESS
HOTHOTKETCHUP
ALL NEW
THE BL
EARTH
HER
NATUR
POP
TH
EA
HER
NA
KSHH
KSHH
GLUB

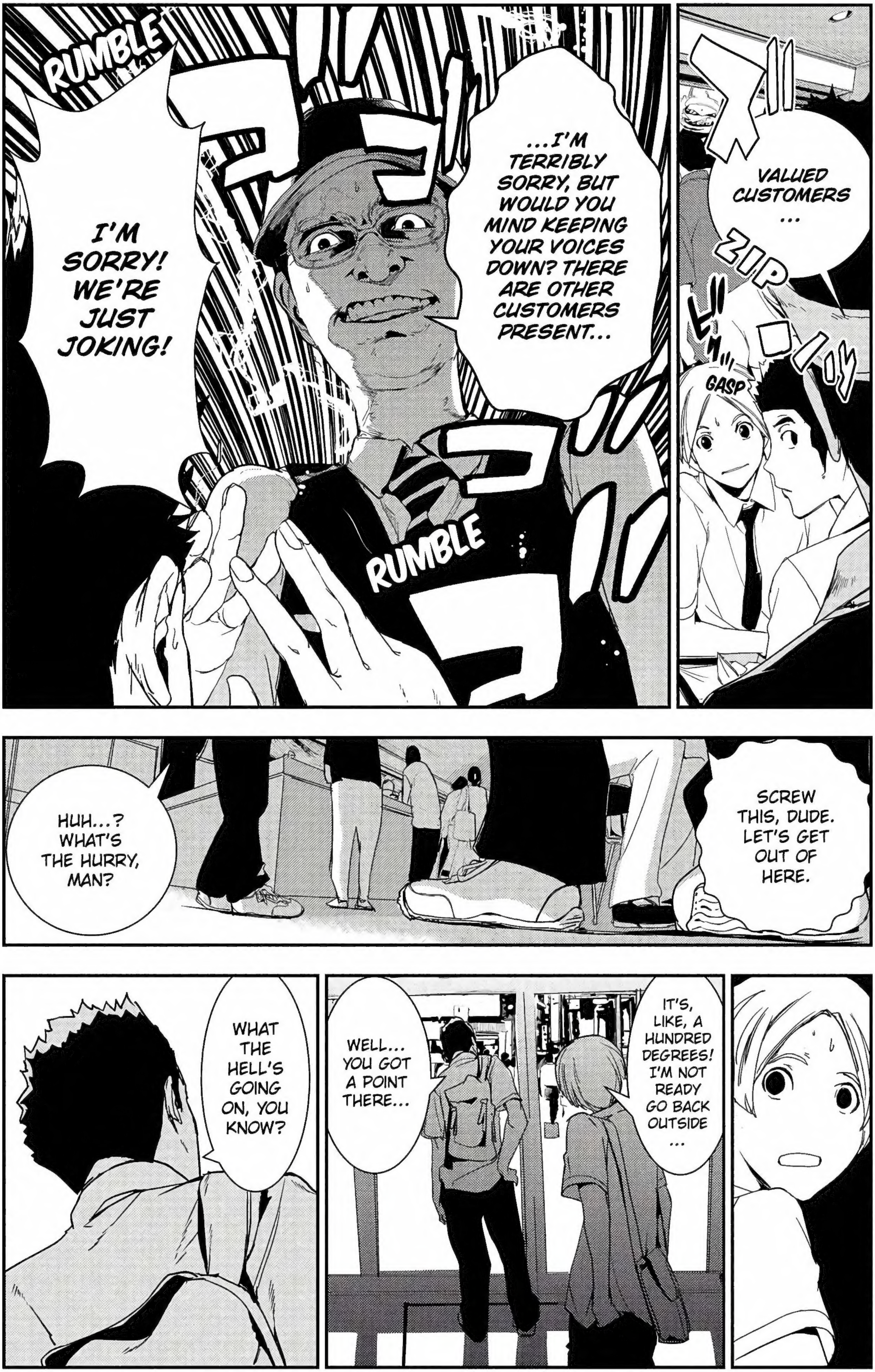
Chapter 1

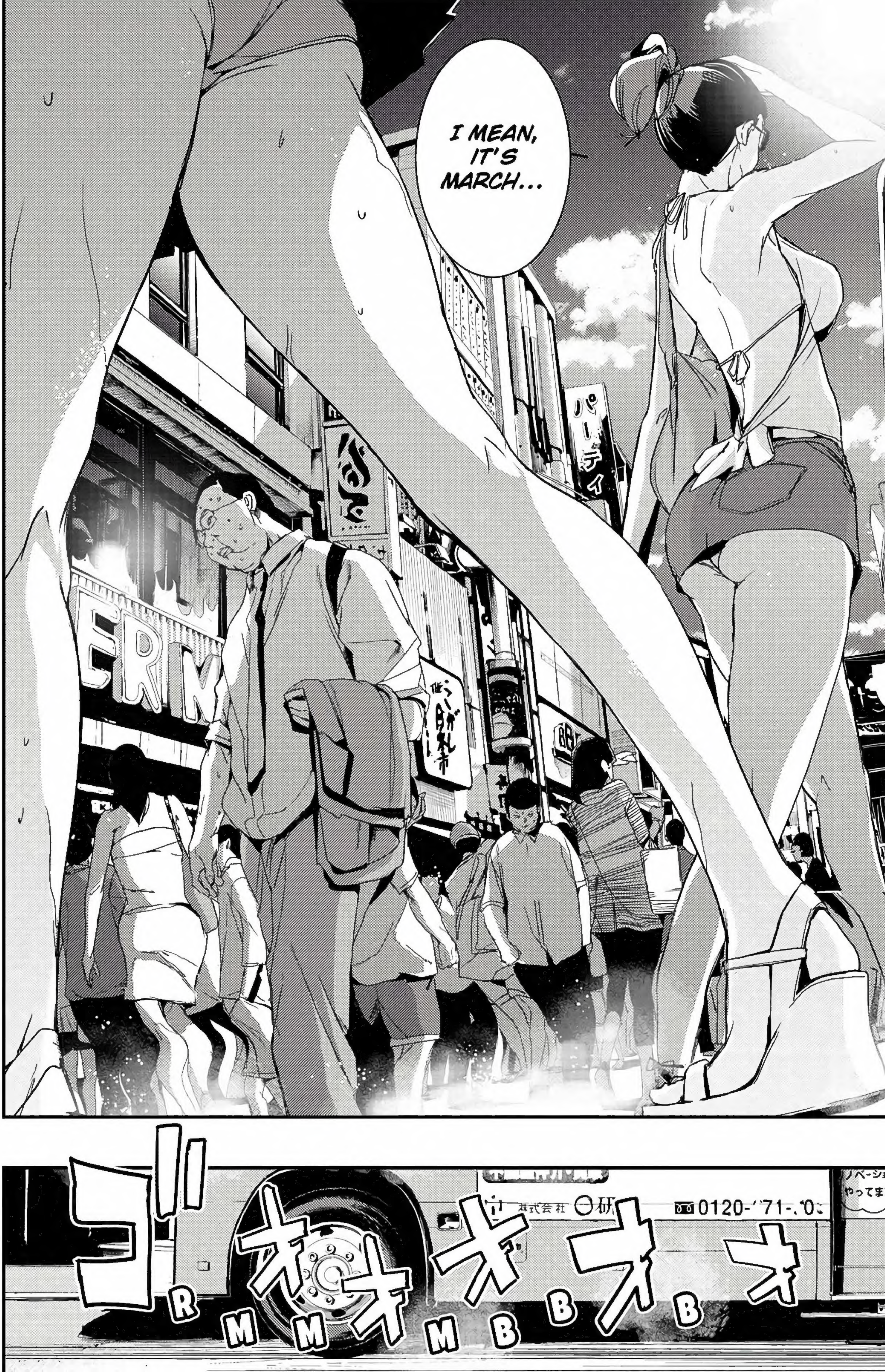


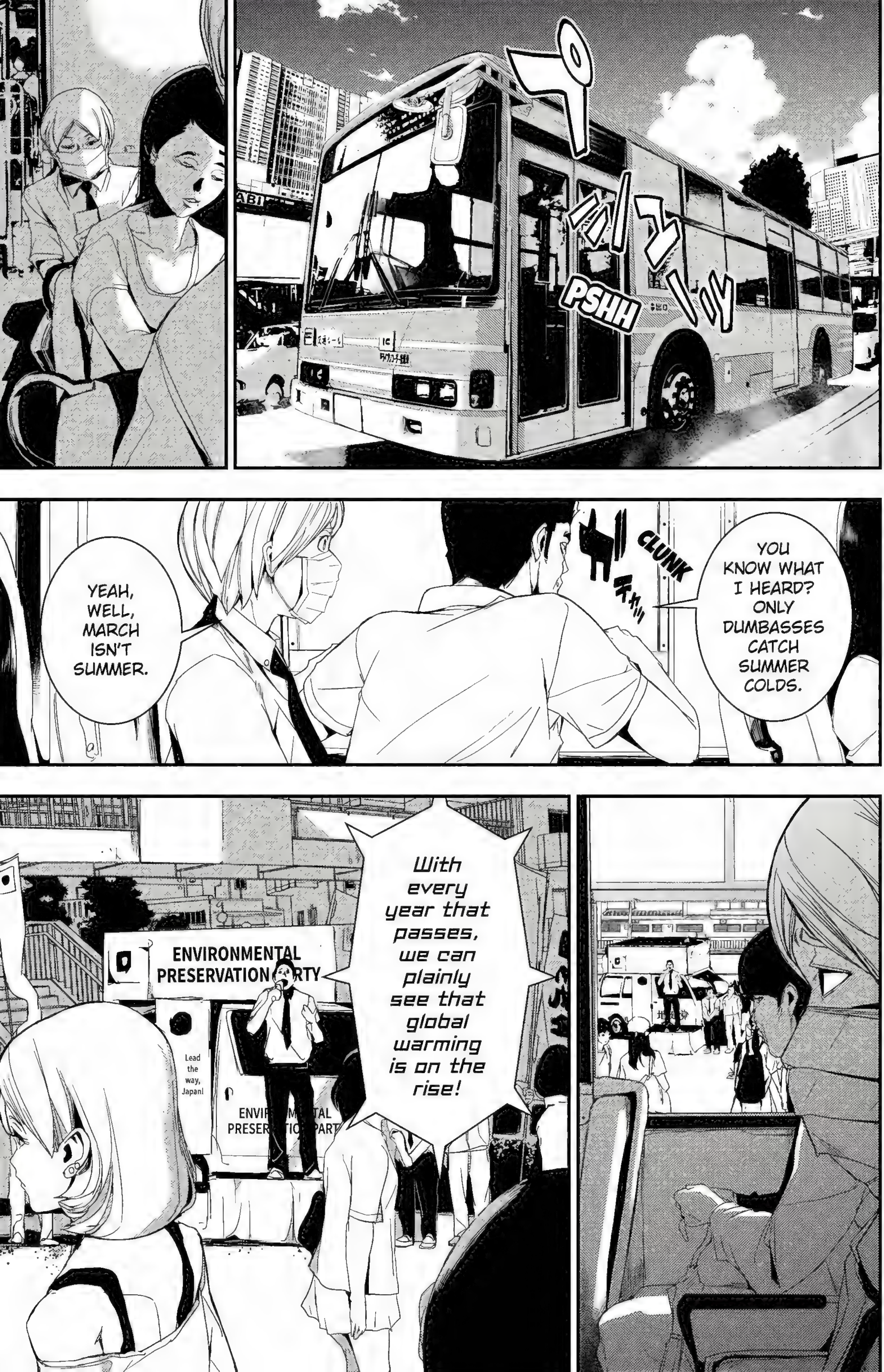

CHATTER
ワイ
HOW CAN I HELP YOU TODAY?
CHATTER
ワイ
JABBER
ガヤ
I CAN HELP SOMEONE OVER HERE!
ガヤ
JABBER
Let's see, uh...one of these...and one of these...
Would you like fries with that, ma'am?
THANK YOU! COME AGAIN!
CHATTER
ワイ
ワイ
CHATTER
MMF
ニャク
MMF
ニャク
SLLP
チュッ
SLLP
チュッ

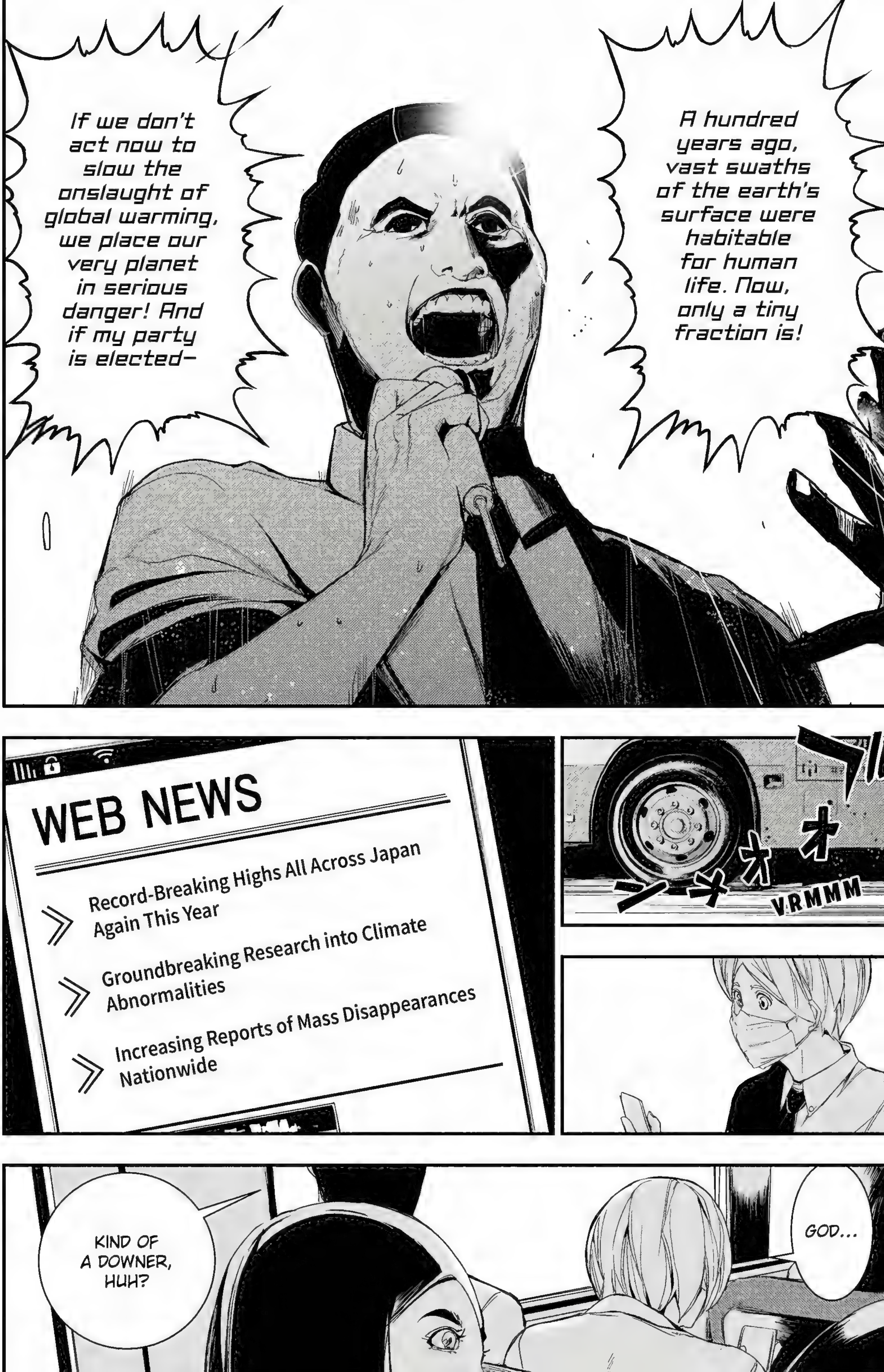

ギッ
CREAK
ギッ
CREAK
WH- WHAT?!
ガタッ
CLATTER
YOU SURE KNOW WHAT YOU LIKE, HUH?
EVERY SINGLE TIME WE COME HERE...
...BUT, I MEAN, THEY'RE GOOD NUGGETS...!
PSHH
YOU THINK SO, HUH...?
ニッ
SMIRK


COME ON, MAN.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY MAKE THOSE THINGS OUT OF?
ALL NEW! FRESH
CHATTER
CHATTER
JABBER
JABBER
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN...? CHICKEN, RIGHT?
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING, DO YOU?
Geh heh heh.
WHAT?
CUT IT OUT, MAN! IF THIS IS SOME KIND OF HORROR STORY, I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT...
HEH HEH!
THEY CALL IT "PINK SLIME," DUDE. THAT'S HOW ALL THESE PLACES MAKE THEIR NUGGETS.
WHAT? WHAT?! WHAT IS THAT?
HOW CAN I HELP YOU TODAY?
I CAN HELP SOMEONE OVER HERE!
THEY GATHER UP ALL THE REJECT MEAT THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO THROW OUT AND CRAM IT IN A LAUNDRY MACHINE, DETERGENT AND ALL!
GOOSHHH
SCRUB SCRUB
GLUG
GLUG
SQUIRK
SQUIRK
THEN THEY PUMP IT FULL OF ALL KINDS OF DISINFECTANTS AND PASS IT OFF AS MEAT...
コネ KNEAD
コネ KNEAD
AAAH! NO WAY, DUDE! THAT'S HORRIFYING!!
TSHHH


VALUED CUSTOMERS ...
ZIP
GASP
RUMBLE
...I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, BUT WOULD YOU MIND KEEPING YOUR VOICES DOWN? THERE ARE OTHER CUSTOMERS PRESENT...
I'M SORRY! WE'RE JUST JOKING!
RUMBLE
SCREW THIS, DUDE. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
HUH...? WHAT'S THE HURRY, MAN?
IT'S, LIKE, A HUNDRED DEGREES! I'M NOT READY GO BACK OUTSIDE ...
WELL... YOU GOT A POINT THERE...
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON, YOU KNOW?

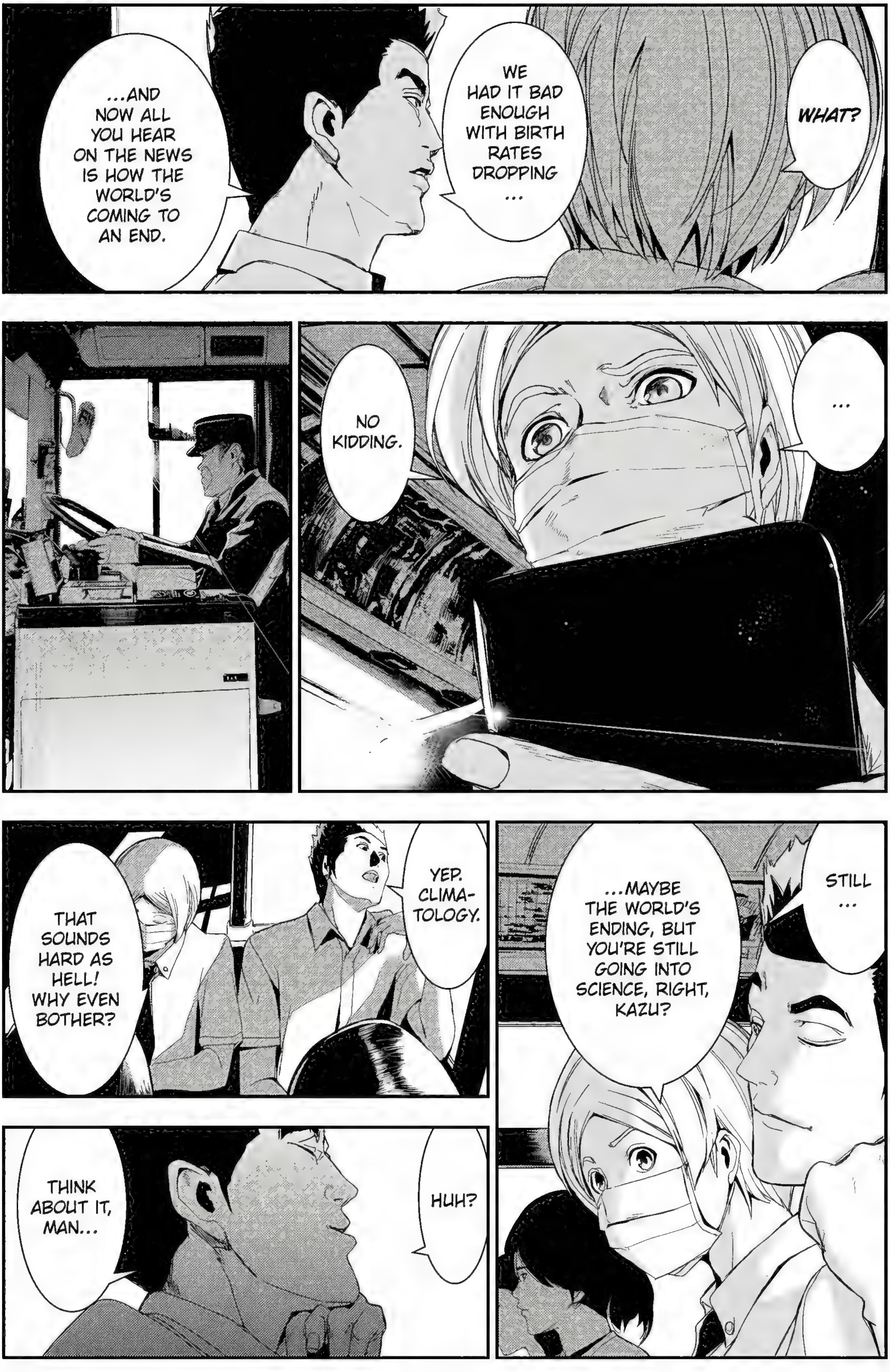

I MEAN, IT'S MARCH...
パーティ
ERM
株式会社 日研
0120-'71-.'0
ゴオオオオオ
RMMMMBBB

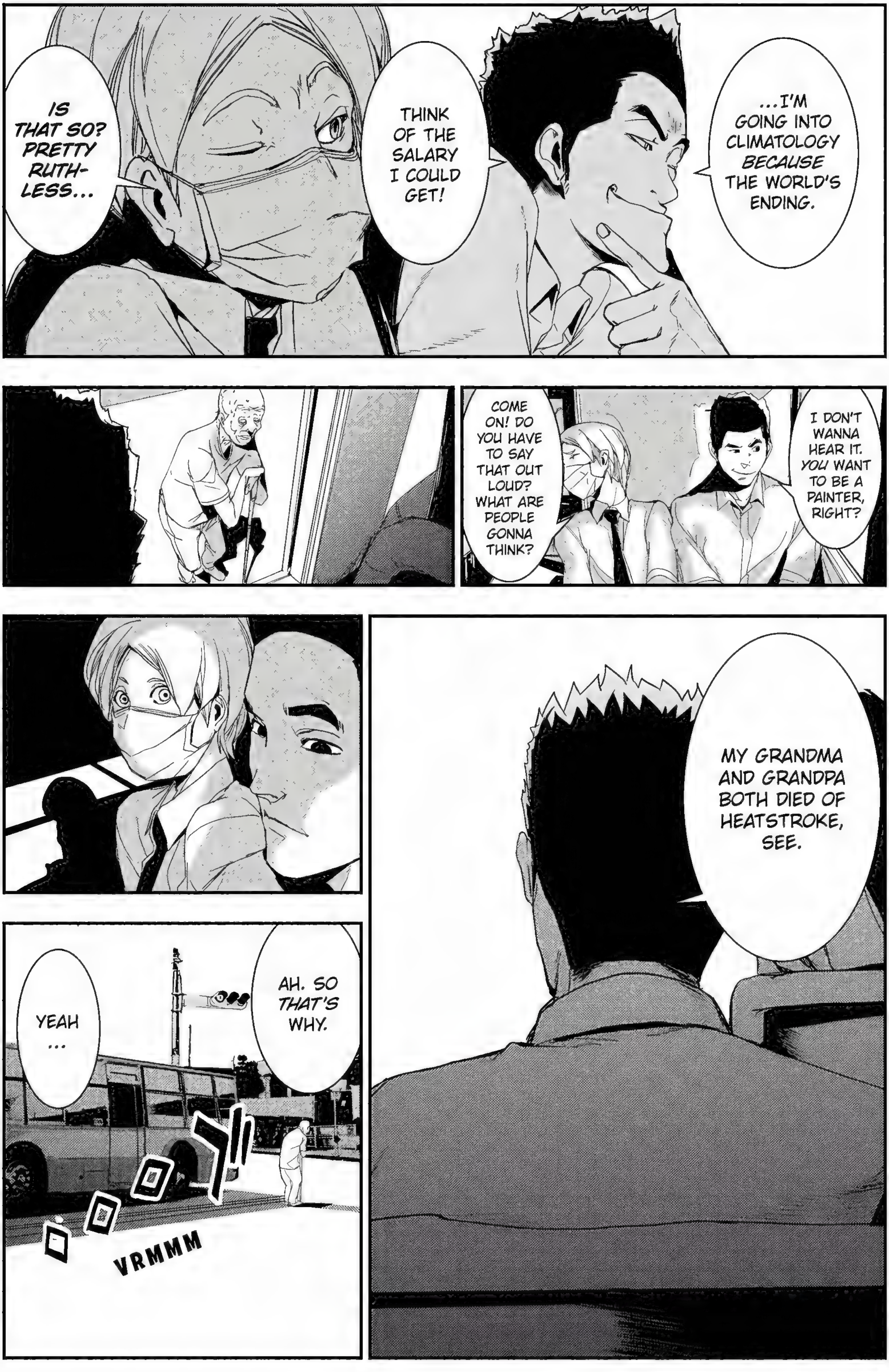

PSHH
YOU KNOW WHAT I HEARD? ONLY DUMBASSES CATCH SUMMER COLDS.
CLUNK
YEAH, WELL, MARCH ISN'T SUMMER.
ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION PARTY
With every year that passes, we can plainly see that global warming is on the rise!
Lead the way, Japan!
ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION PARTY

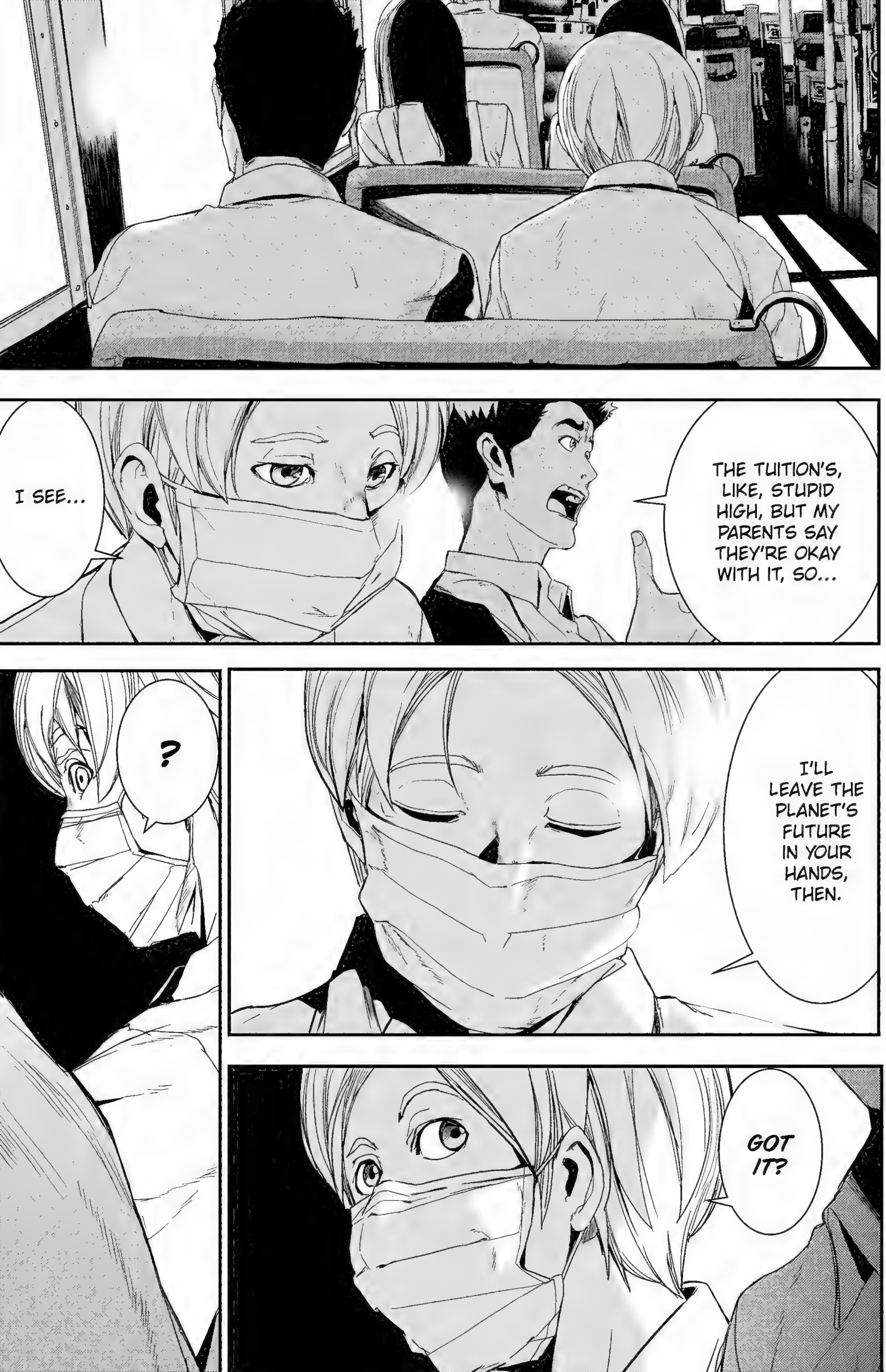

A hundred years ago, vast swaths of the earth's surface were habitable for human life. Now, only a tiny fraction is!
If we don't act now to slow the onslaught of global warming, we place our very planet in serious danger! And if my party is elected–
VRMMM
GOD...
KIND OF A DOWNER, HUH?

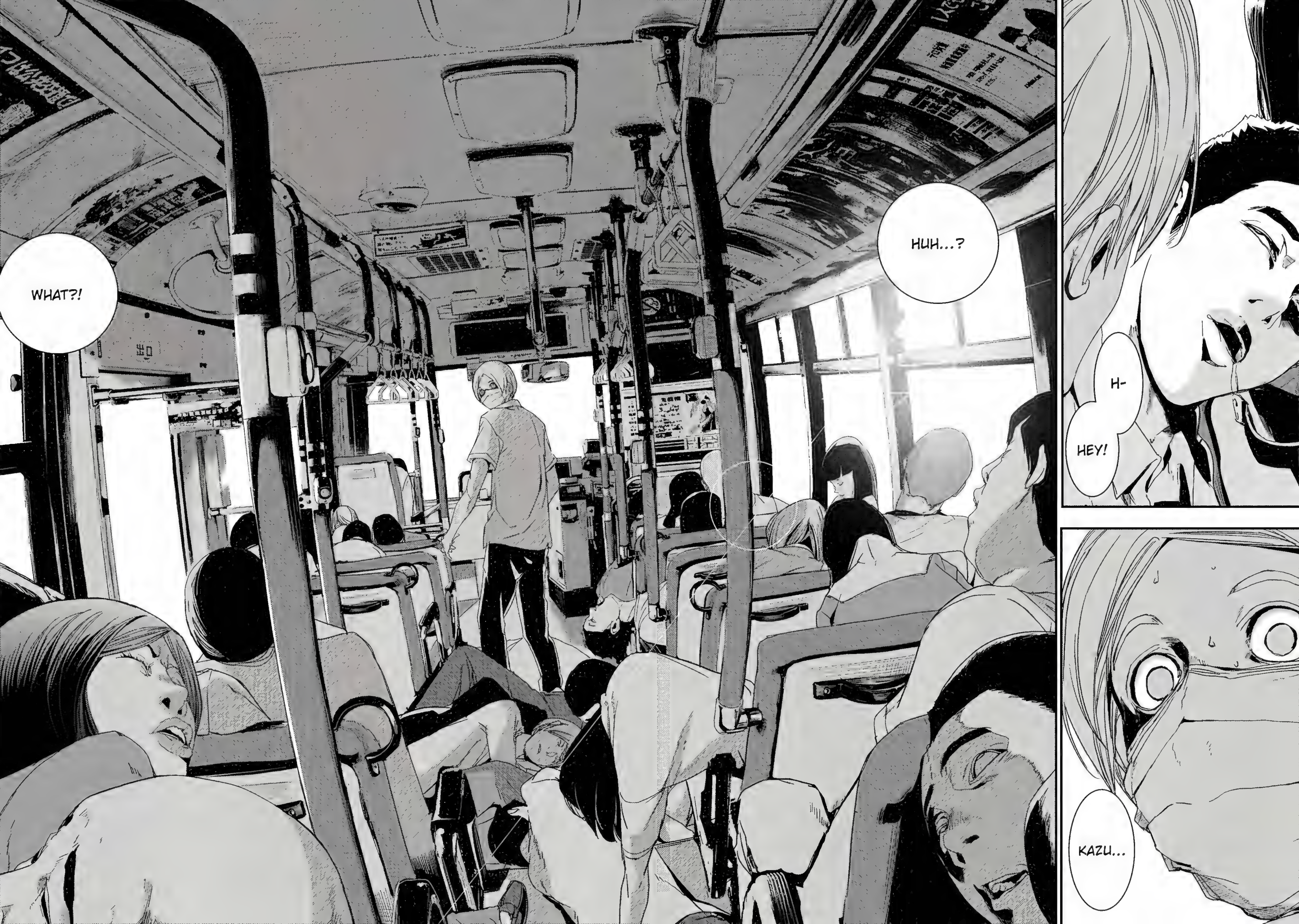
WEB NEWS

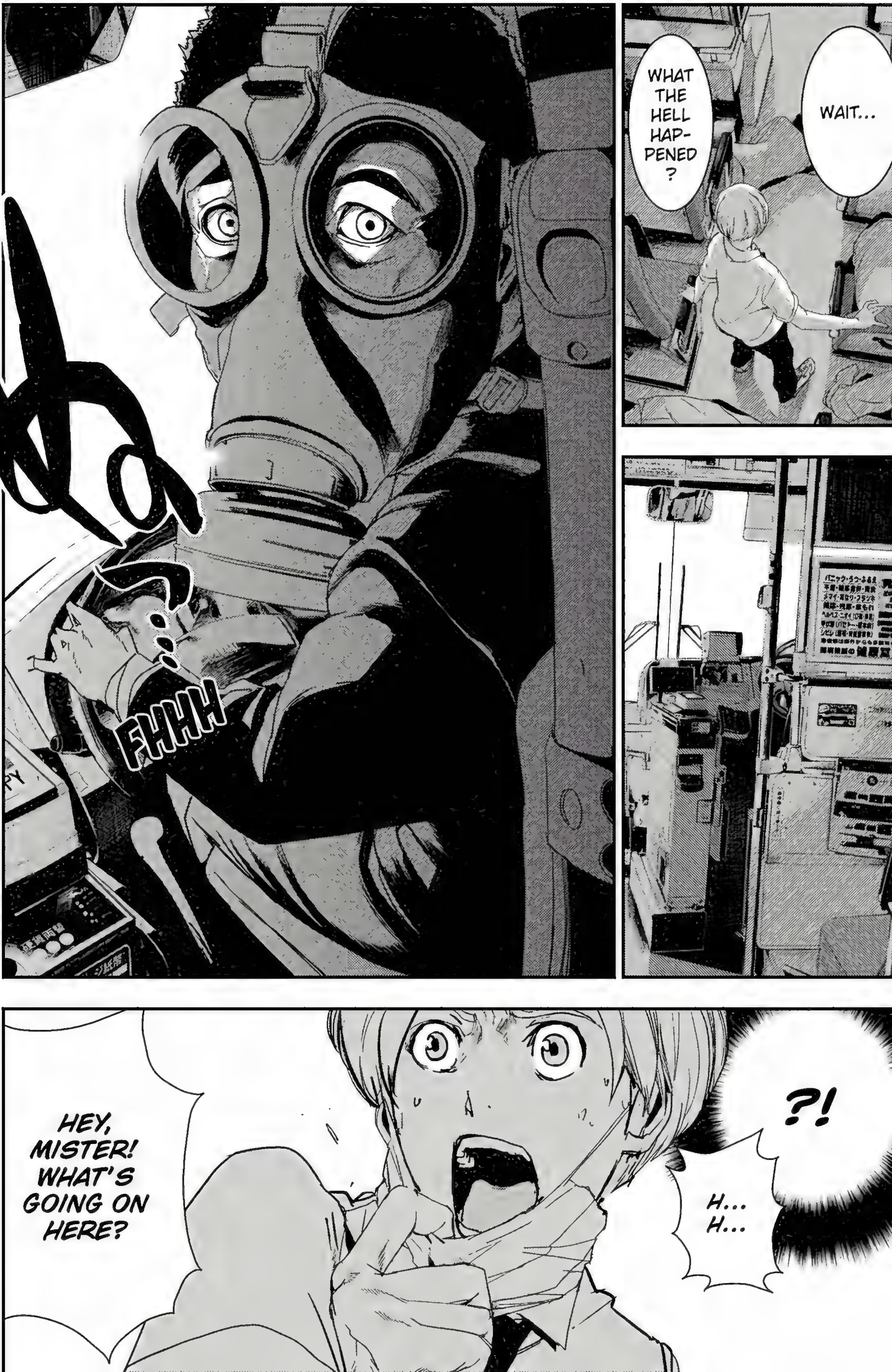
- Record-Breaking Highs All Across Japan Again This Year
- Groundbreaking Research into Climate Abnormalities
- Increasing Reports of Mass Disappearances Nationwide

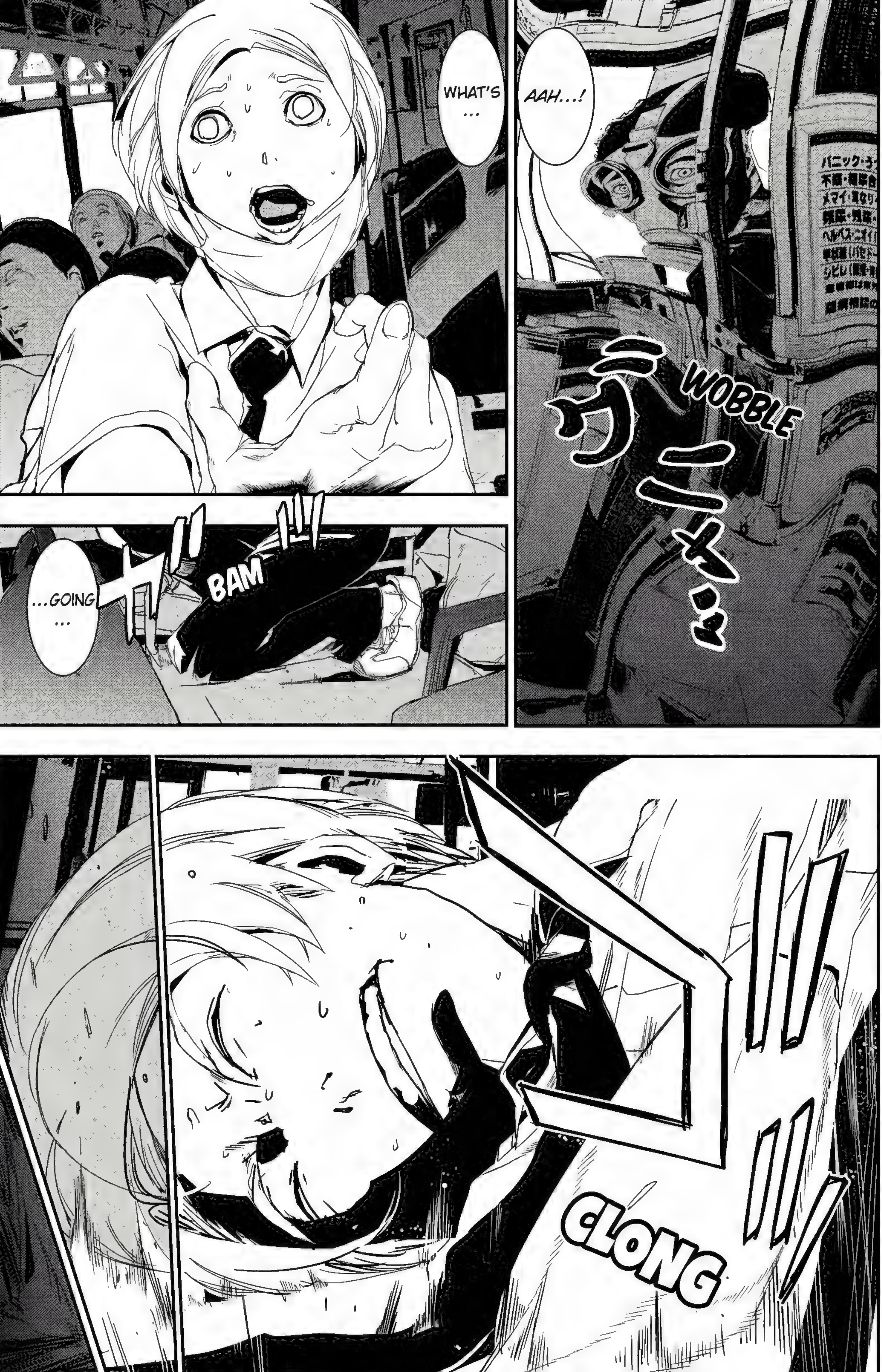

WHAT?
WE HAD IT BAD ENOUGH WITH BIRTH RATES DROPPING...
...AND NOW ALL YOU HEAR ON THE NEWS IS HOW THE WORLD'S COMING TO AN END.
...
NO KIDDING.
STILL...
...MAYBE THE WORLD'S ENDING, BUT YOU'RE STILL GOING INTO SCIENCE, RIGHT, KAZU?
YEP. CLIMATOLOGY.
THAT SOUNDS HARD AS HELL! WHY EVEN BOTHER?
HUH?
THINK ABOUT IT, MAN...

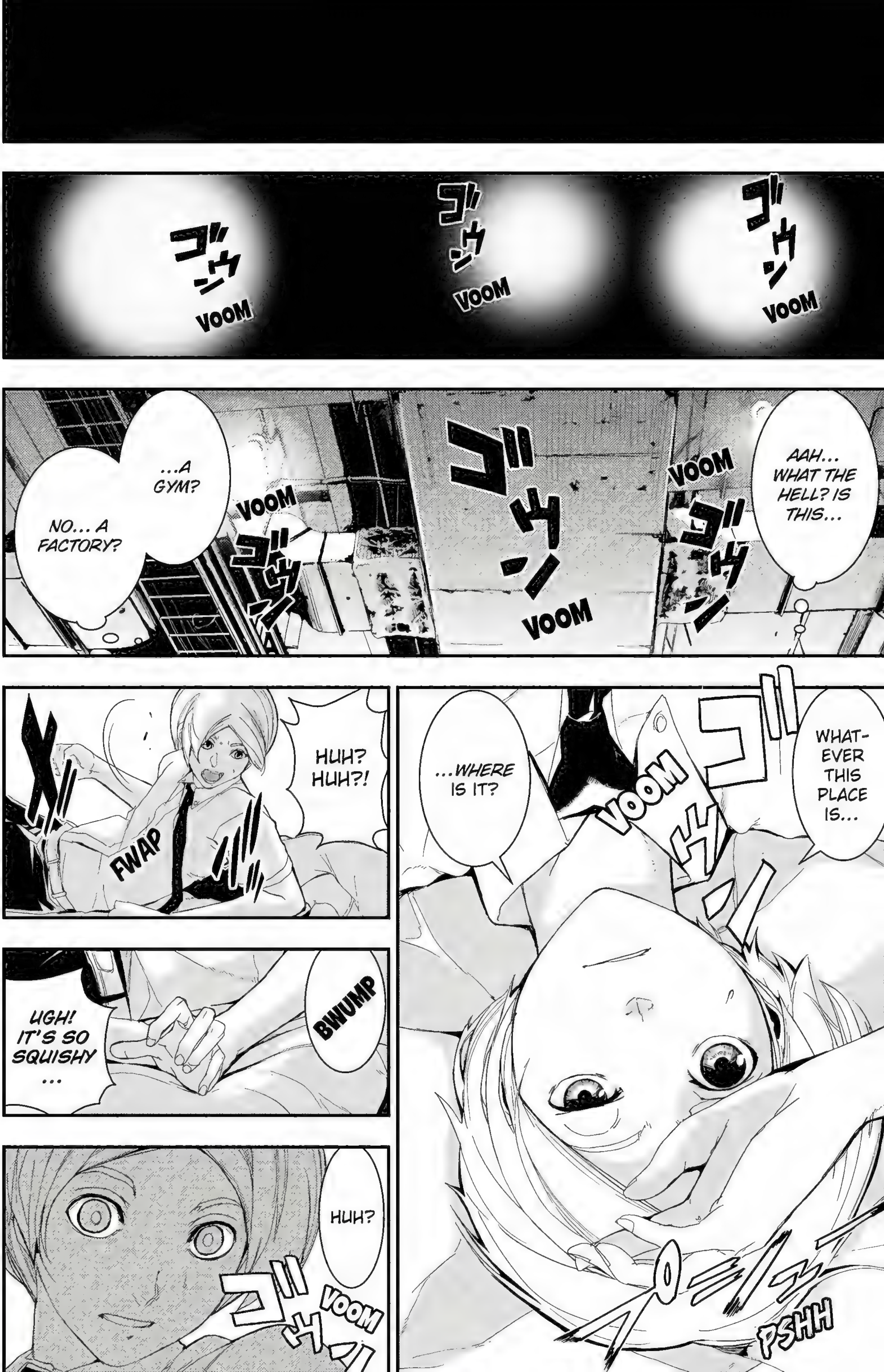

...I'M GOING INTO CLIMATOLOGY *BECAUSE* THE WORLD'S ENDING.
THINK OF THE SALARY I COULD GET!
IS THAT SO? PRETTY RUTHLESS...
I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT. *YOU* WANT TO BE A PAINTER, RIGHT?
COME ON! DO YOU HAVE TO SAY THAT OUT LOUD? WHAT ARE PEOPLE GONNA THINK?
MY GRANDMA AND GRANDPA BOTH DIED OF HEATSTROKE, SEE.
AH. SO *THAT'S* WHY.
YEAH ...
VRMMM

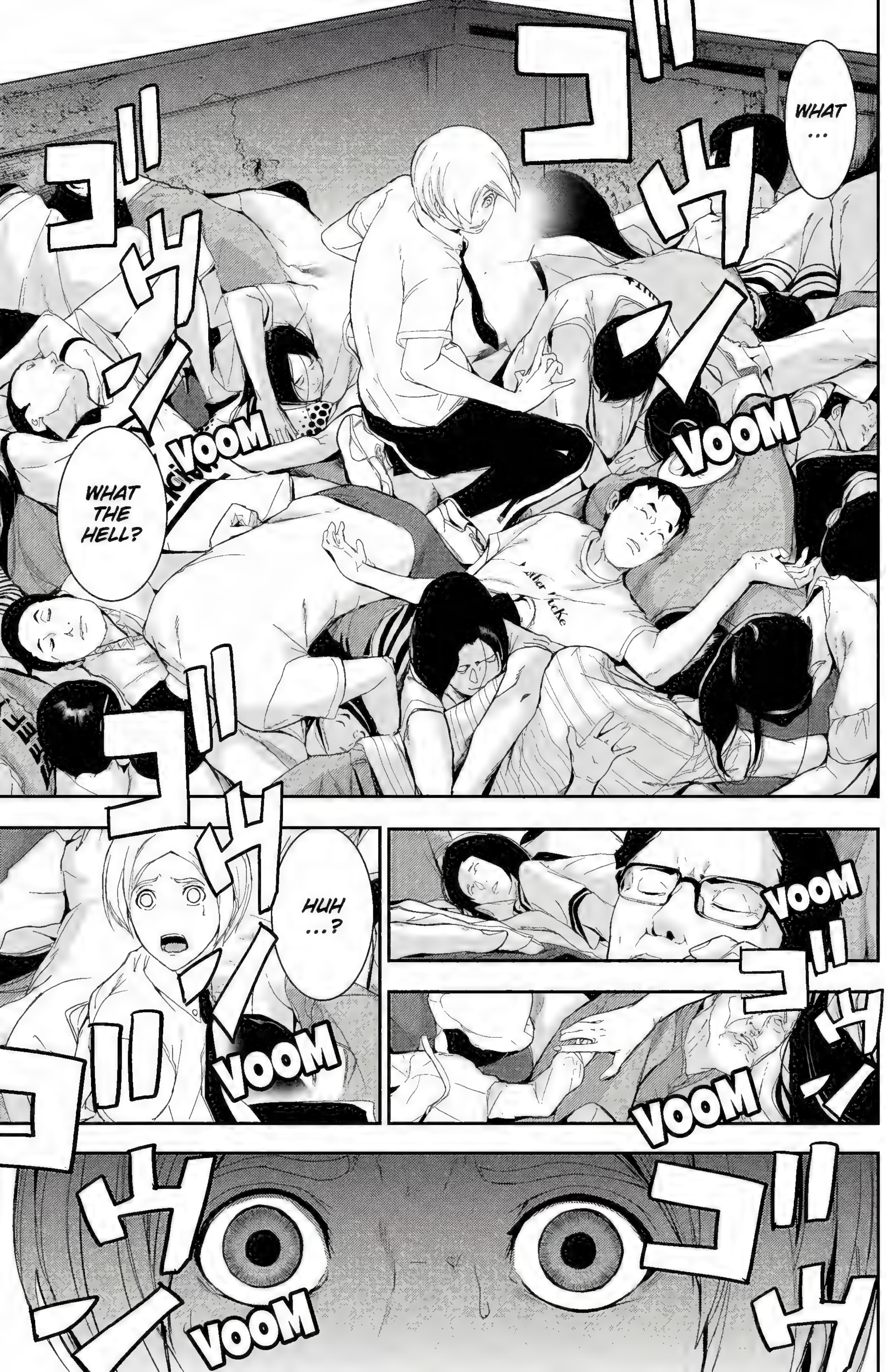

THE TUITION'S, LIKE, STUPID HIGH, BUT MY PARENTS SAY THEY'RE OKAY WITH IT, SO...
I SEE...
I'LL LEAVE THE PLANET'S FUTURE IN YOUR HANDS, THEN.
?
GOT IT?

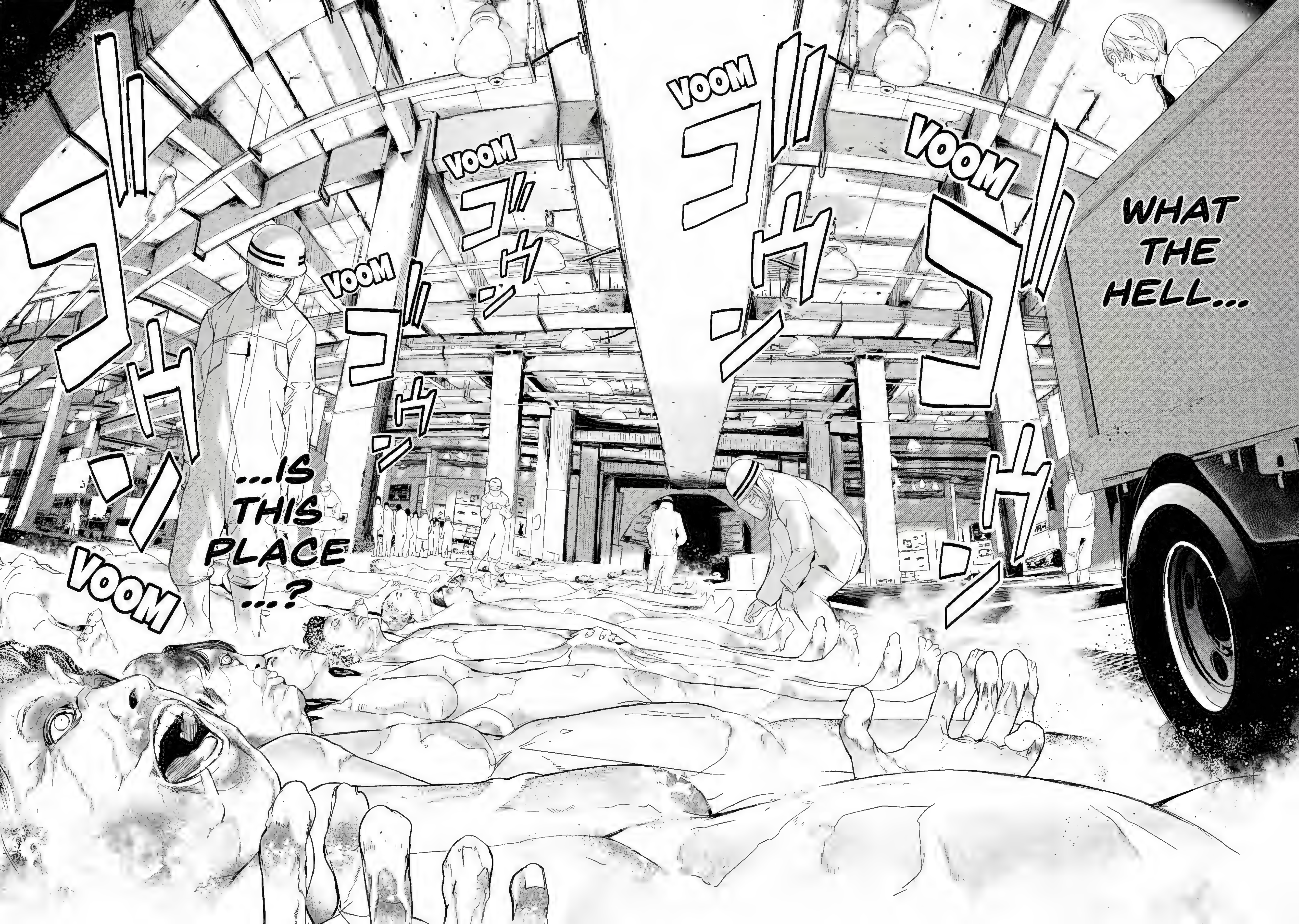

H-
HEY!
KAZU...
HUH...?
WHAT?!

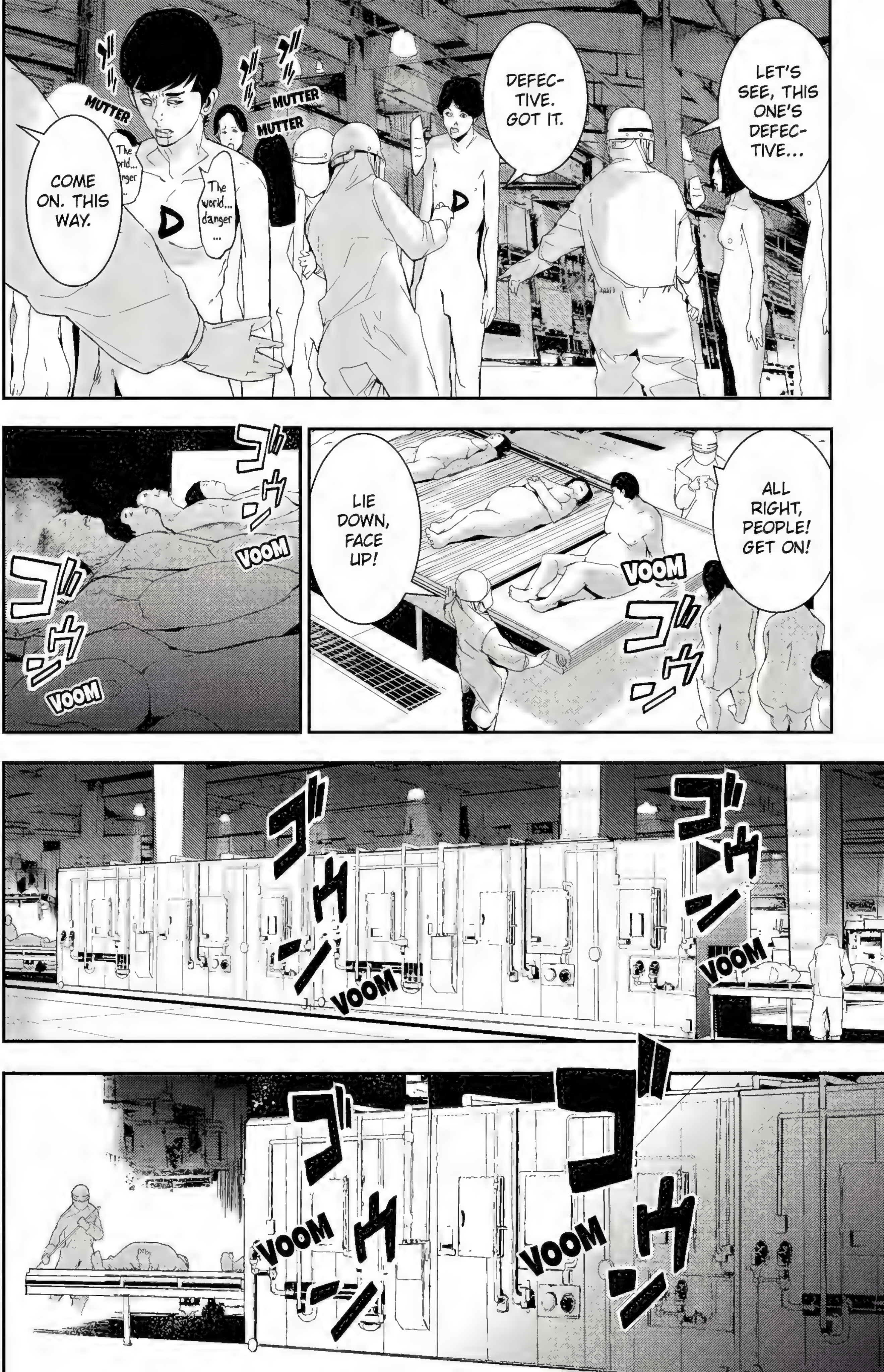

WAIT...
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED?
FHHH
?!
H... H...
HEY, MISTER! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

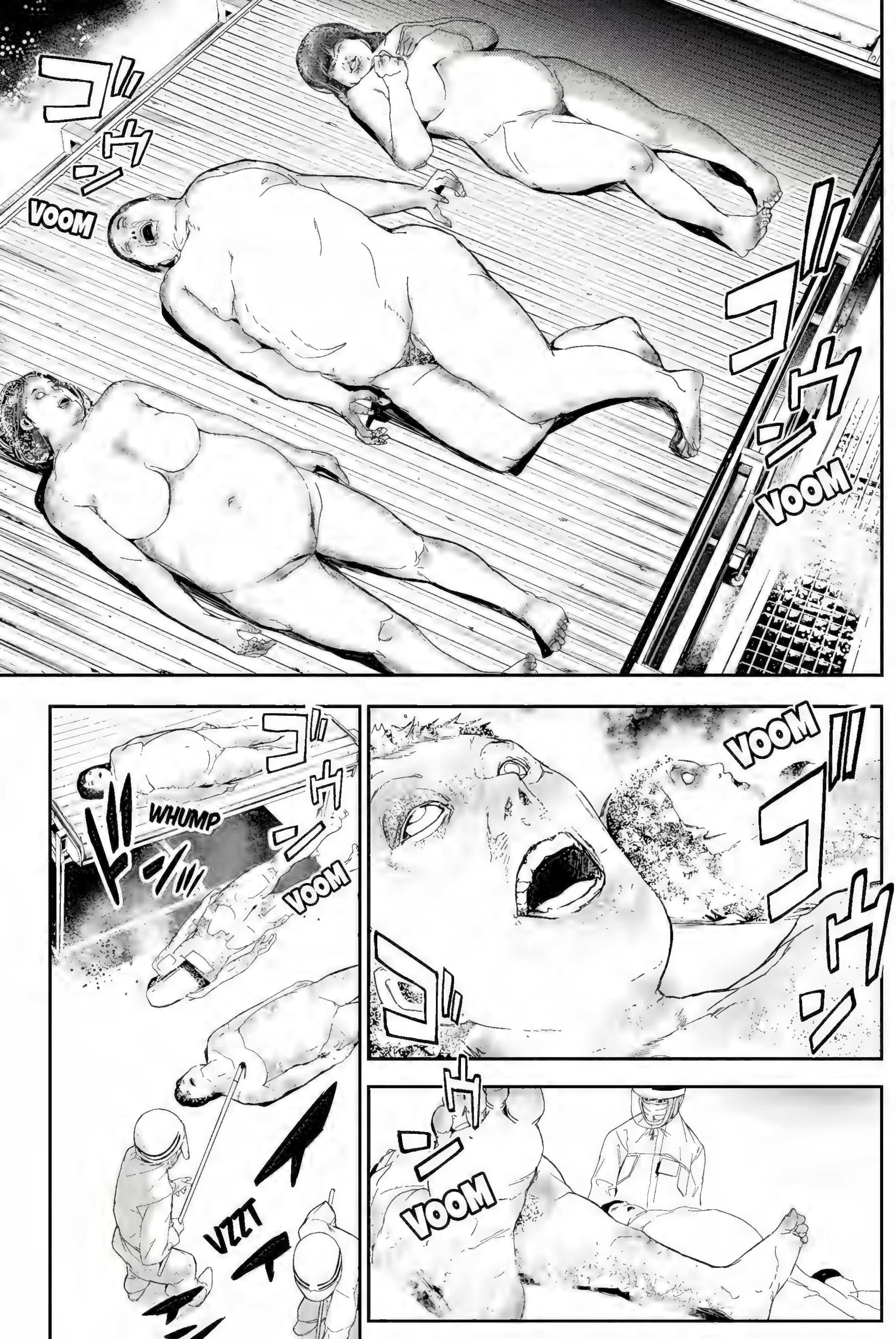

AAH...!
WOBBLE
WHAT'S ...
...GOING ...
BAM
CLONG

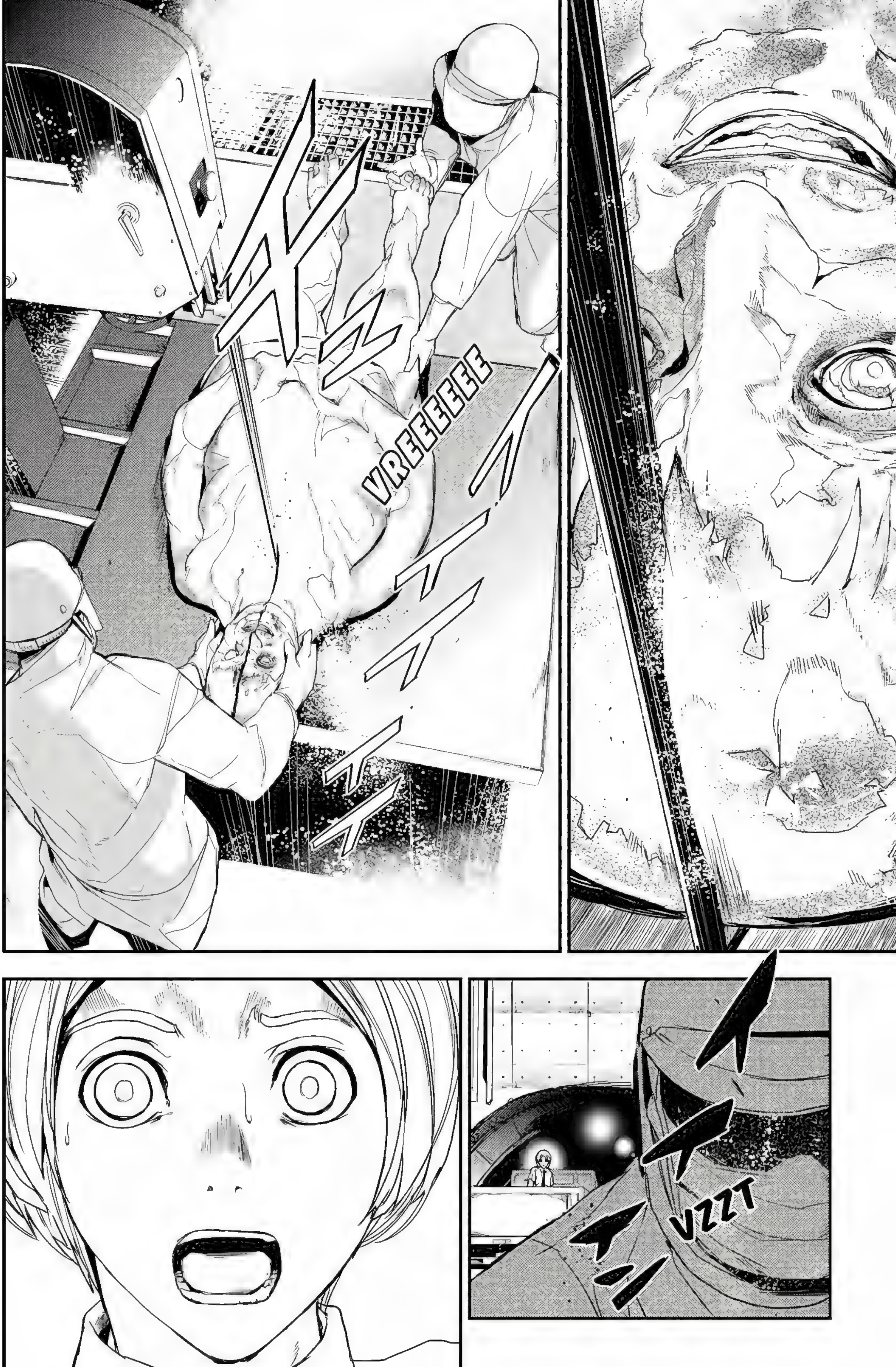

ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
AAH... WHAT THE HELL? IS THIS...
VOOM
ゴウン
ゴウン
VOOM
...A GYM?
NO... A FACTORY?
VOOM
ゴウン
WHAT-EVER THIS PLACE IS...
ゴウン
VOOM
...WHERE IS IT?
HUH? HUH?!
FWAP
BWUMP
UGH! IT'S SO SQUISHY...
HUH?
ゴウン
VOOM
プシュー
PSHH

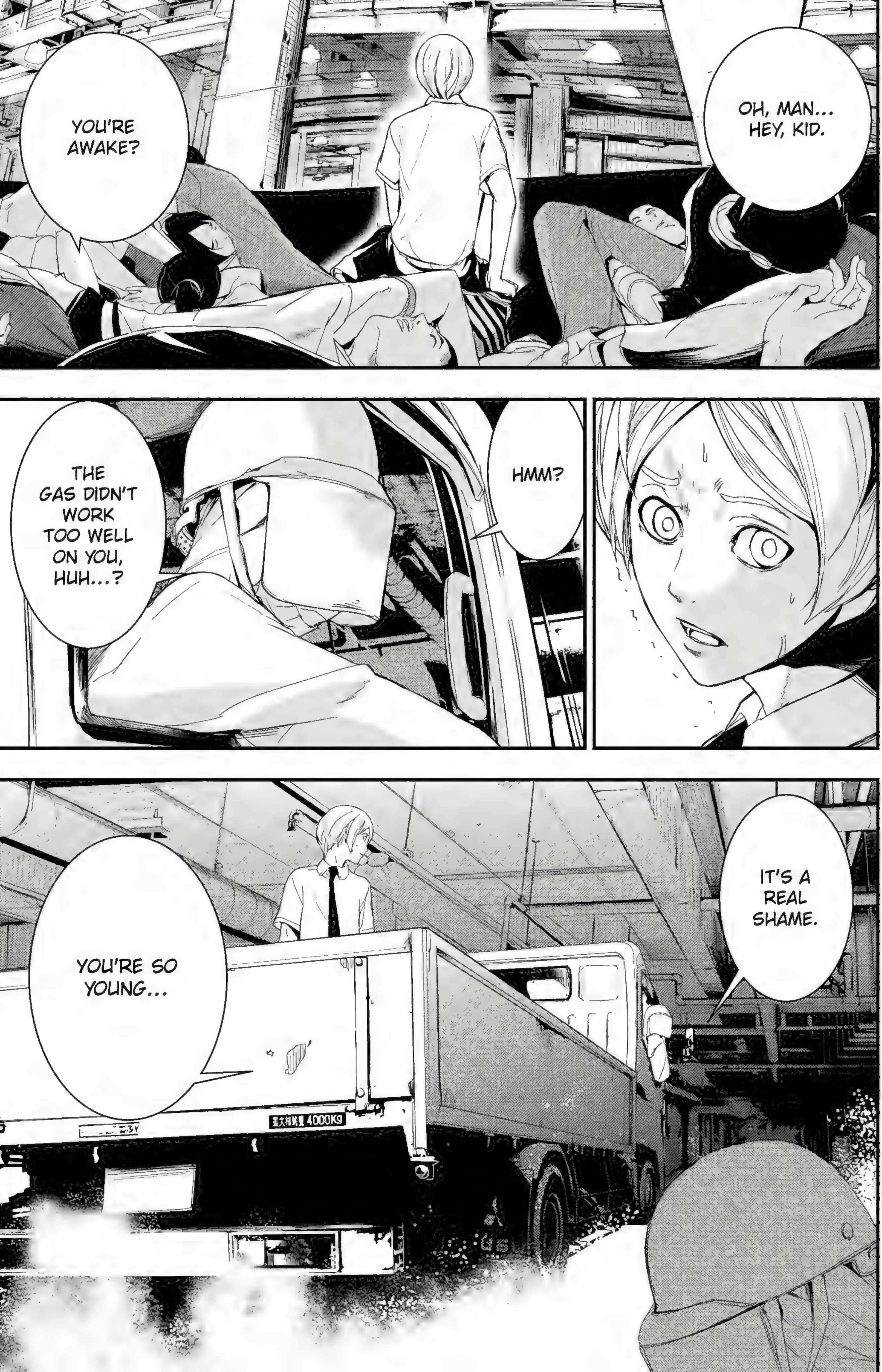

ゴヴン
WHAT …
ゴヴン
VOOM
VOOM
WHAT THE HELL?
ゴヴン
VOOM
ゴヴン
VOOM
HUH …?
ゴヴン
VOOM
ゴヴン
ゴヴン
VOOM

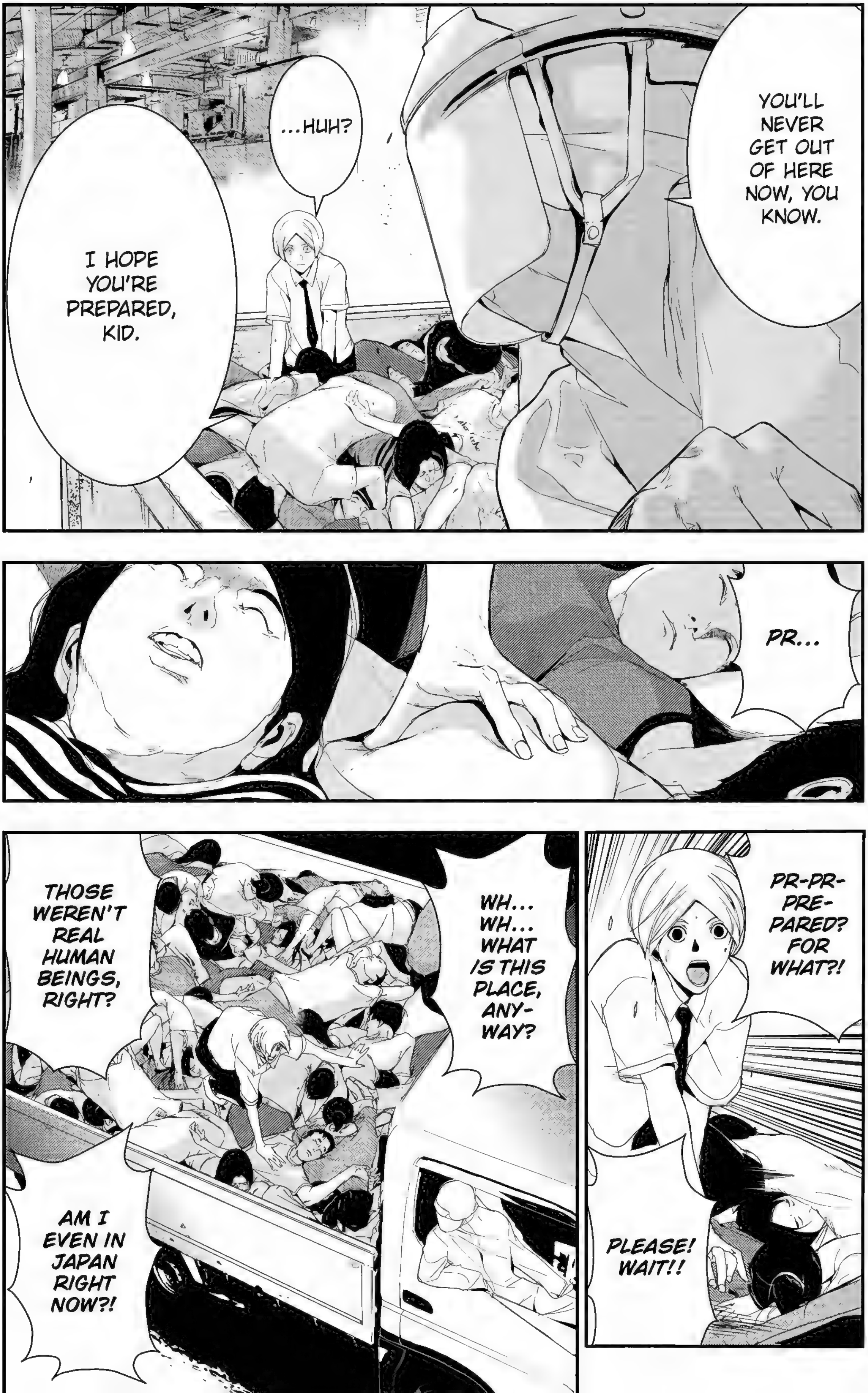

WHAT THE HELL...
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
...IS THIS PLACE...?
VOOM
ゴゥン

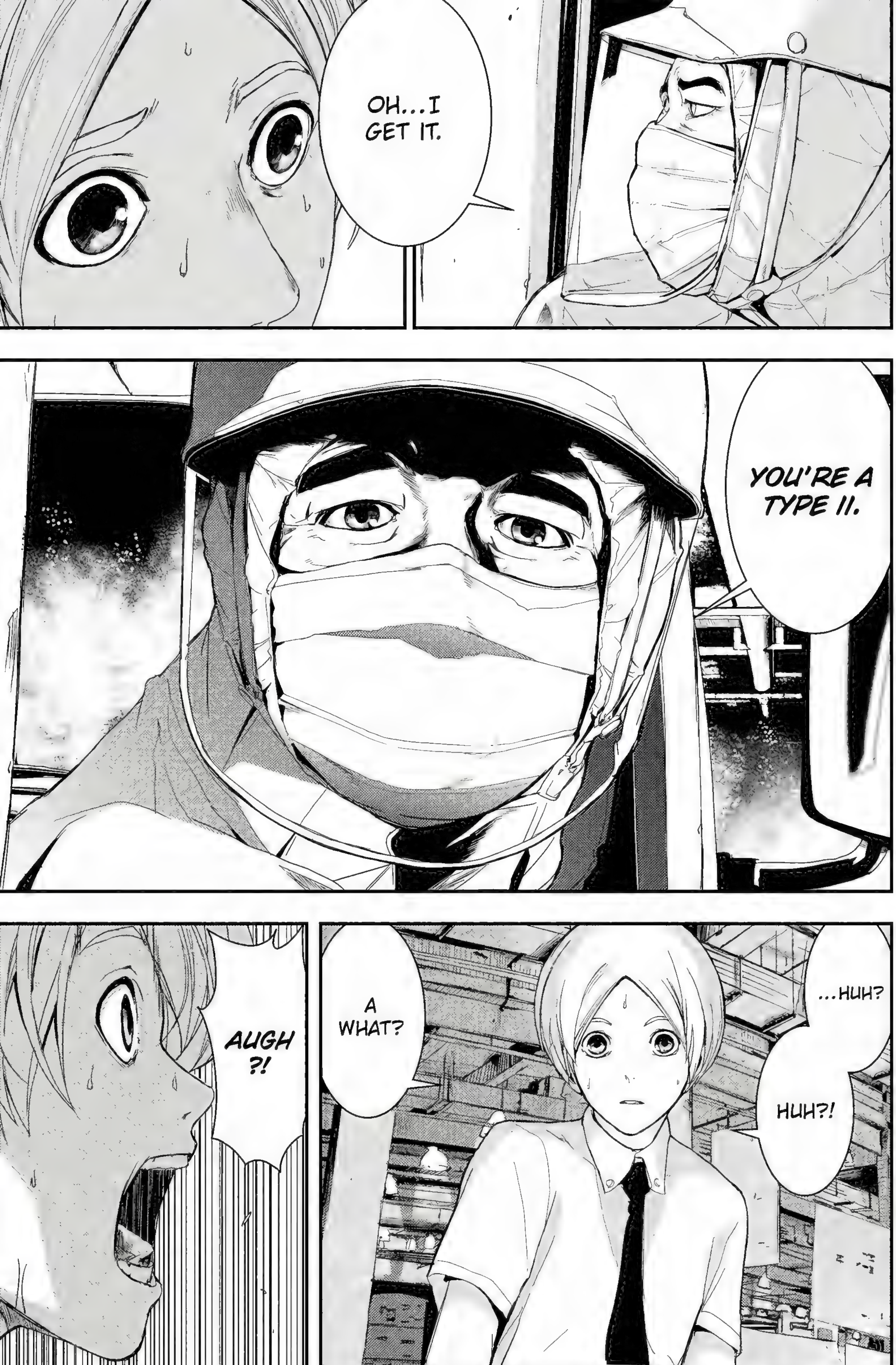

LET'S SEE, THIS ONE'S DEFECTIVE…
DEFECTIVE. GOT IT.
D
ブツ
MUTTER
ブツ
MUTTER
The world… danger…
D
The world… danger…
MUTTER
COME ON. THIS WAY.
ALL RIGHT, PEOPLE! GET ON!
ゴウン
VOOM
LIE DOWN, FACE UP!
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM

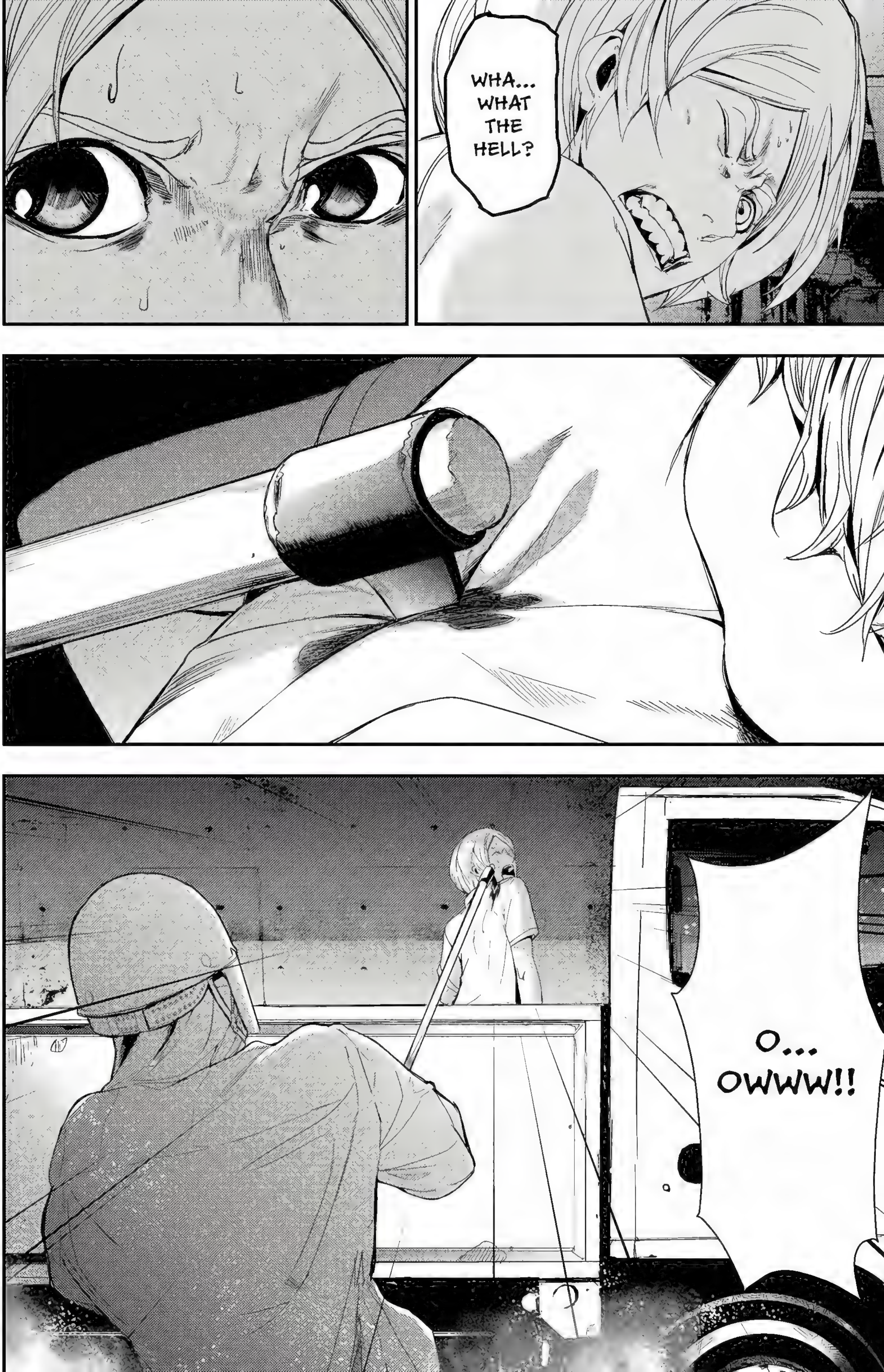

ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
ドン
WHUMP
VOOM
VZZT
VOOM

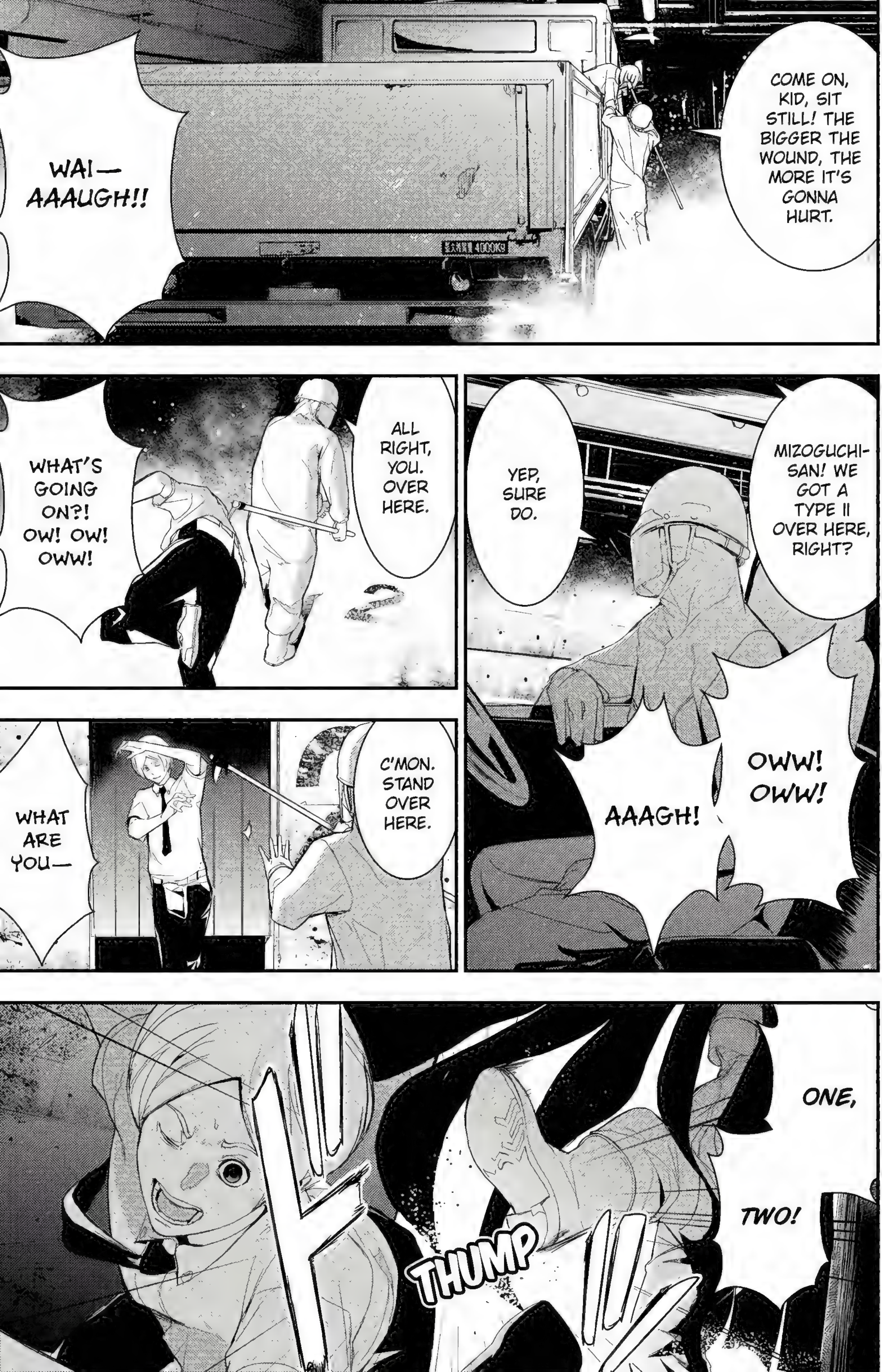

VREEEEEEE
VZZT

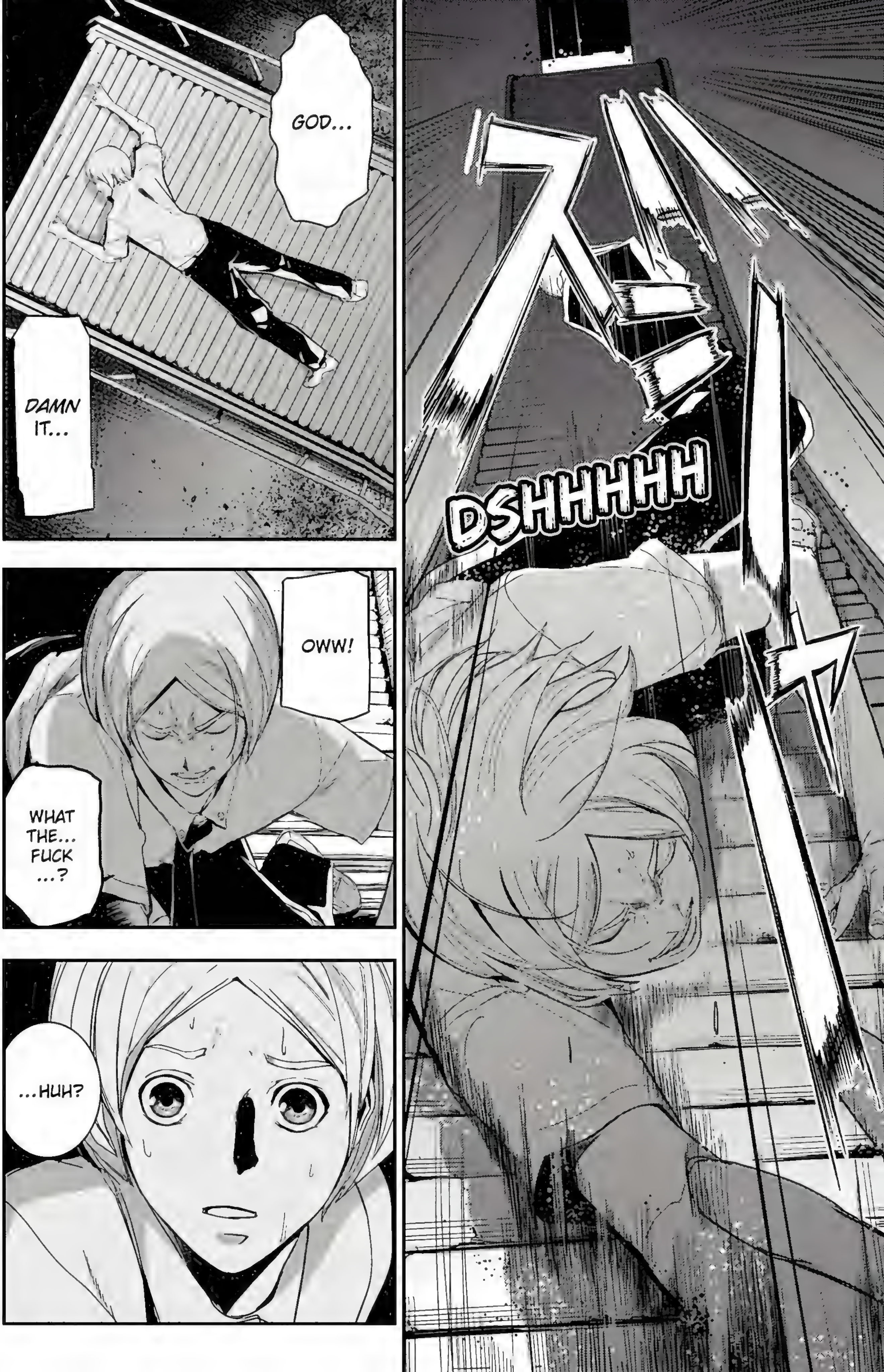

OH, MAN... HEY, KID.
YOU'RE AWAKE?
HMM?
THE GAS DIDN'T WORK TOO WELL ON YOU, HUH...?
IT'S A REAL SHAME.
YOU'RE SO YOUNG...
最大積載量 4000Kg

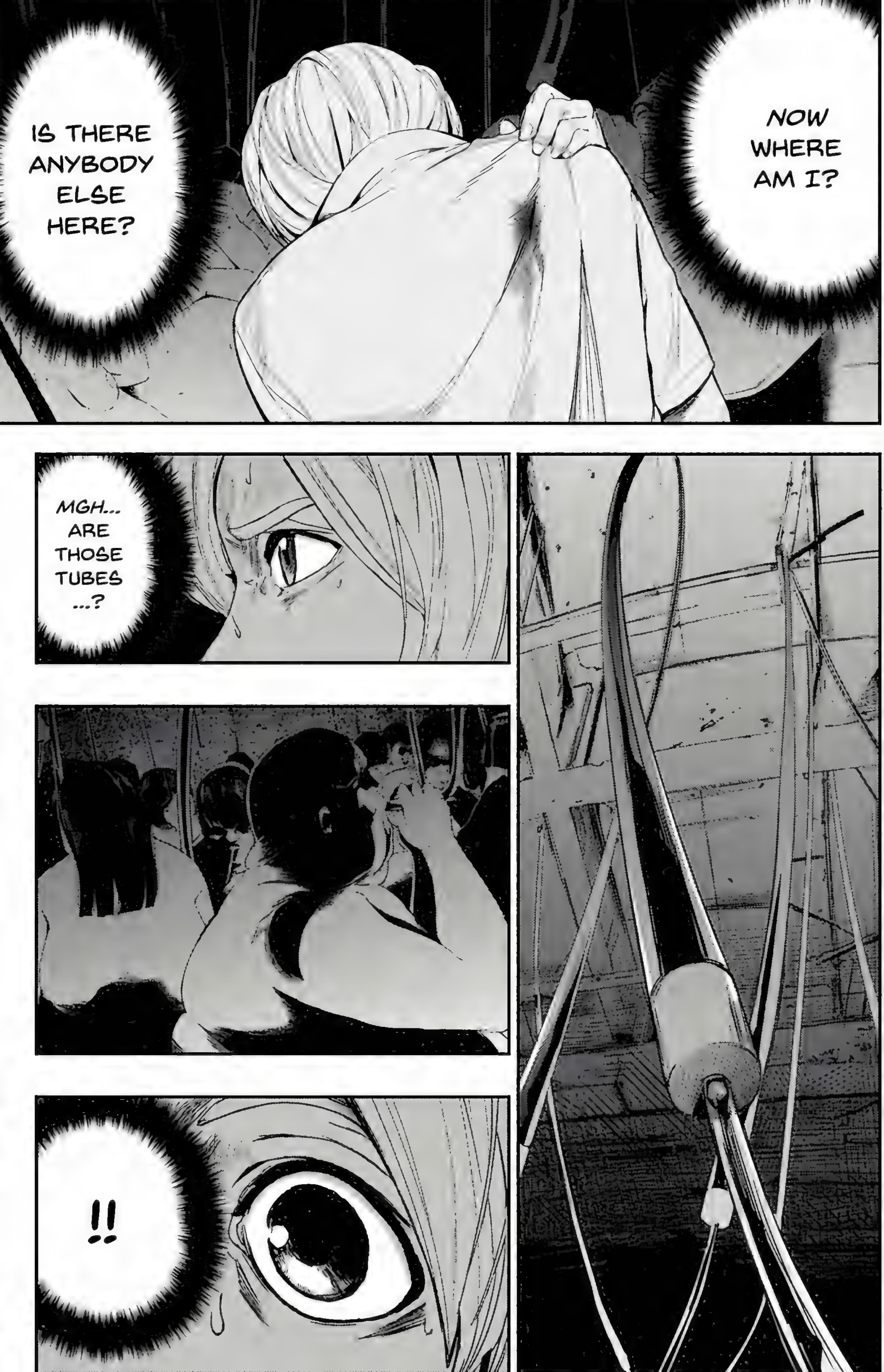

YOU'LL NEVER GET OUT OF HERE NOW, YOU KNOW.
...HUH?
I HOPE YOU'RE PREPARED, KID.
PR...
PR-PR-PRE-PARED? FOR WHAT?!
PLEASE! WAIT!!
WH... WH... WHAT IS THIS PLACE, ANYWAY?
THOSE WEREN'T REAL HUMAN BEINGS, RIGHT?
AM I EVEN IN JAPAN RIGHT NOW?!

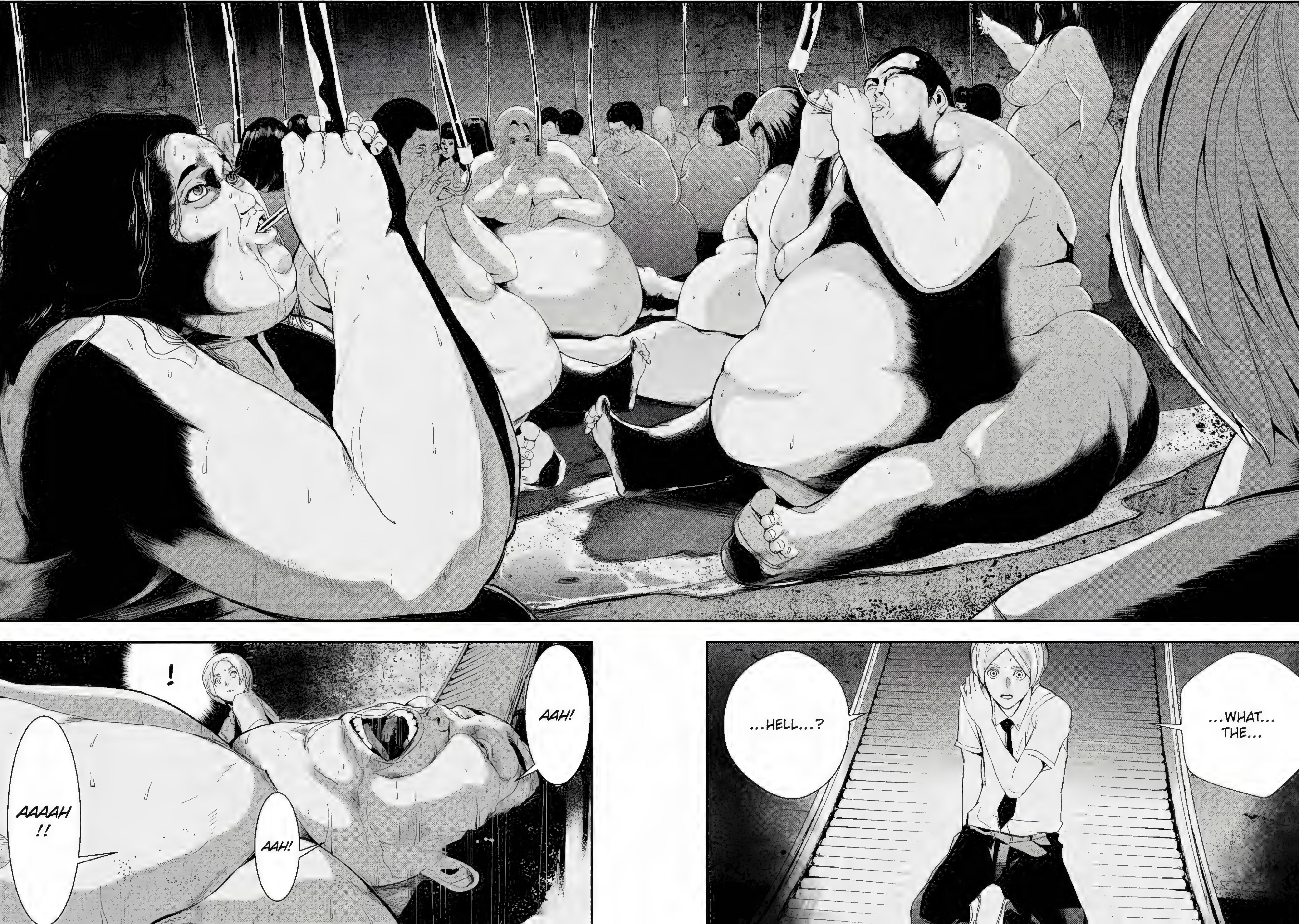

OH...I GET IT.
YOU'RE A TYPE II.
...HUH?
HUH?!
A WHAT?
AUGH ?!

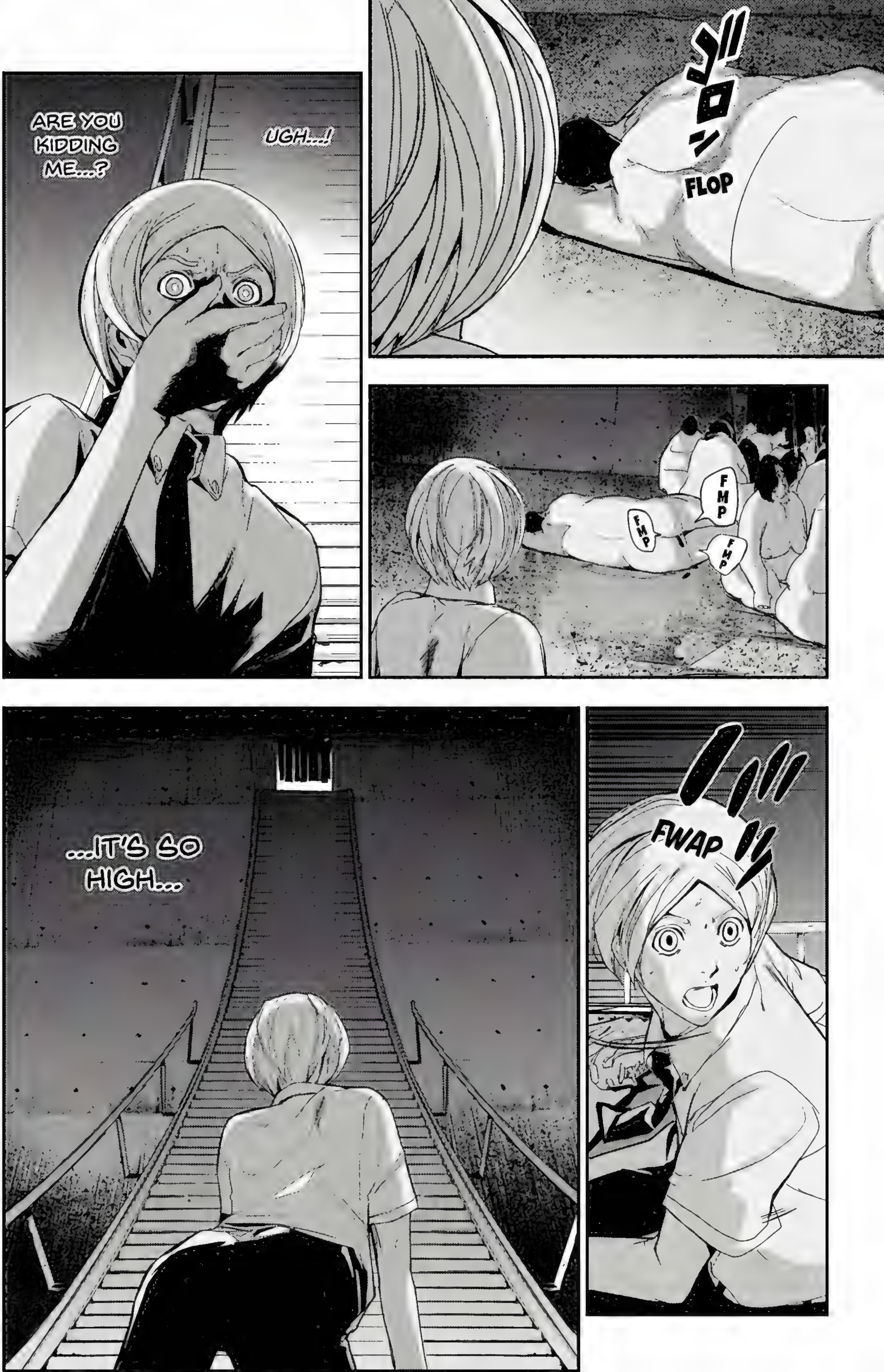

WHA... WHAT THE HELL?
O... OWWW!!

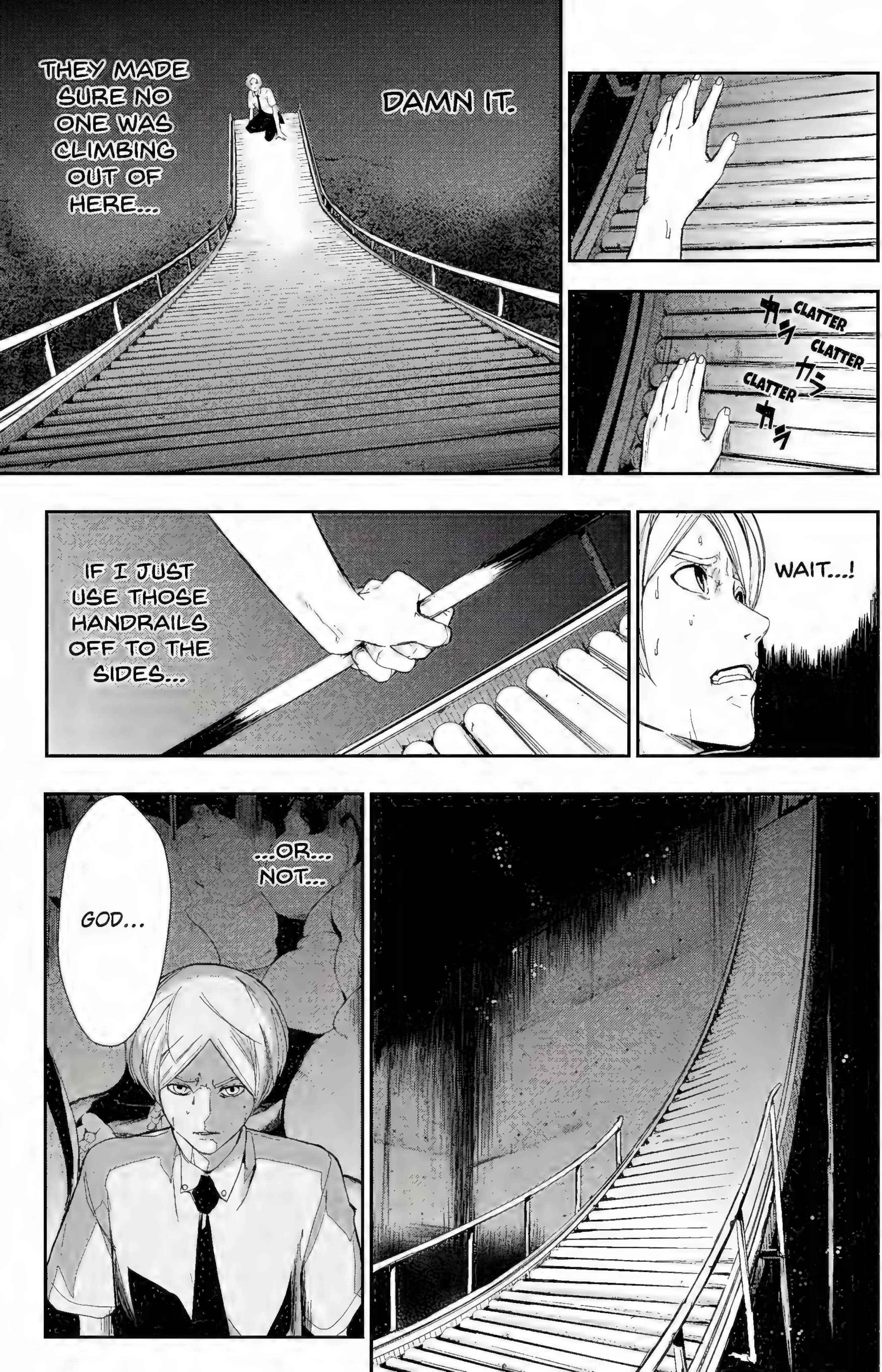

COME ON, KID, SIT STILL! THE BIGGER THE WOUND, THE MORE IT'S GONNA HURT.
WAI— AAAUGH!!
MIZOGUCHI-SAN! WE GOT A TYPE II OVER HERE, RIGHT?
YEP, SURE DO.
OWW! OWW!
AAAGH!
ALL RIGHT, YOU. OVER HERE.
WHAT'S GOING ON?! OW! OW! OWW!
C'MON. STAND OVER HERE.
WHAT ARE YOU—
ONE,
TWO!
THUMP

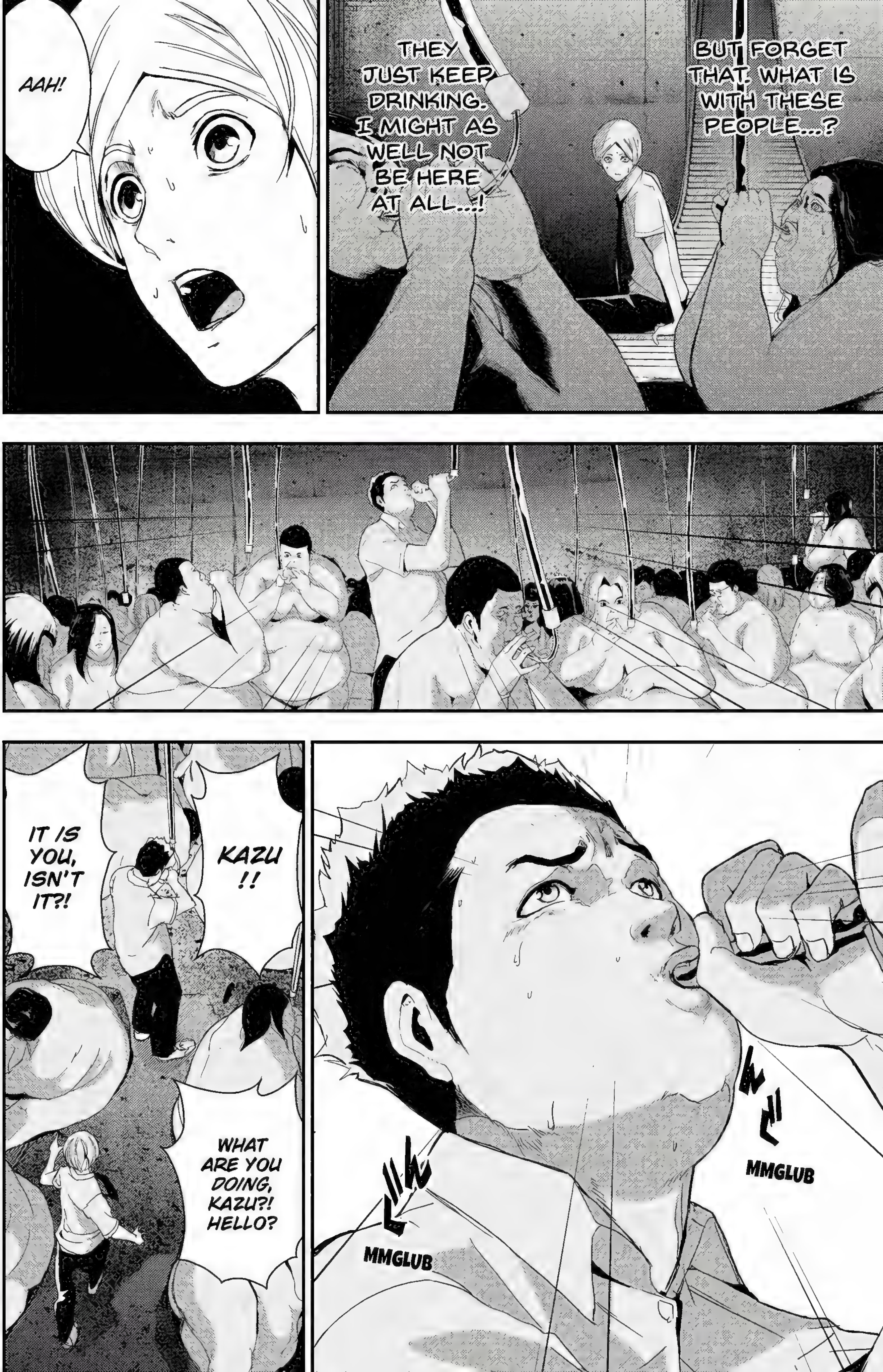

ズーッ
DSHHHHH
GOD...
DAMN IT...
OWW!
WHAT THE... FUCK ...?
...HUH?

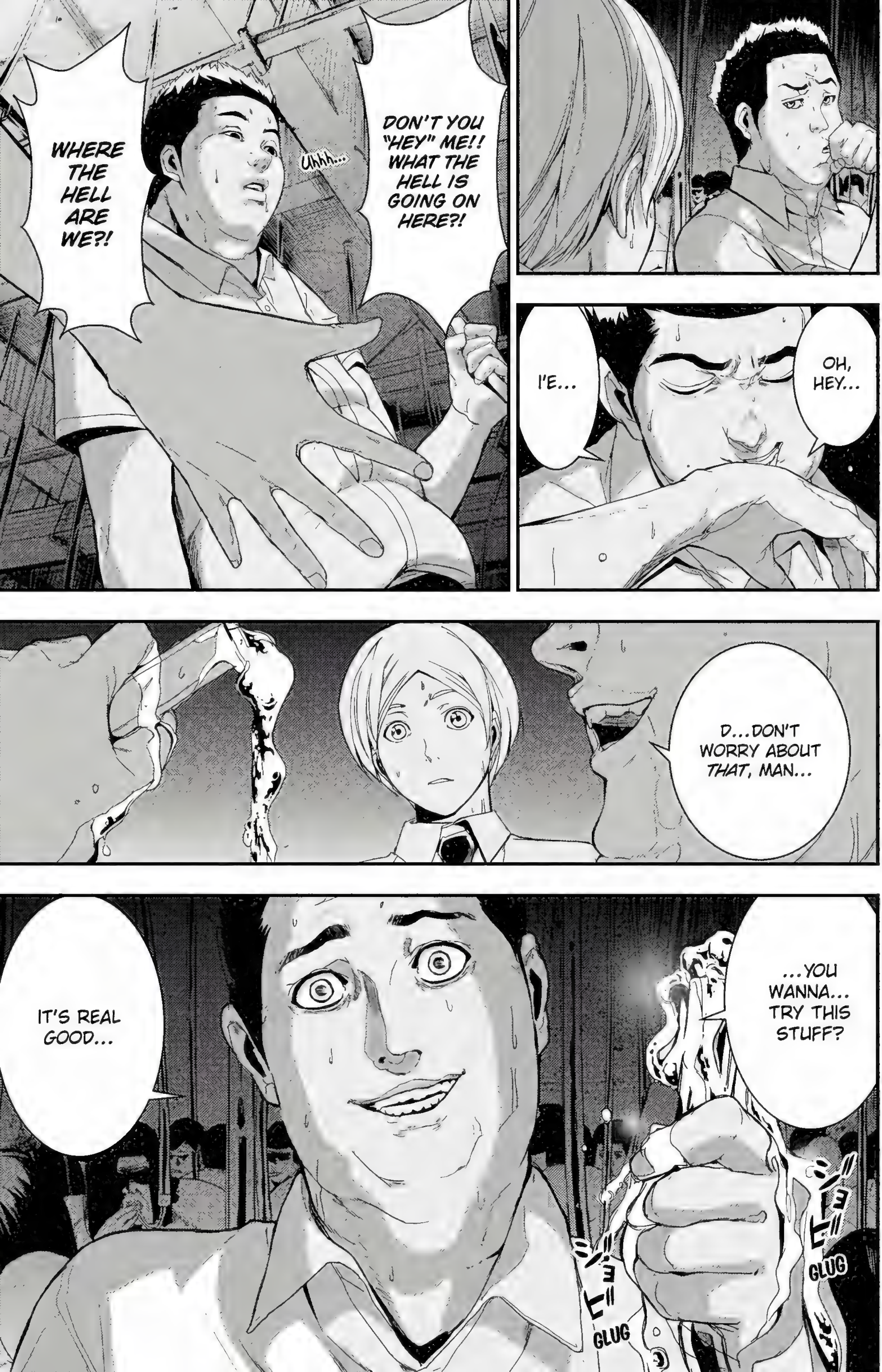

NOW WHERE AM I?
IS THERE ANYBODY ELSE HERE?
MGH... ARE THOSE TUBES ...?
!!

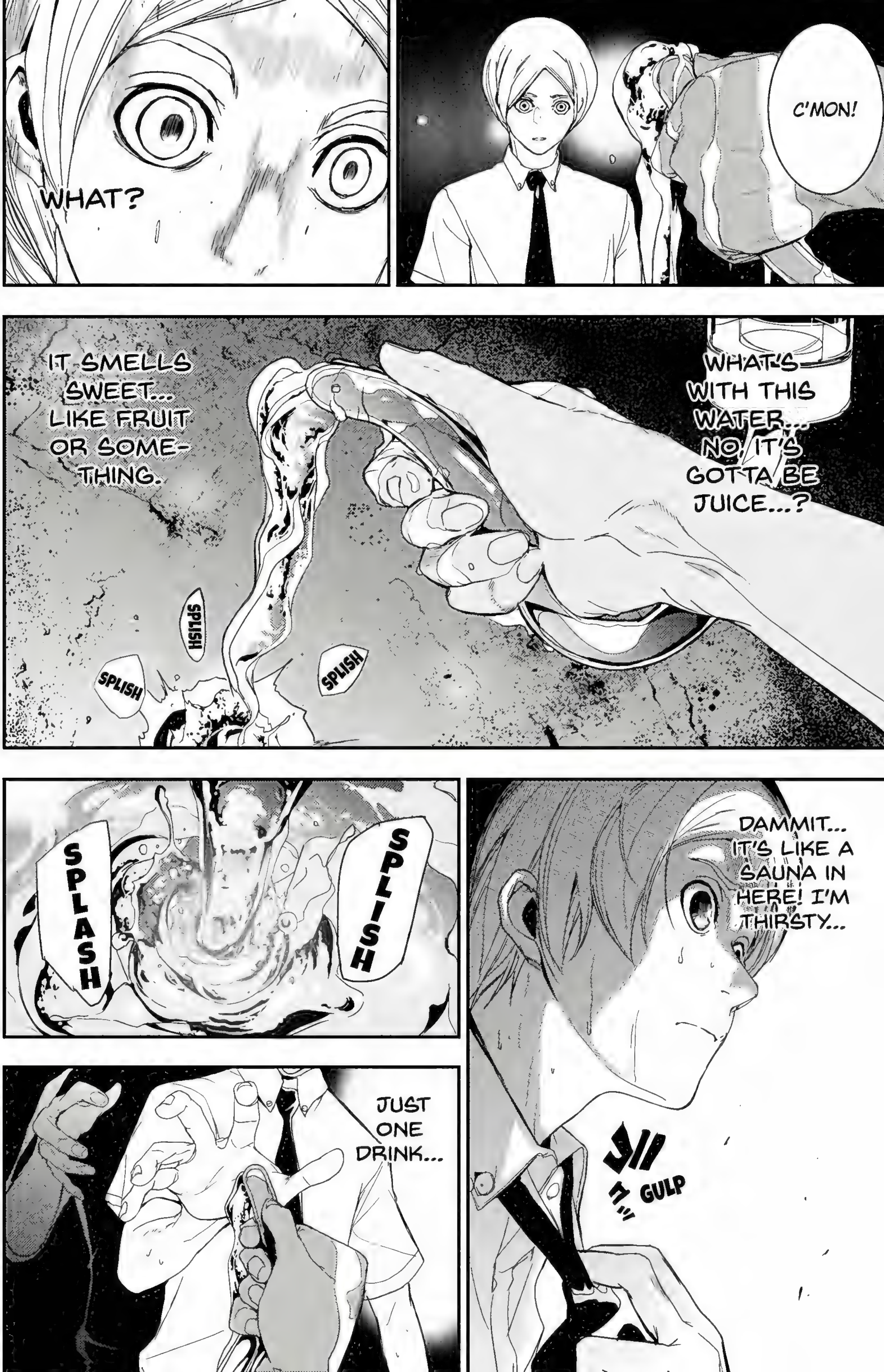

...WHAT... THE...
...HELL...?
!
AAH!
AAH!
AAAAH!!

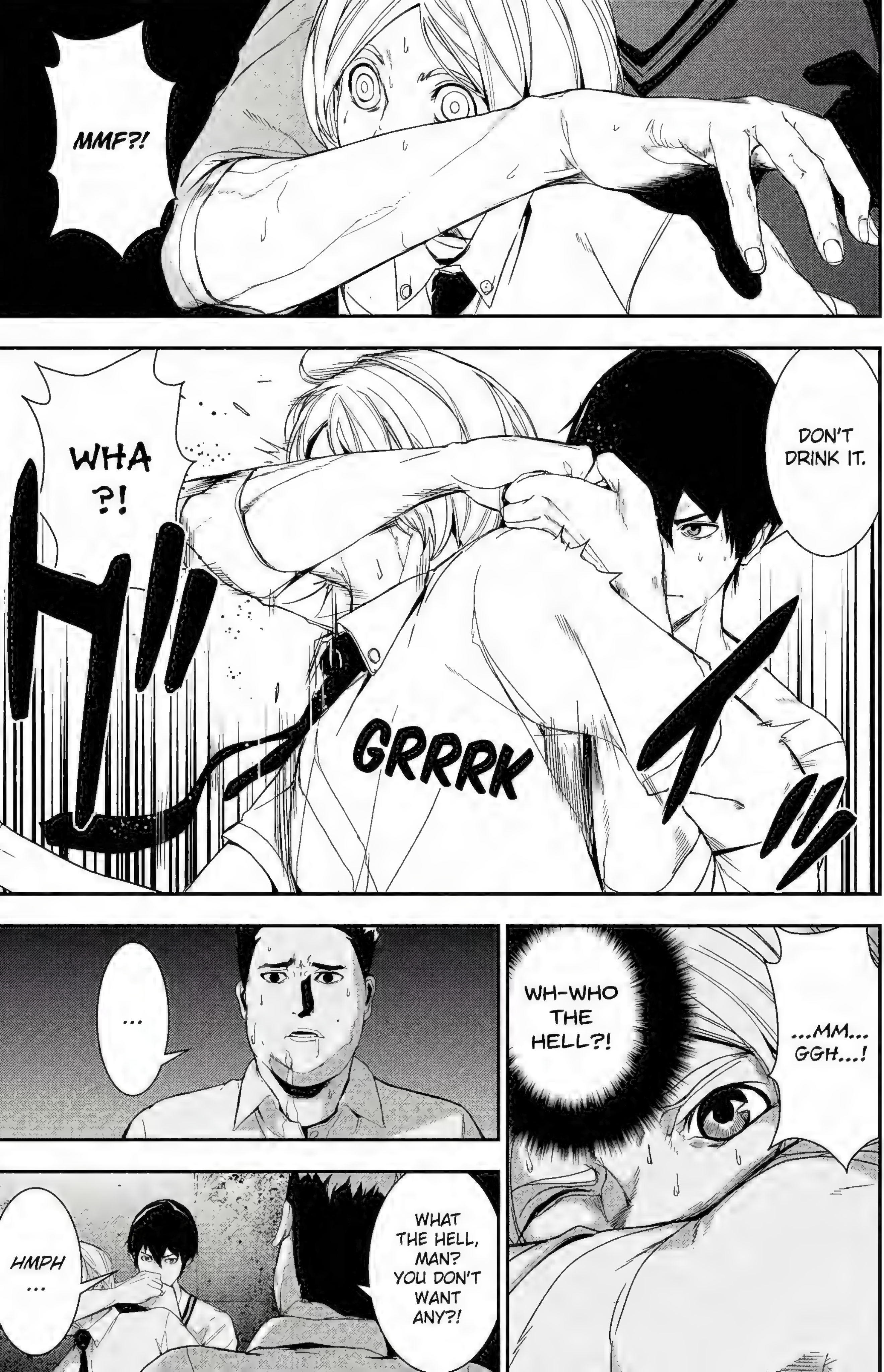

ゴロン
FLOP
FMP
FMP
FHP
ARE YOU KIDDING ME...?
UGH...!
FWAP
...IT'S SO HIGH...

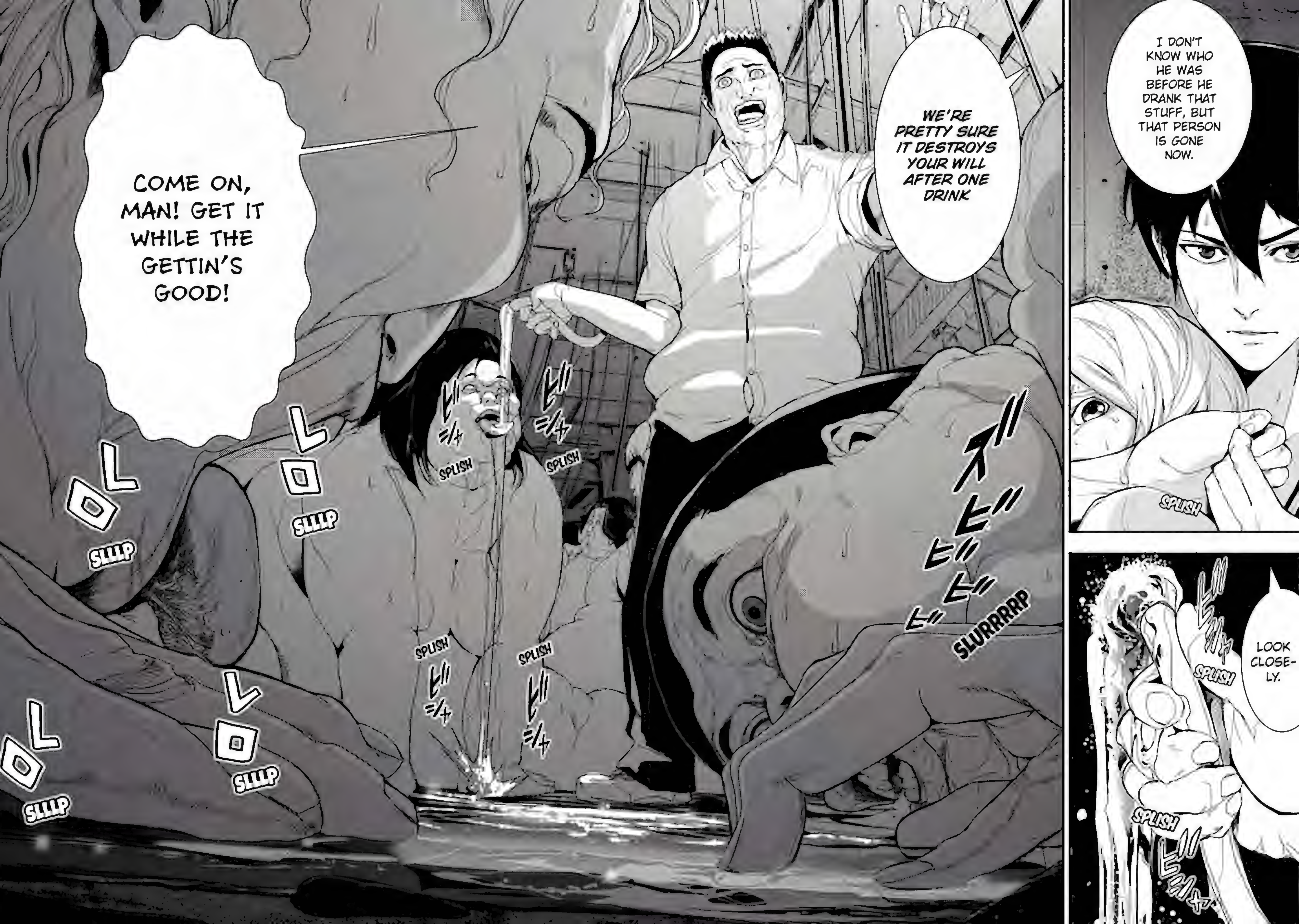

カタ CLATTER
カラ CLATTER
カタ CLATTER
THEY MADE SURE NO ONE WAS CLIMBING OUT OF HERE...
DAMN IT.
WAIT...!
IF I JUST USE THOSE HANDRAILS OFF TO THE SIDES...
...OR... NOT...
GOD...

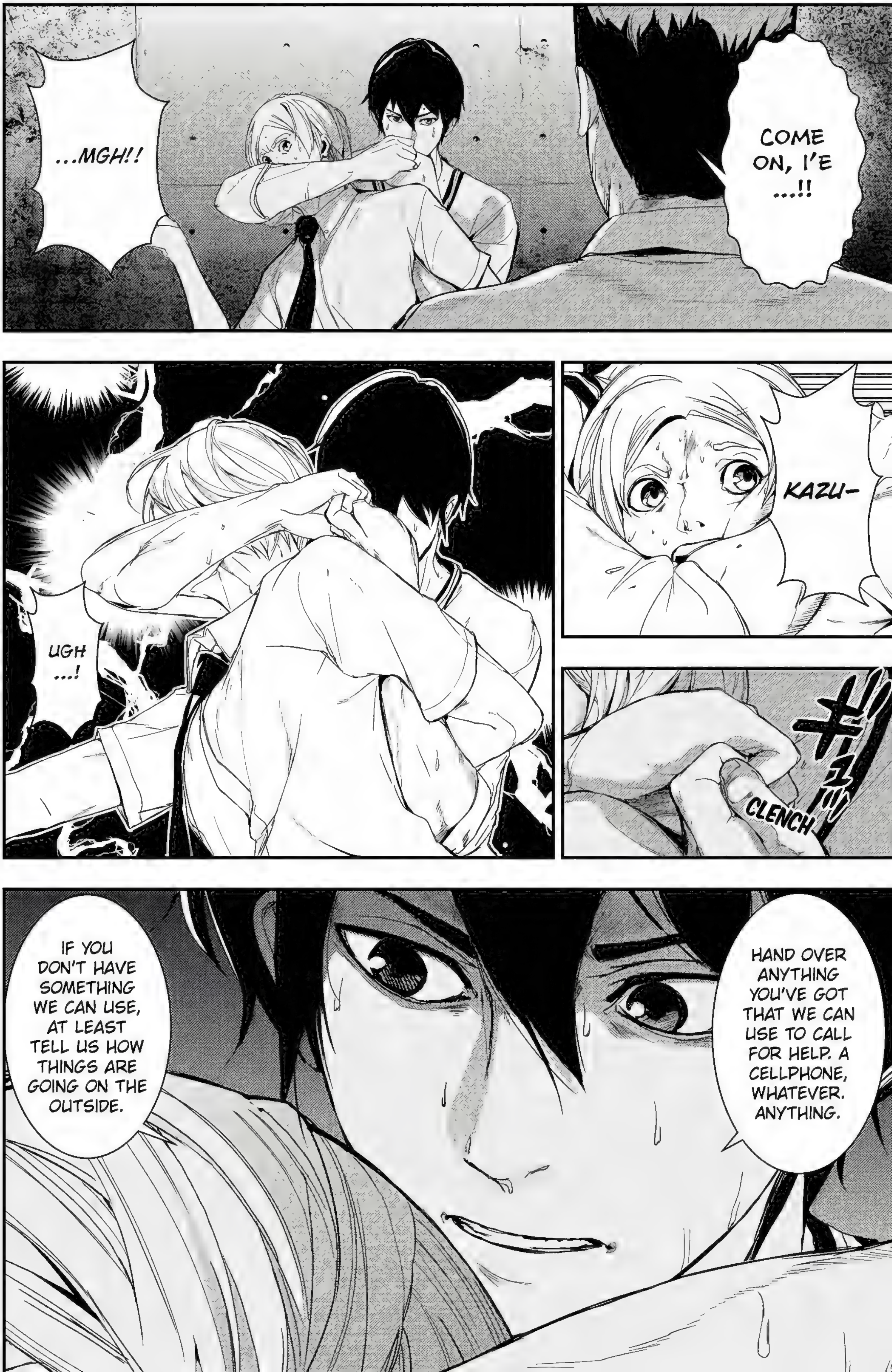

BUT FORGET THAT. WHAT IS WITH THESE PEOPLE...?
THEY JUST KEEP DRINKING. I MIGHT AS WELL NOT BE HERE AT ALL...!
AAH!
MMGLUB
MMGLUB
KAZU!!
IT IS YOU, ISN'T IT?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, KAZU?! HELLO?

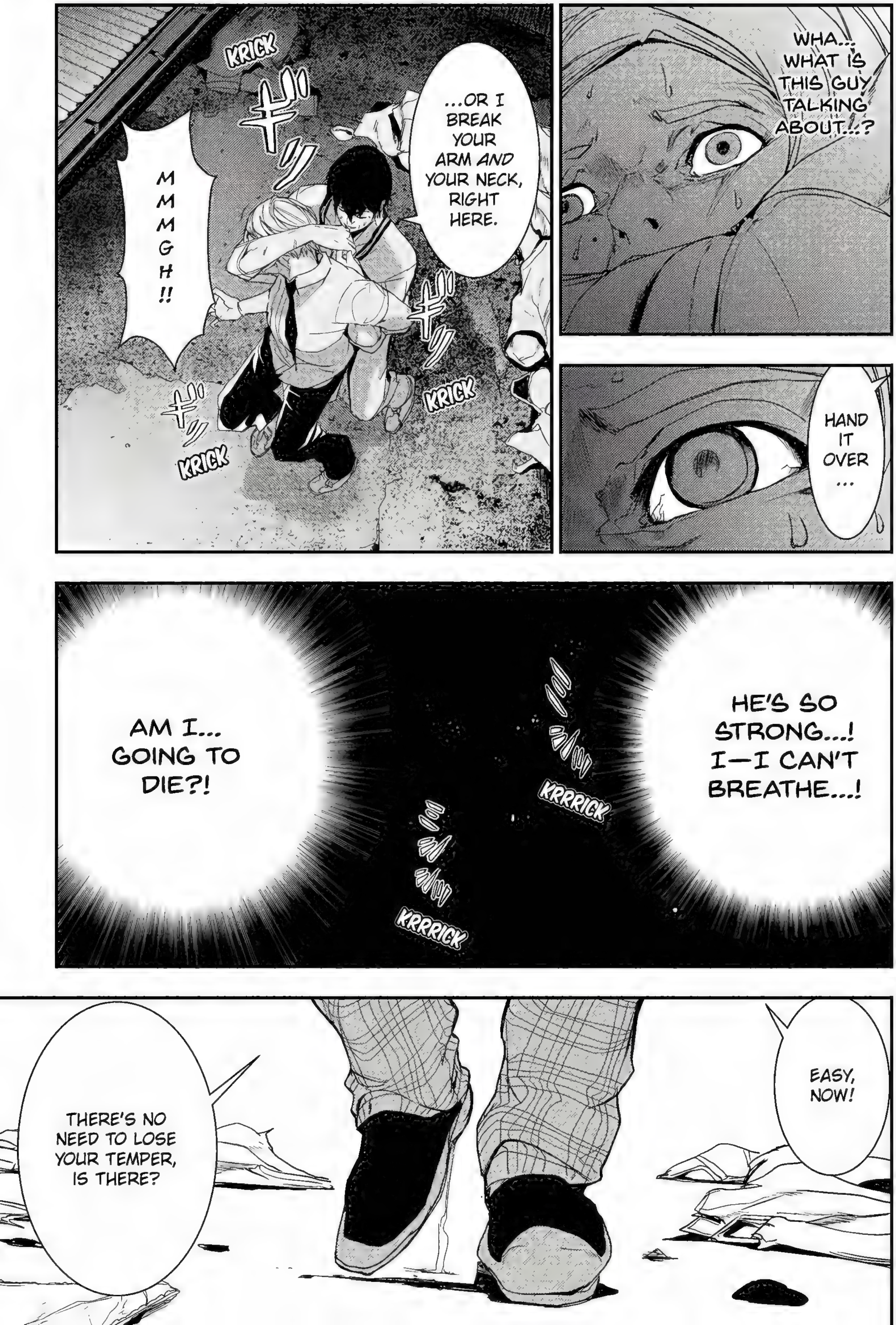

OH, HEY...
I'E...
DON'T YOU "HEY" ME!! WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?!
Uhhh...
WHERE THE HELL ARE WE?!
D...DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT, MAN...
...YOU WANNA... TRY THIS STUFF?
IT'S REAL GOOD...
ジョビ GLUG
ジョビ GLUG

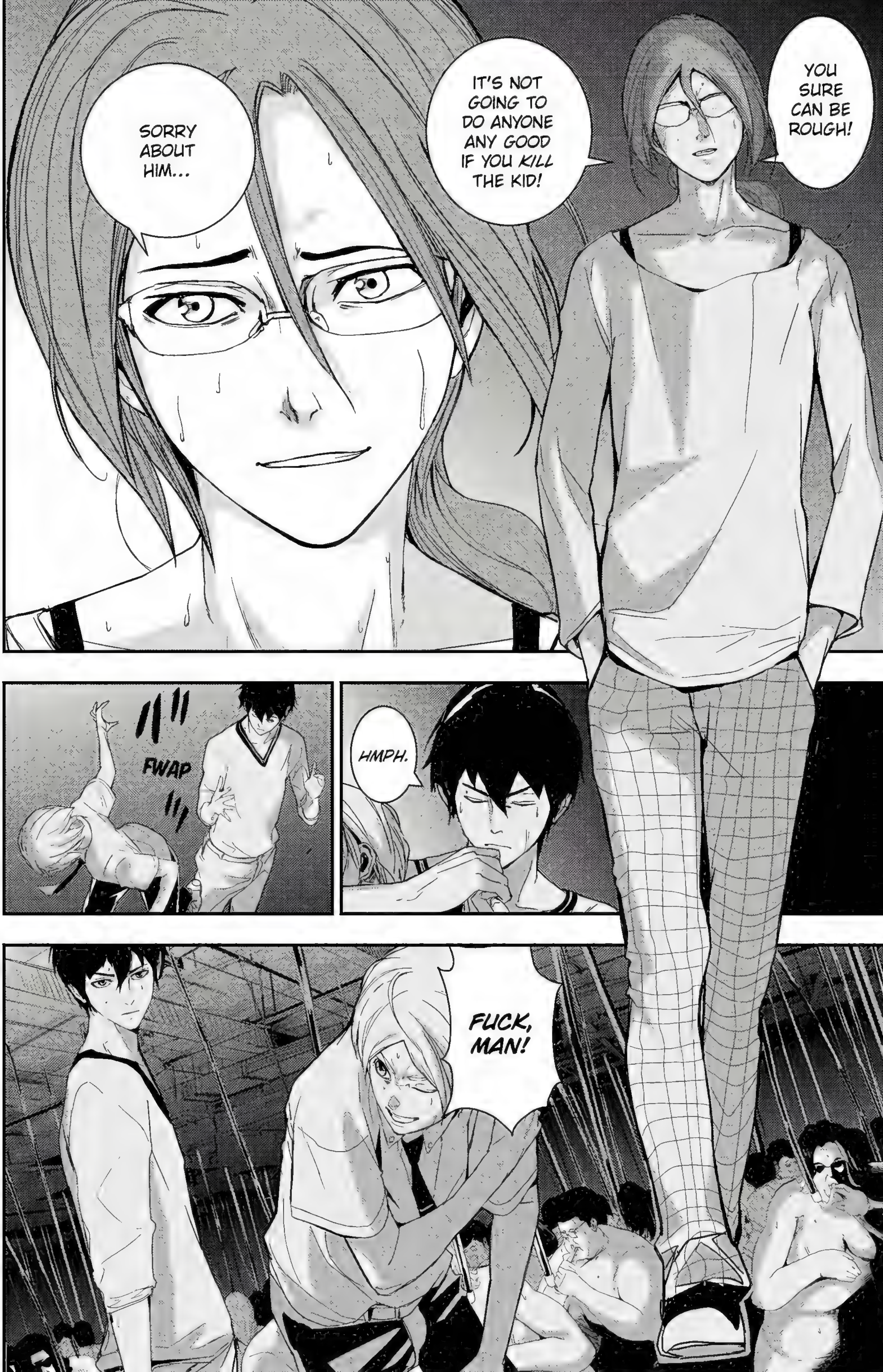

C'MON!
WHAT?
WHAT'S WITH THIS WATER... NO, IT'S GOTTA BE JUICE...?
IT SMELLS SWEET... LIKE FRUIT OR SOMETHING.
SPLISH
SPLISH
SPLISH
DAMMIT... IT'S LIKE A SAUNA IN HERE! I'M THIRSTY...
GULP
SPLISH
SPLASH
JUST ONE DRINK...

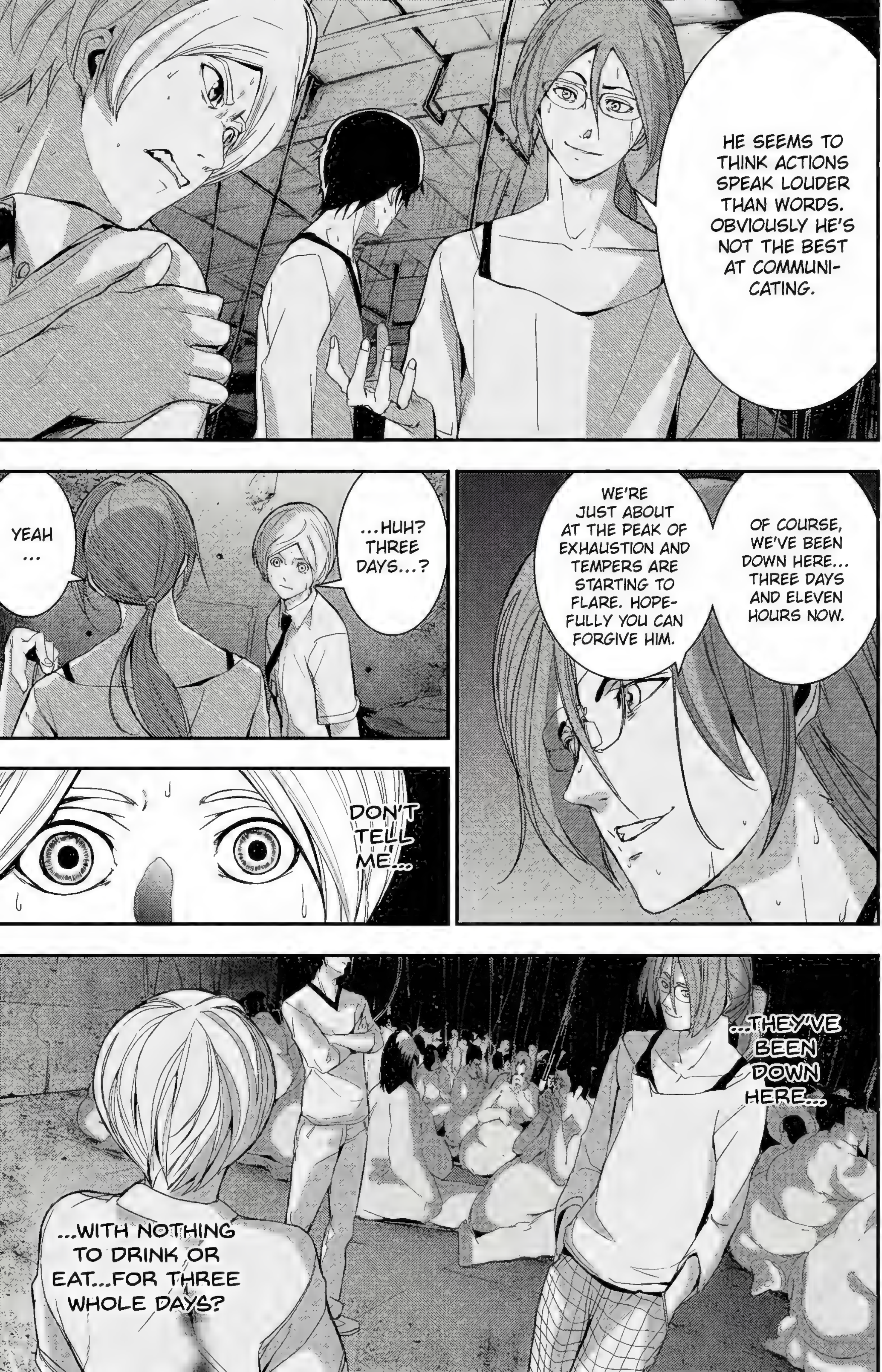

MMF?!
DON'T DRINK IT.
GRRRK
WHA ?!
...MM... GGH...!
WH-WHO THE HELL?!
...
WHAT THE HELL, MAN? YOU DON'T WANT ANY?!
HMPH ...

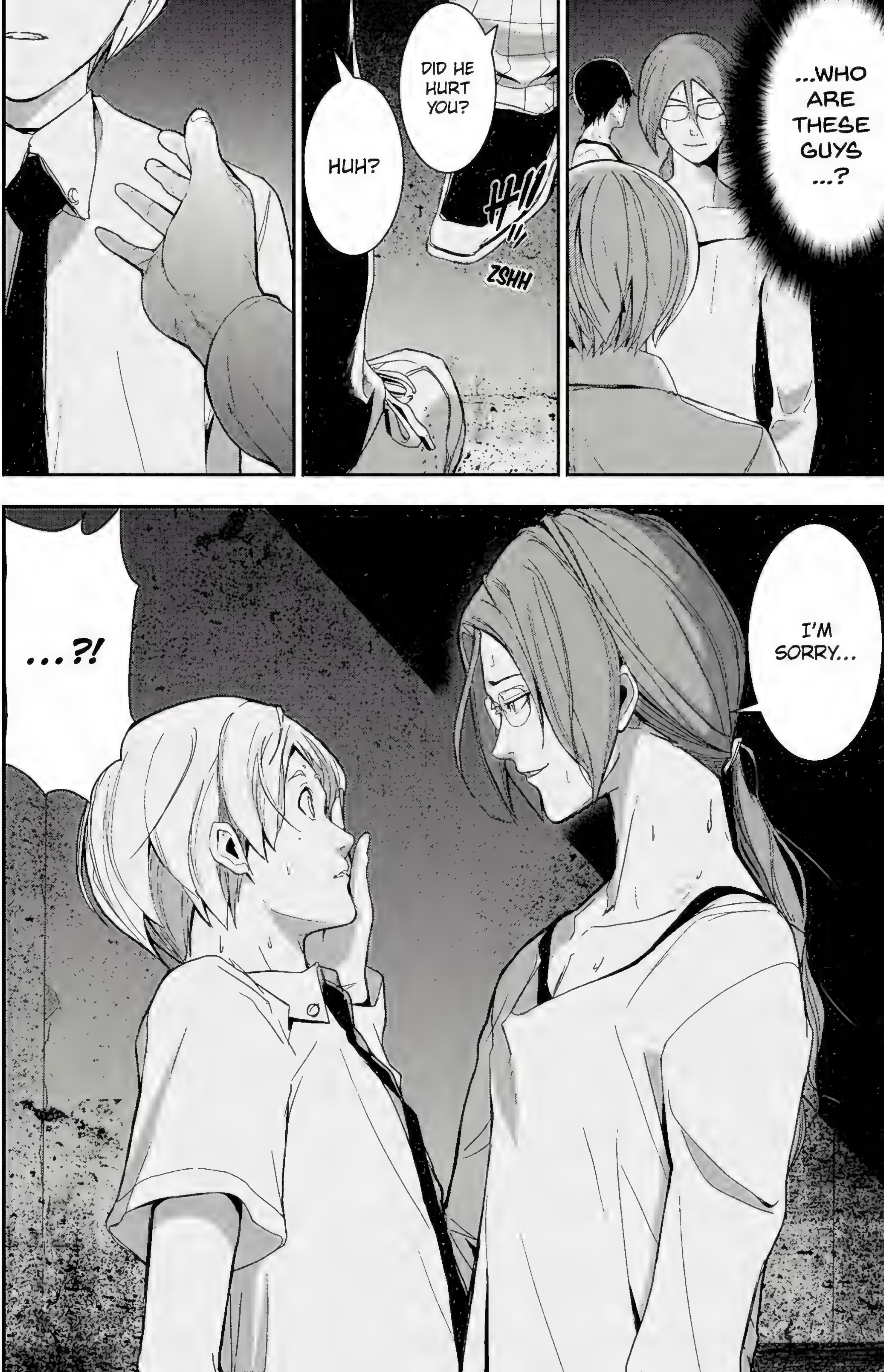

I DON'T KNOW WHO HE WAS BEFORE HE DRANK THAT STUFF, BUT THAT PERSON IS GONE NOW.
SPLISH
LOOK CLOSELY.
SPLISH
SPLISH
WE'RE PRETTY SURE IT DESTROYS YOUR WILL AFTER ONE DRINK
COME ON, MAN! GET IT WHILE THE GETTIN'S GOOD!
SLURRRRP
SPLISH
SPLISH
SPLISH
SPLISH
SLLLP
SLLLP
SLLLP
SLLLP

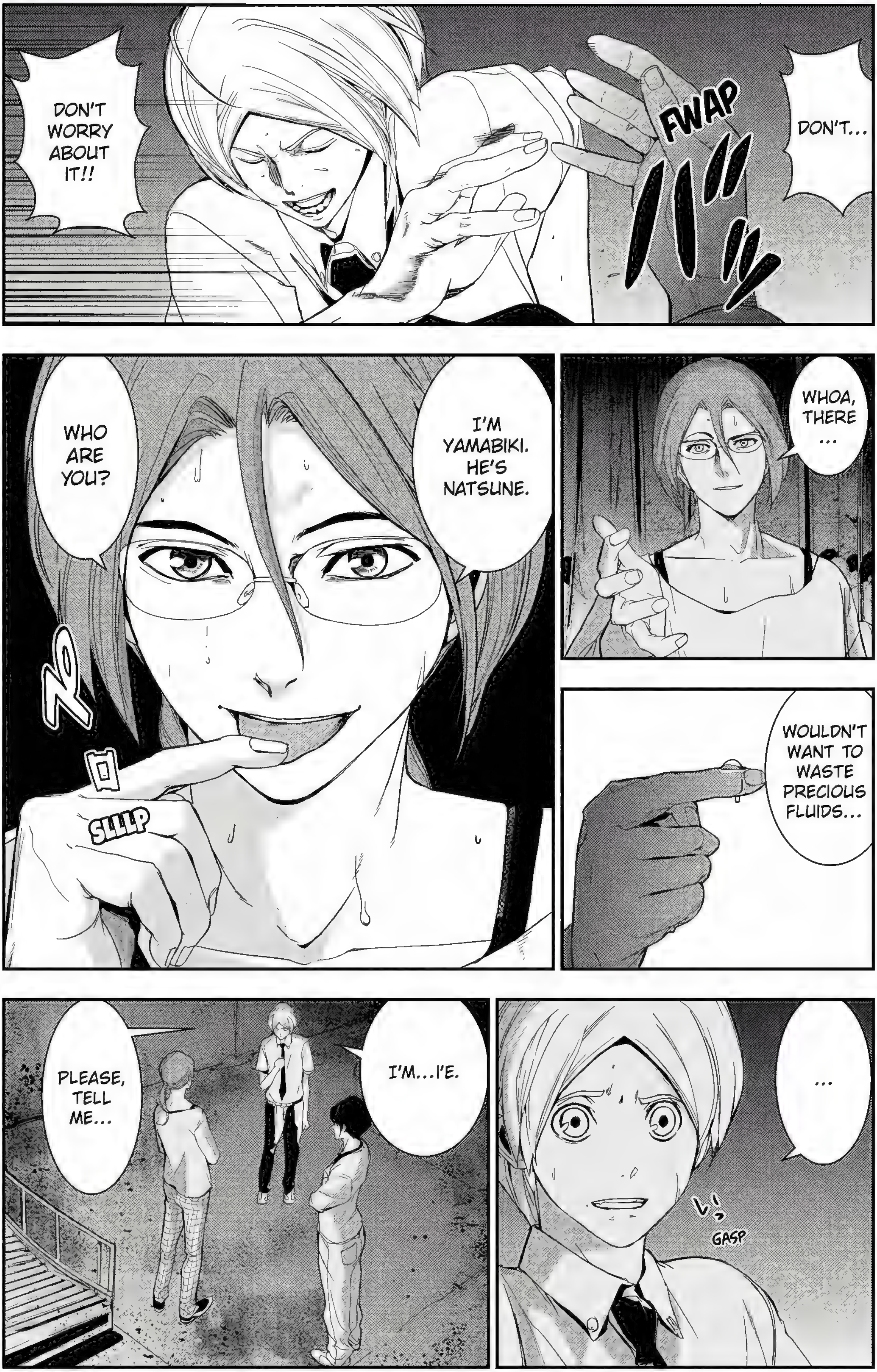

COME ON, I'E ...!!
...MGH!!
KAZU-
CLENCH
UGH ...!
HAND OVER ANYTHING YOU'VE GOT THAT WE CAN USE TO CALL FOR HELP. A CELLPHONE, WHATEVER. ANYTHING.
IF YOU DON'T HAVE SOMETHING WE CAN USE, AT LEAST TELL US HOW THINGS ARE GOING ON THE OUTSIDE.

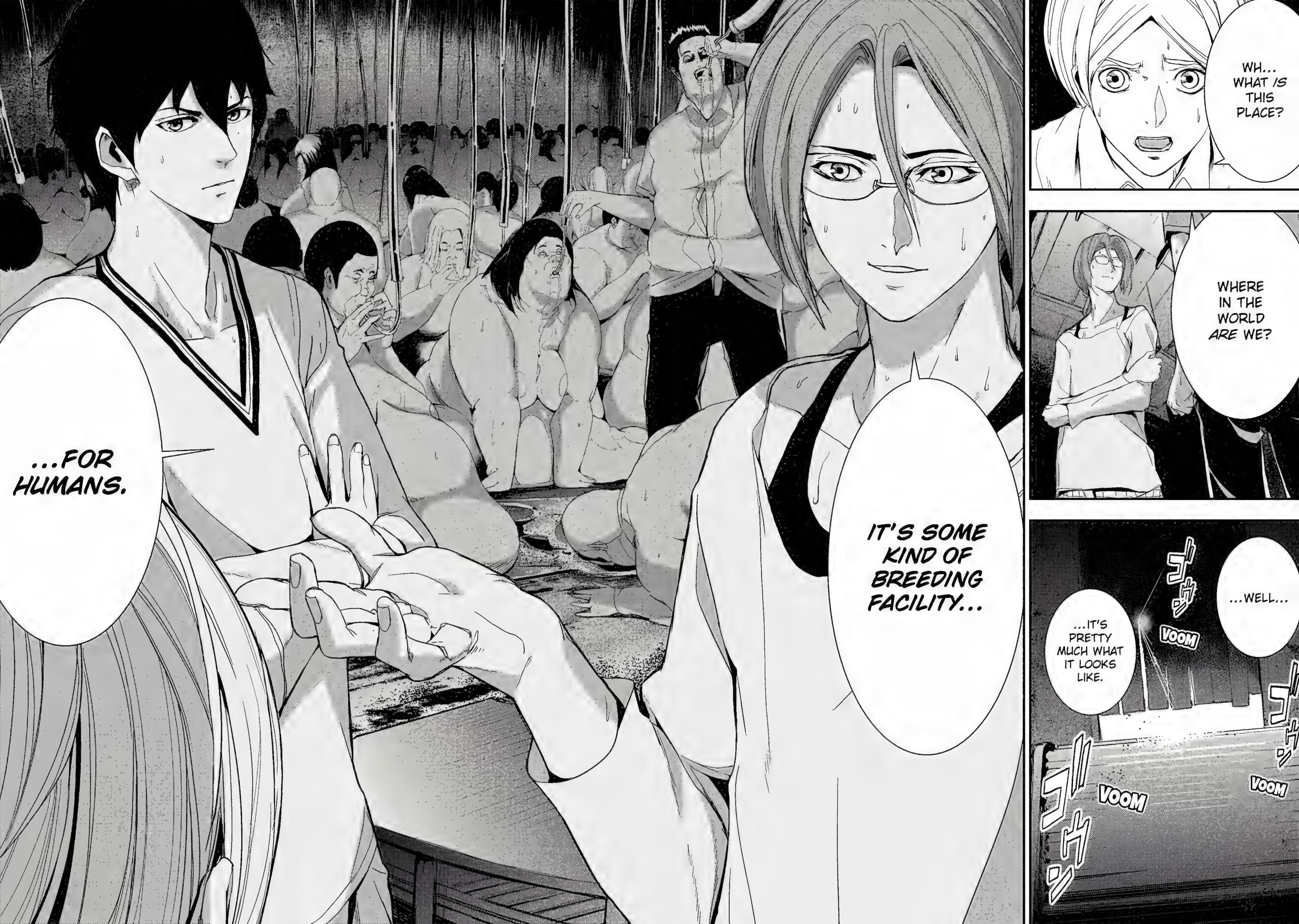

WHA... WHAT IS THIS GUY TALKING ABOUT...?
HAND IT OVER...
...OR I BREAK YOUR ARM *AND* YOUR NECK, RIGHT HERE.
KRICK
MMMMGH!!
KRICK
KRICK
HE'S SO STRONG...! I—I CAN'T BREATHE...!
KRRRICK
KRRRICK
AM I... GOING TO DIE?!
EASY, NOW!
THERE'S NO NEED TO LOSE YOUR TEMPER, IS THERE?


YOU SURE CAN BE ROUGH!
IT'S NOT GOING TO DO ANYONE ANY GOOD IF YOU *KILL* THE KID!
SORRY ABOUT HIM...
HMPH.
FWAP
FUCK, MAN!

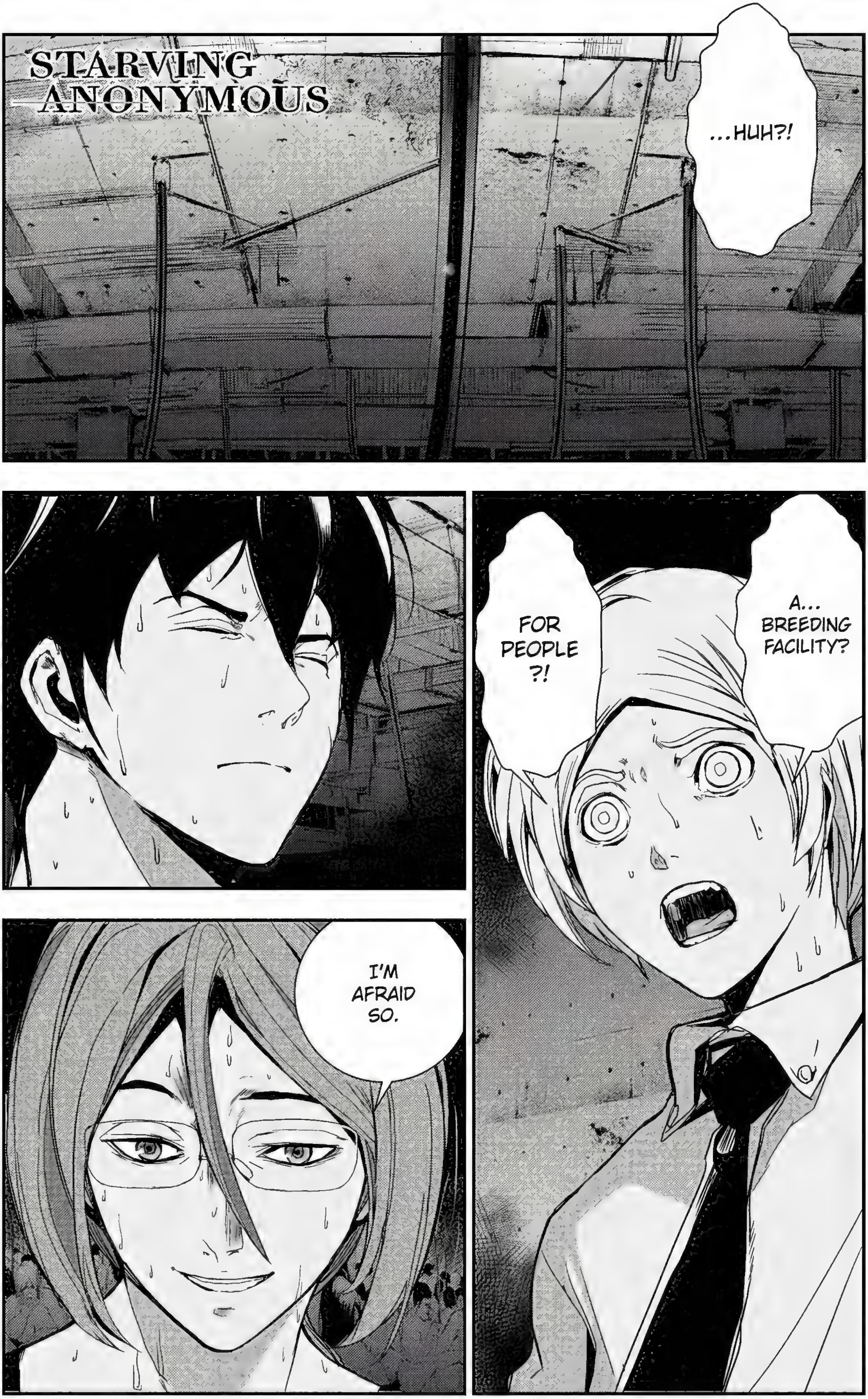

HE SEEMS TO THINK ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS. OBVIOUSLY HE'S NOT THE BEST AT COMMUNICATING.
OF COURSE, WE'VE BEEN DOWN HERE... THREE DAYS AND ELEVEN HOURS NOW.
WE'RE JUST ABOUT AT THE PEAK OF EXHAUSTION AND TEMPERS ARE STARTING TO FLARE. HOPEFULLY YOU CAN FORGIVE HIM.
...HUH? THREE DAYS...?
YEAH...
DON'T TELL ME...
...THEY'VE BEEN DOWN HERE...
...WITH NOTHING TO DRINK OR EAT...FOR THREE WHOLE DAYS?


...WHO ARE THESE GUYS ...?
DID HE HURT YOU?
HUH?
ZSHH
I'M SORRY...
...?!

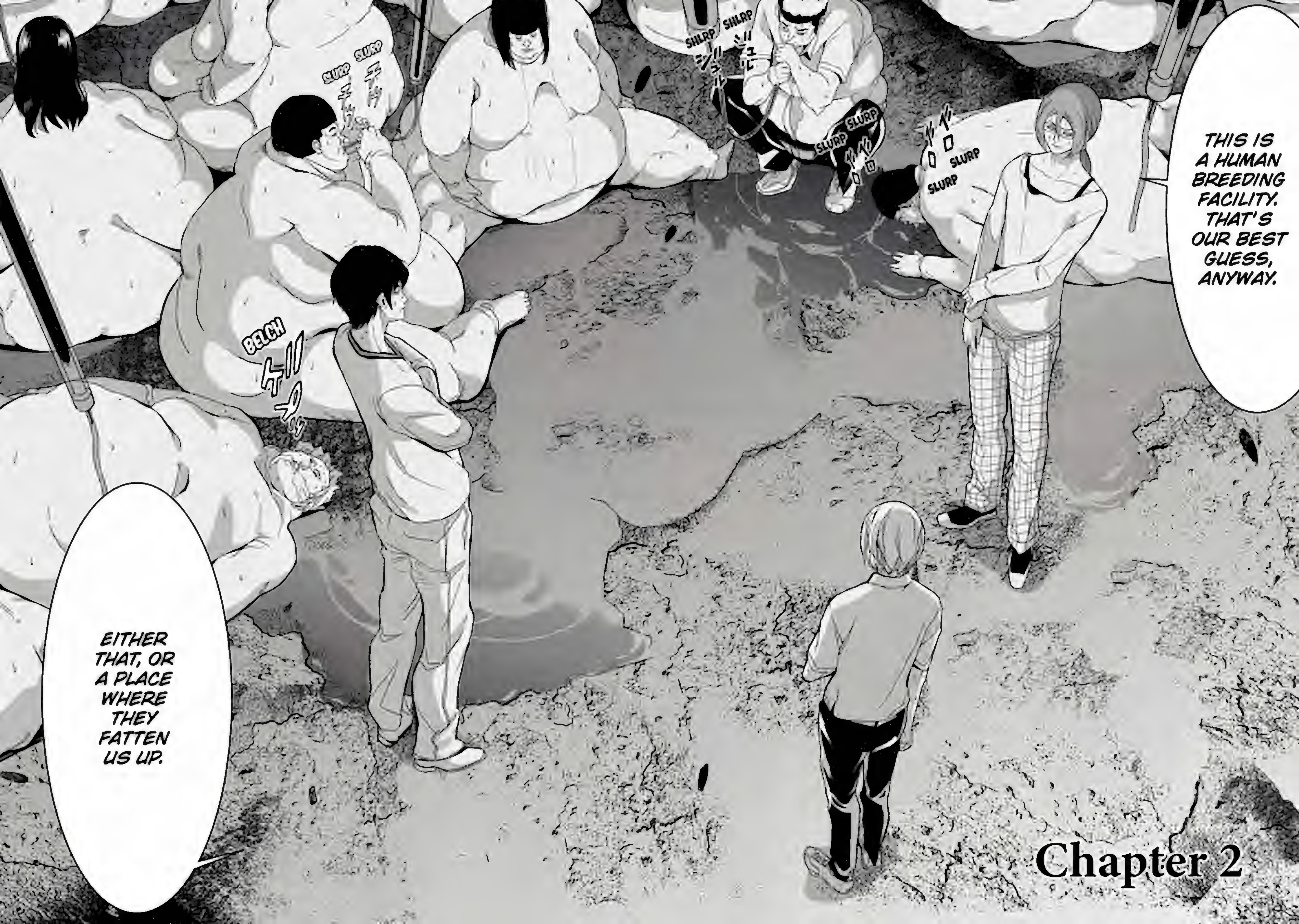

DON'T...
FWAP
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!!
WHOA, THERE ...
WOULDN'T WANT TO WASTE PRECIOUS FLUIDS...
I'M YAMABIKI. HE'S NATSUNE.
WHO ARE YOU?
SLLLP
...
GASP
I'M...I'E.
PLEASE, TELL ME...

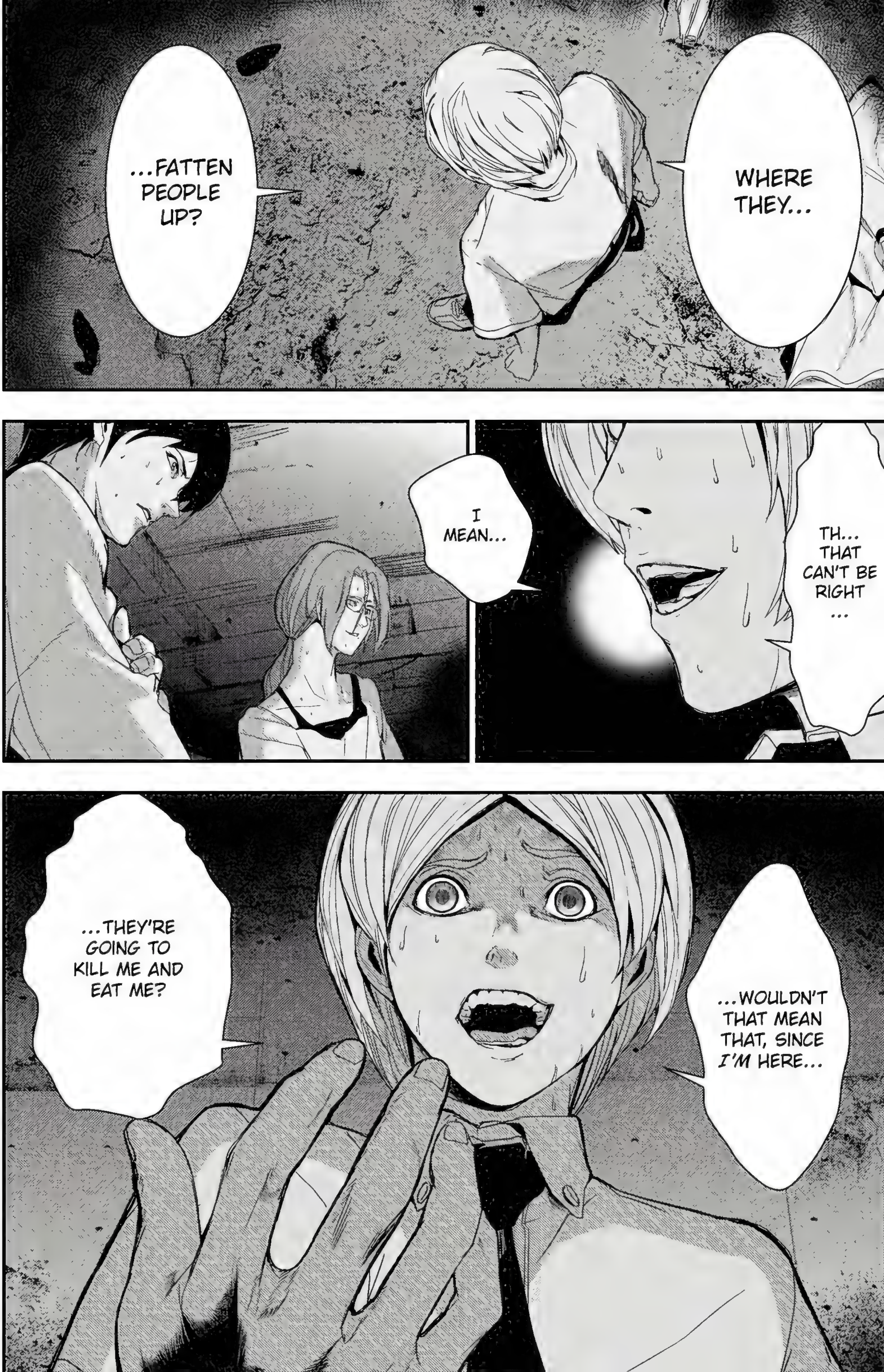

WH... WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE WE?
...WELL...
...IT'S PRETTY MUCH WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.
VOOM
VOOM
VOOM
VOOM
IT'S SOME KIND OF BREEDING FACILITY...
...FOR HUMANS.

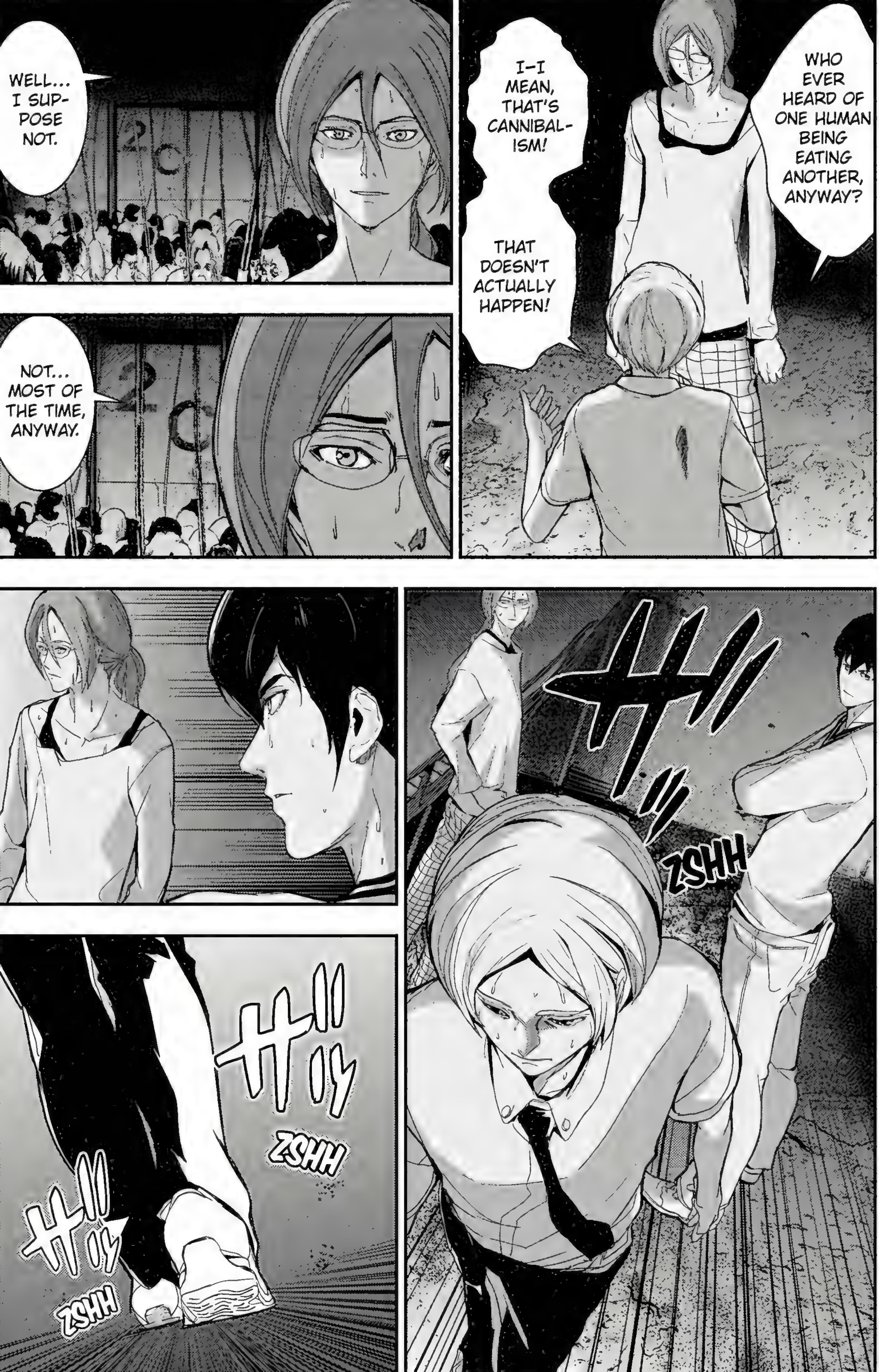
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

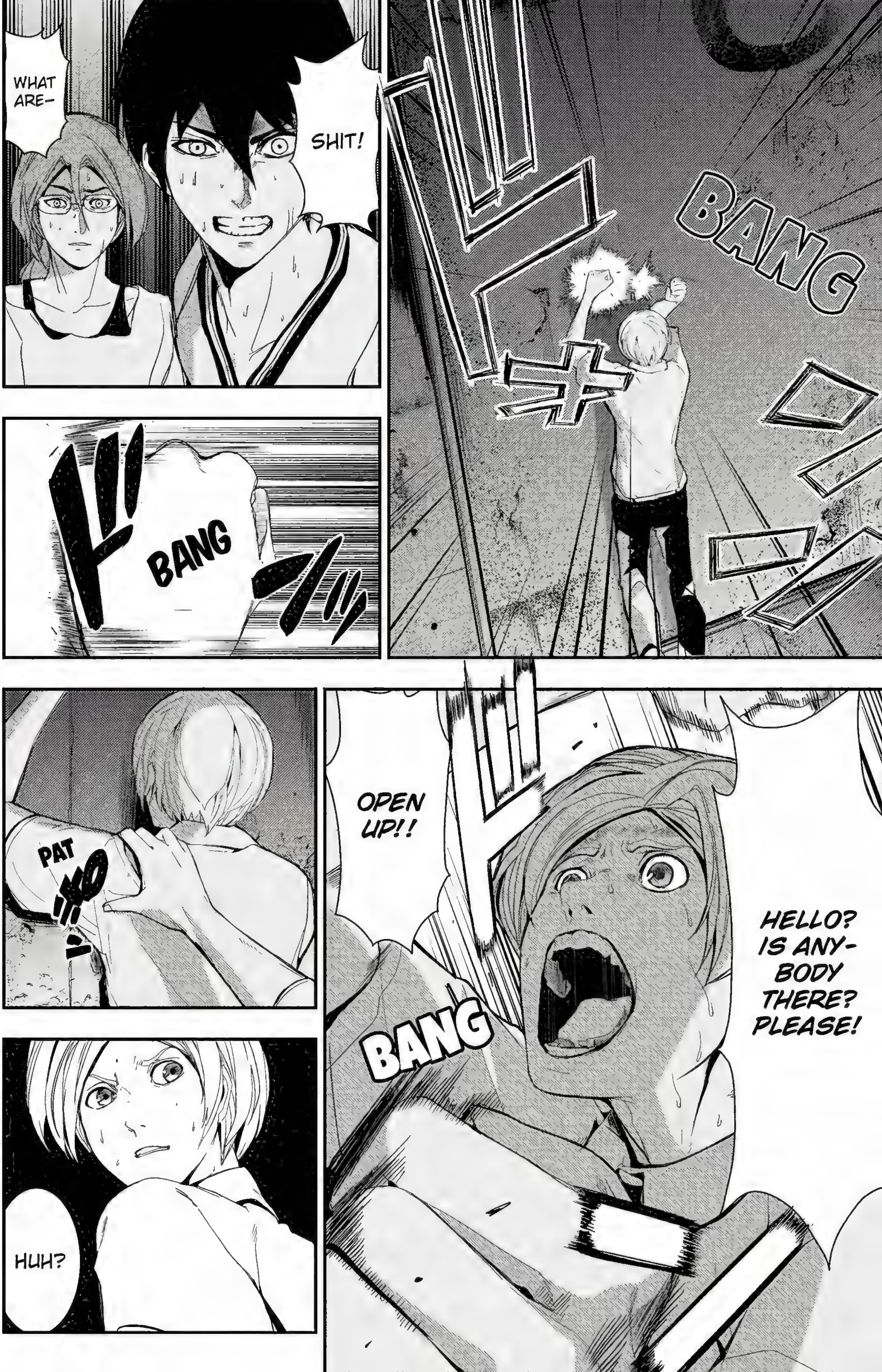

STARVING ANONYMOUS
...HUH?!
A... BREEDING FACILITY?
FOR PEOPLE?!
I'M AFRAID SO.

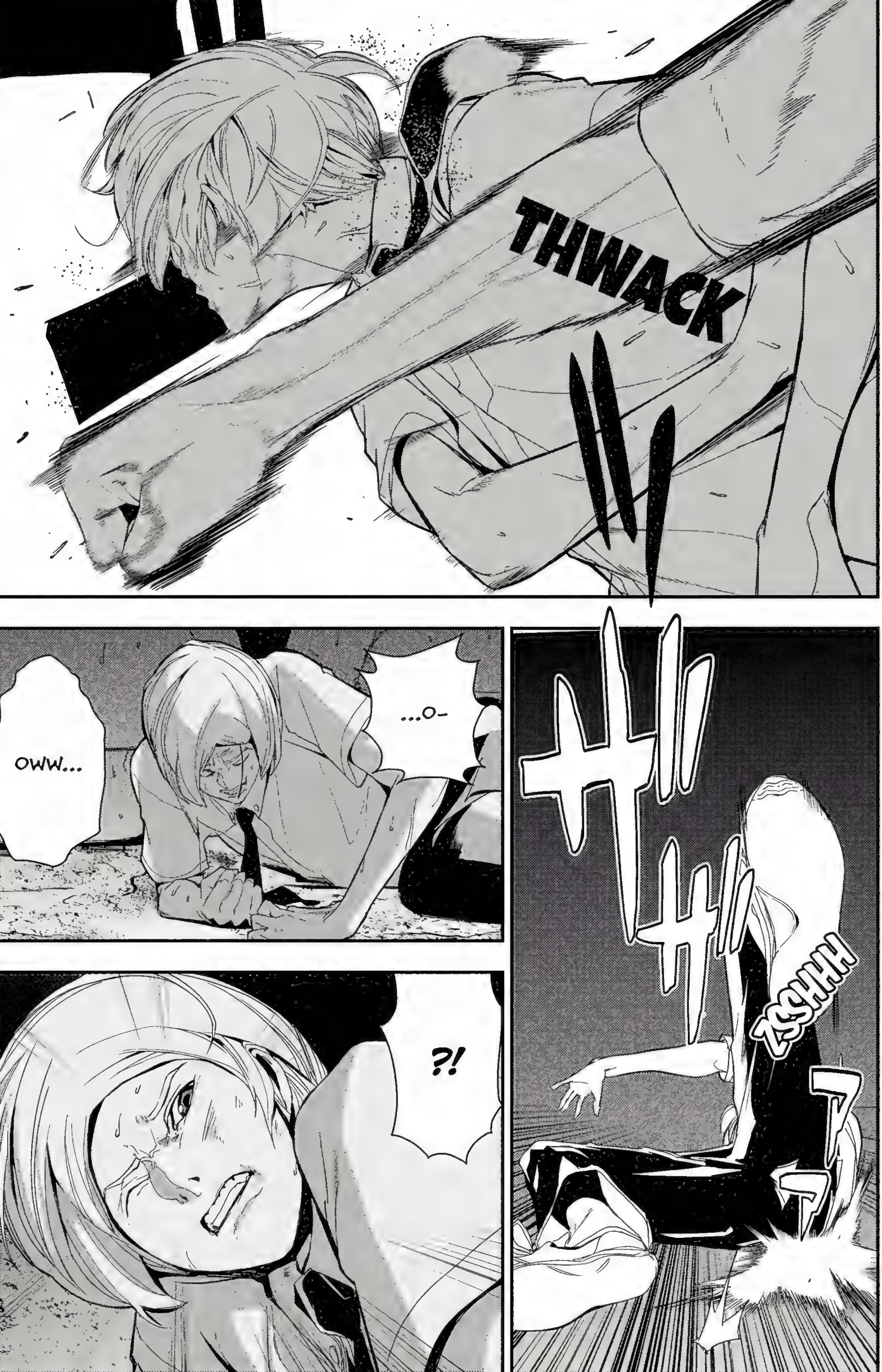
Chapter 2

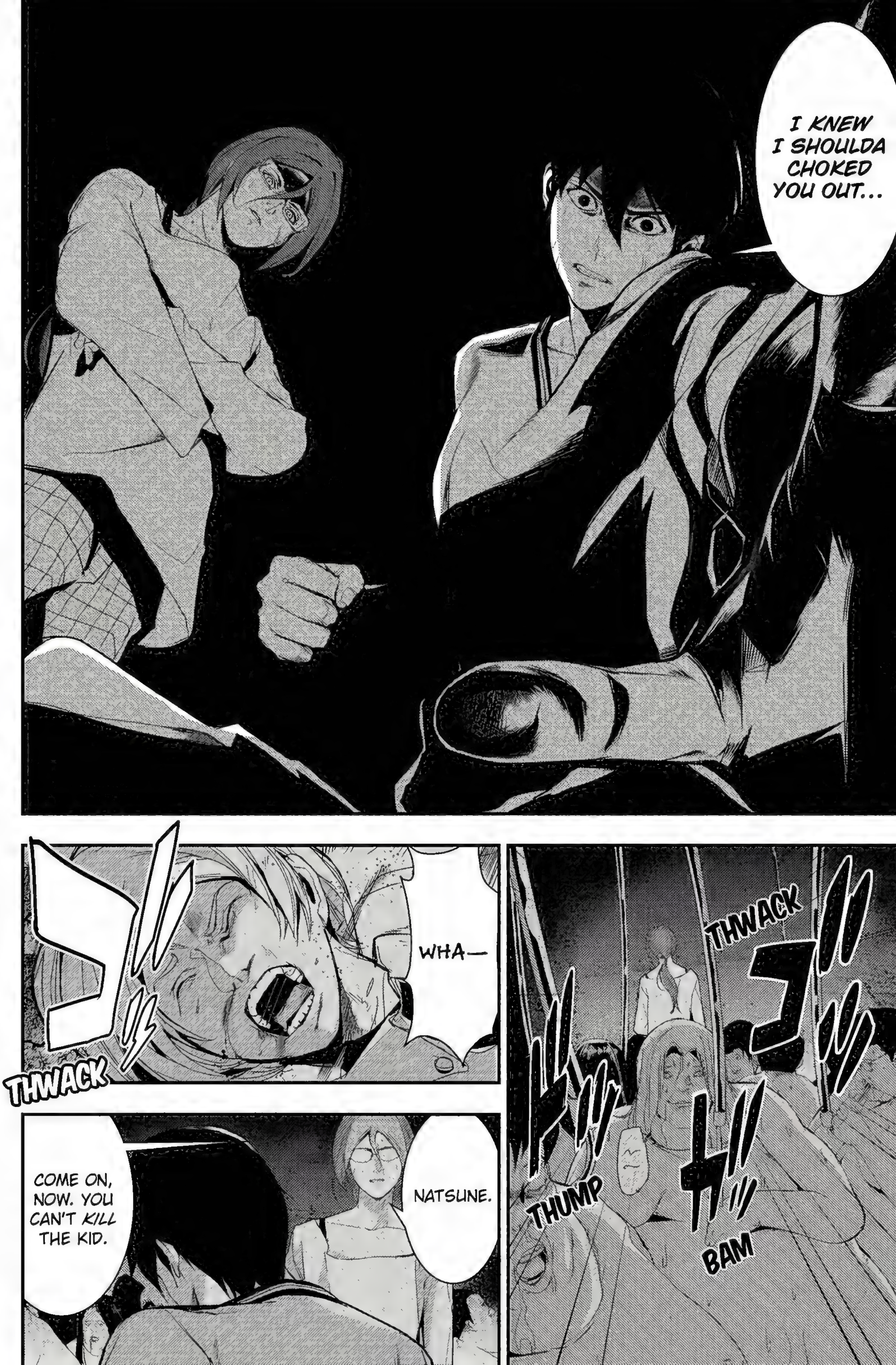

THIS IS A HUMAN BREEDING FACILITY. THAT'S OUR BEST GUESS, ANYWAY.
SHLRP
SHLRP
SLURP
SLURP
SLURP
SLURP
SLURP
SLURP
BELCH
EITHER THAT, OR A PLACE WHERE THEY FATTEN US UP.

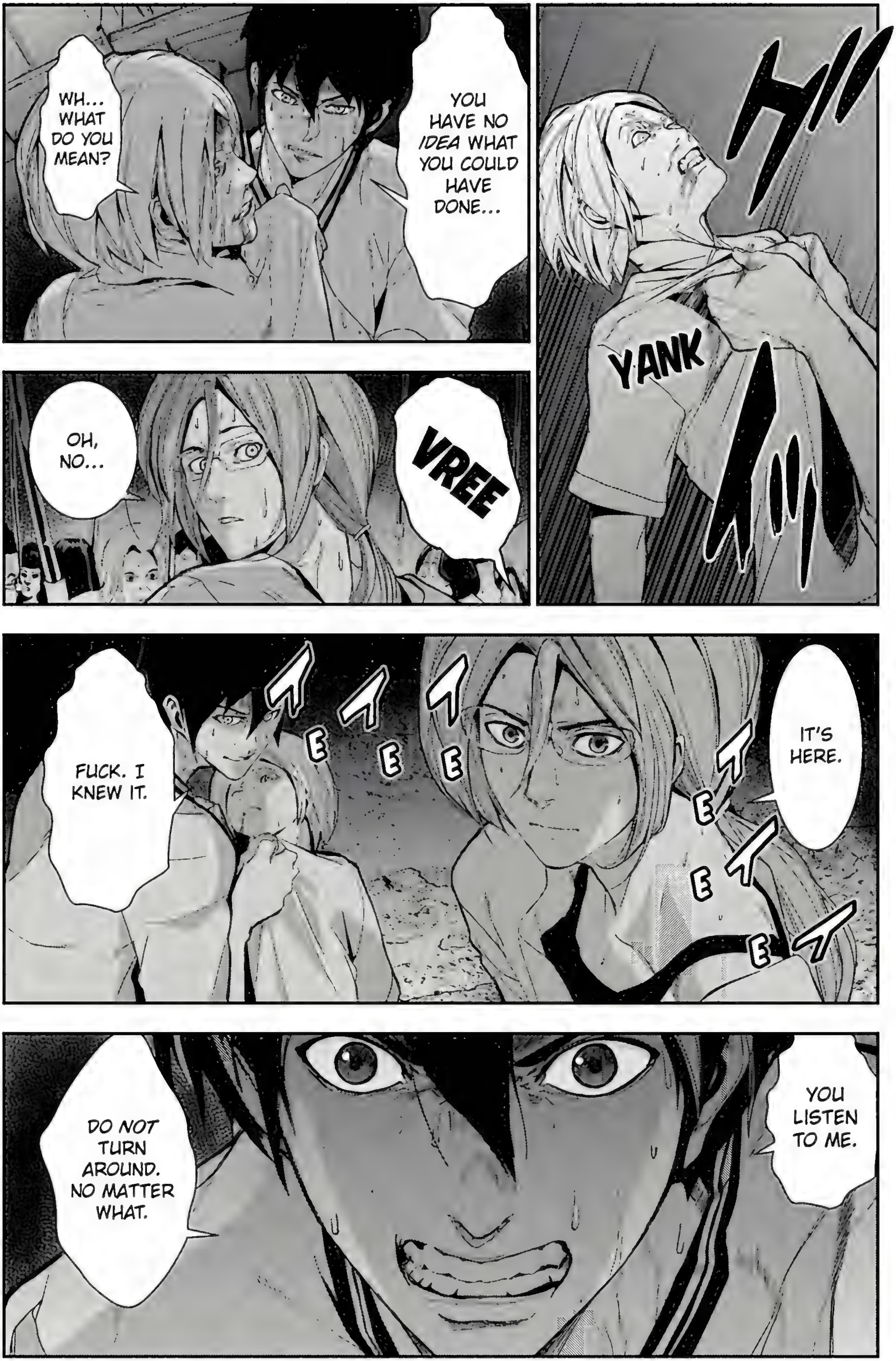

WHERE THEY...
...FATTEN PEOPLE UP?
TH... THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT ...
I MEAN...
...WOULDN'T THAT MEAN THAT, SINCE *I'M* HERE...
...THEY'RE GOING TO KILL ME AND EAT ME?

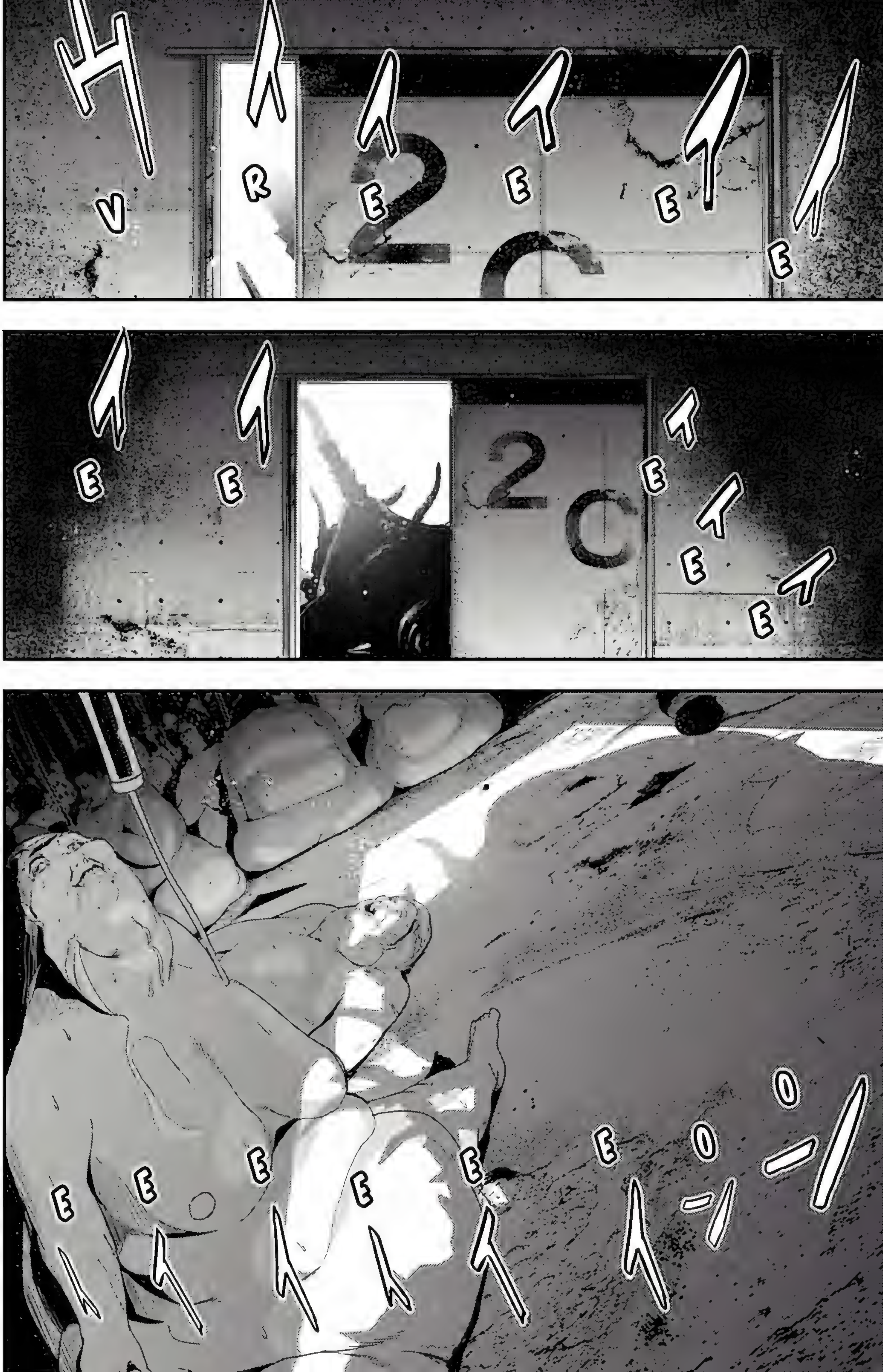

WHO EVER HEARD OF ONE HUMAN BEING EATING ANOTHER, ANYWAY?
I-I MEAN, THAT'S CANNIBALISM!
THAT DOESN'T ACTUALLY HAPPEN!
WELL… I SUPPOSE NOT.
NOT… MOST OF THE TIME, ANYWAY.
ZSHH
ZSHH
ZSHH

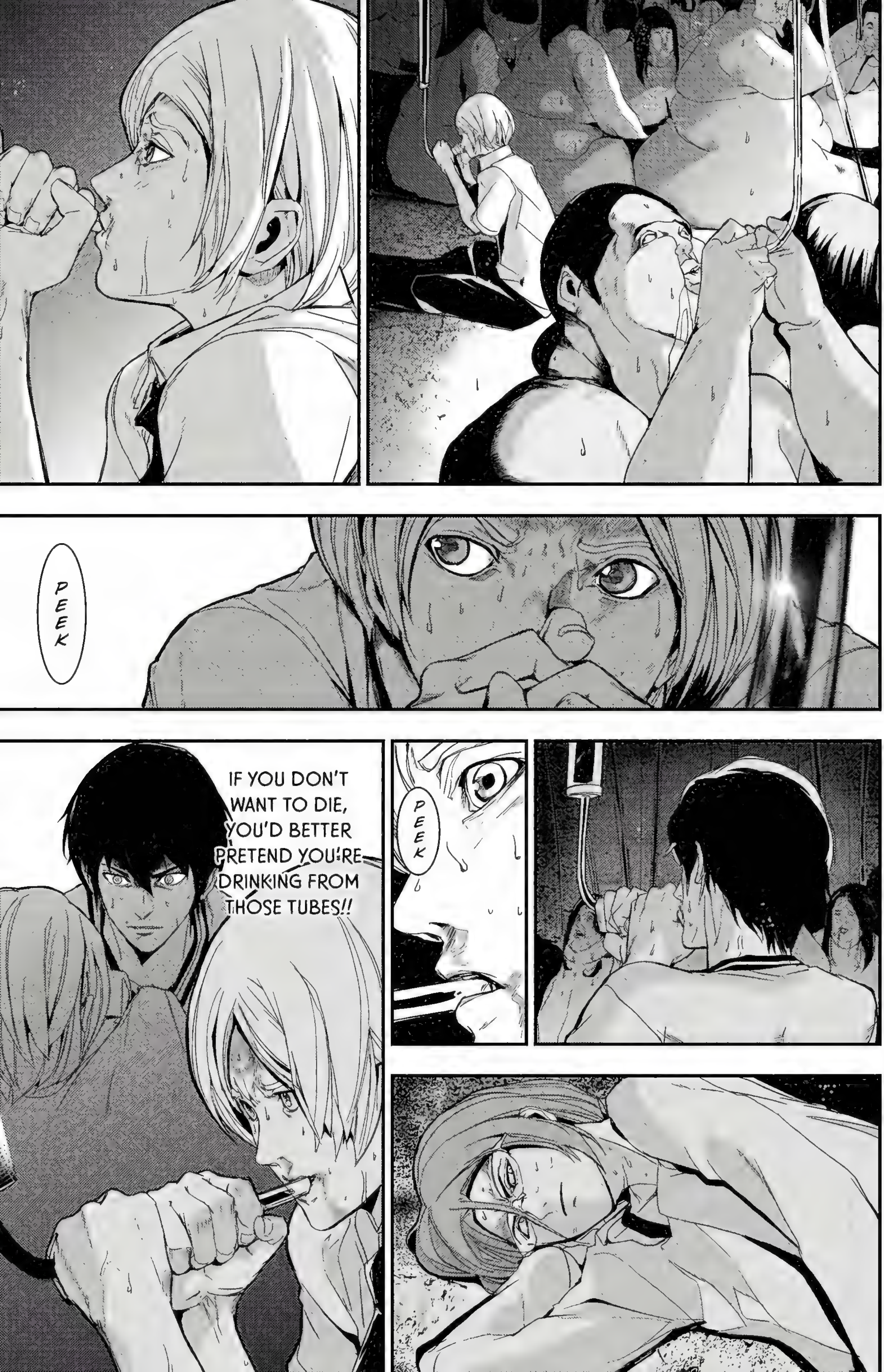

BANG
SHIT!
WHAT ARE-
BANG
HELLO? IS ANYBODY THERE? PLEASE!
OPEN UP!!
BANG
PAT
HUH?

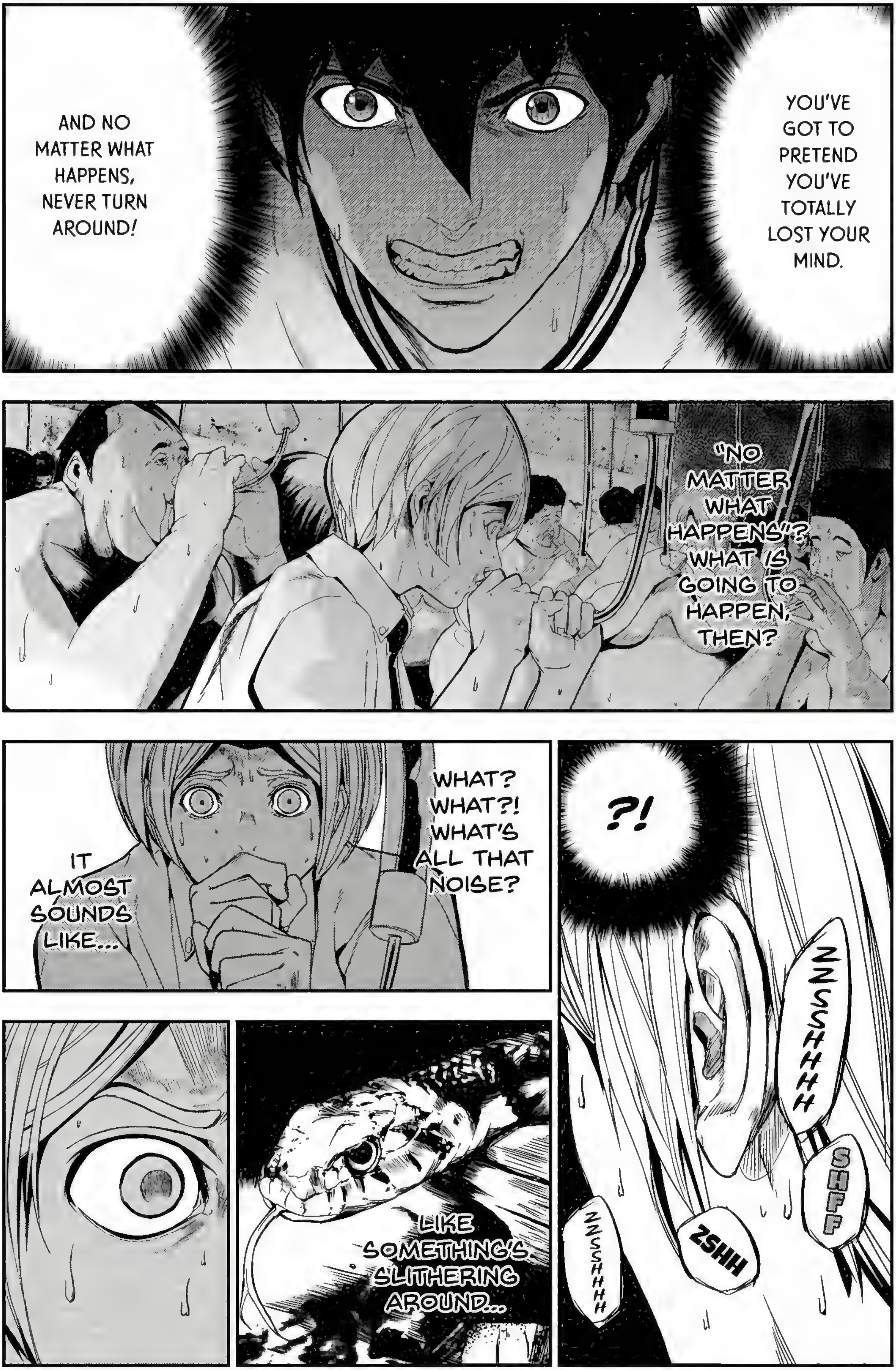

THWACK
ZSSHH
...O-
OWW...
?!

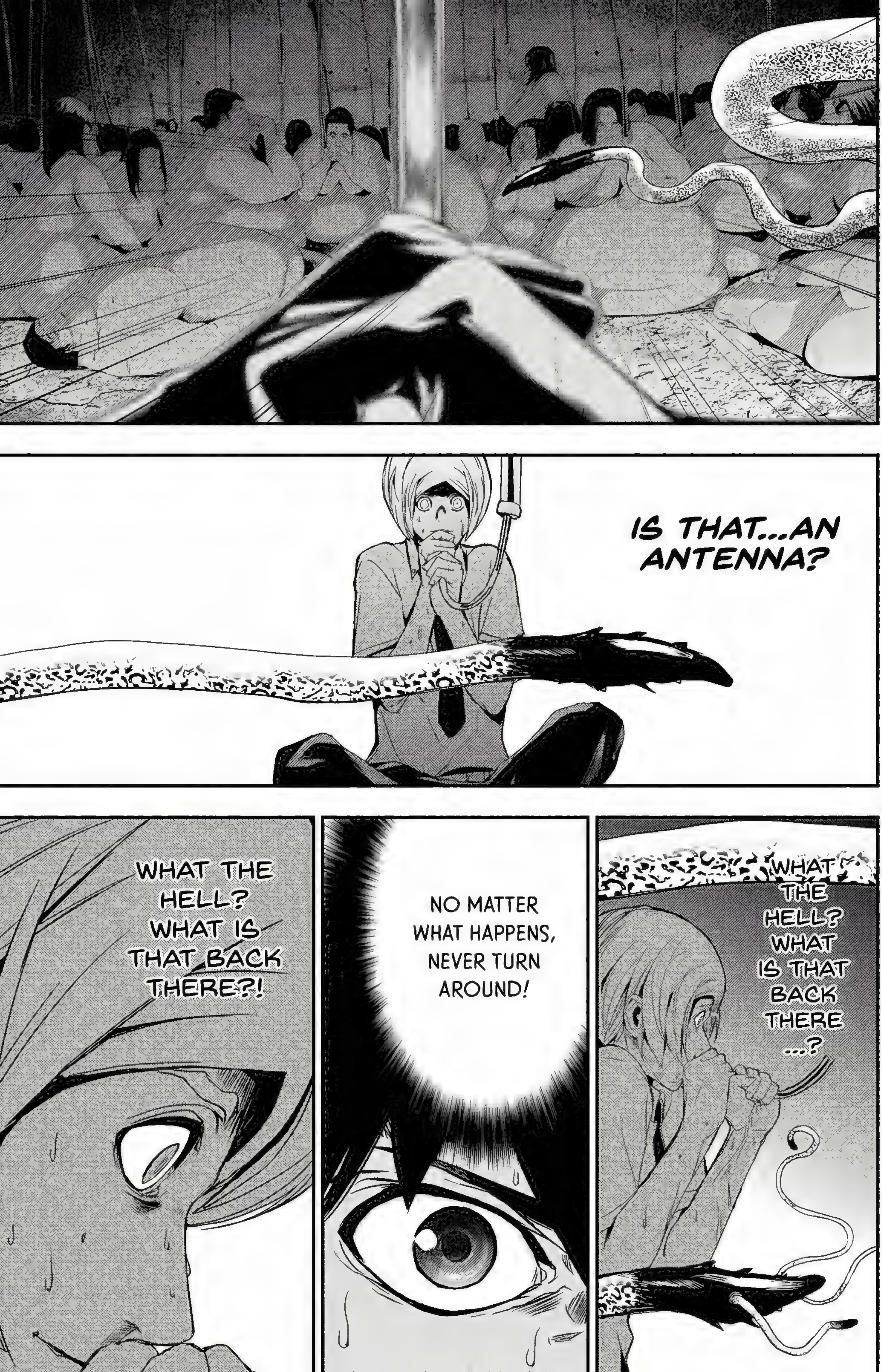

I KNEW I SHOULDA CHOKED YOU OUT...
THWACK
THUMP
BAM
WHA—
THWACK
NATSUNE.
COME ON, NOW. YOU CAN'T *KILL* THE KID.

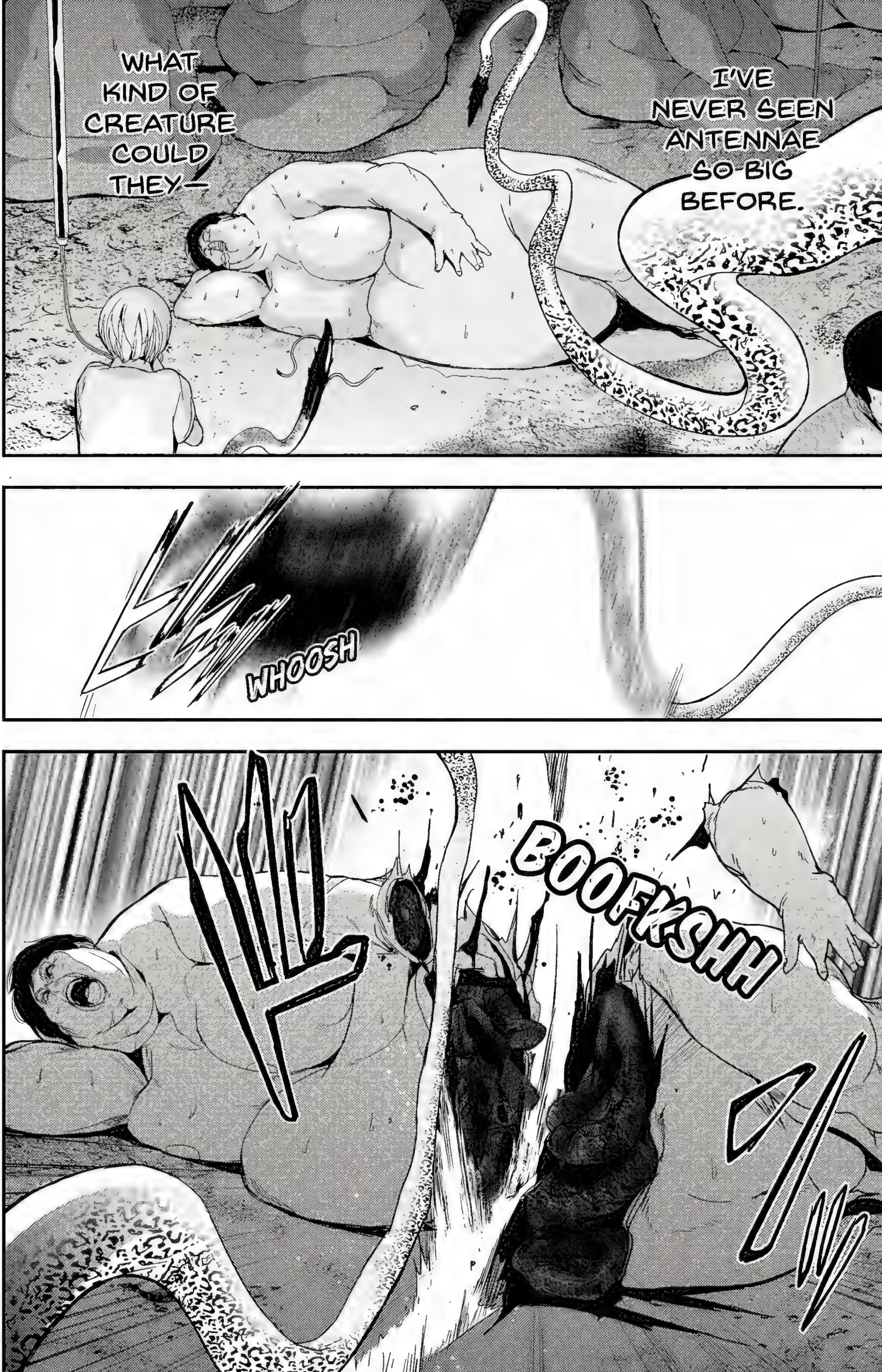

YOU HAVE NO *IDEA* WHAT YOU COULD HAVE DONE...
WH... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YANK
VREE
OH, NO...
IT'S HERE.
EEE EEE EEE
FUCK. I KNEW IT.
YOU LISTEN TO ME.
DO *NOT* TURN AROUND. NO MATTER WHAT.

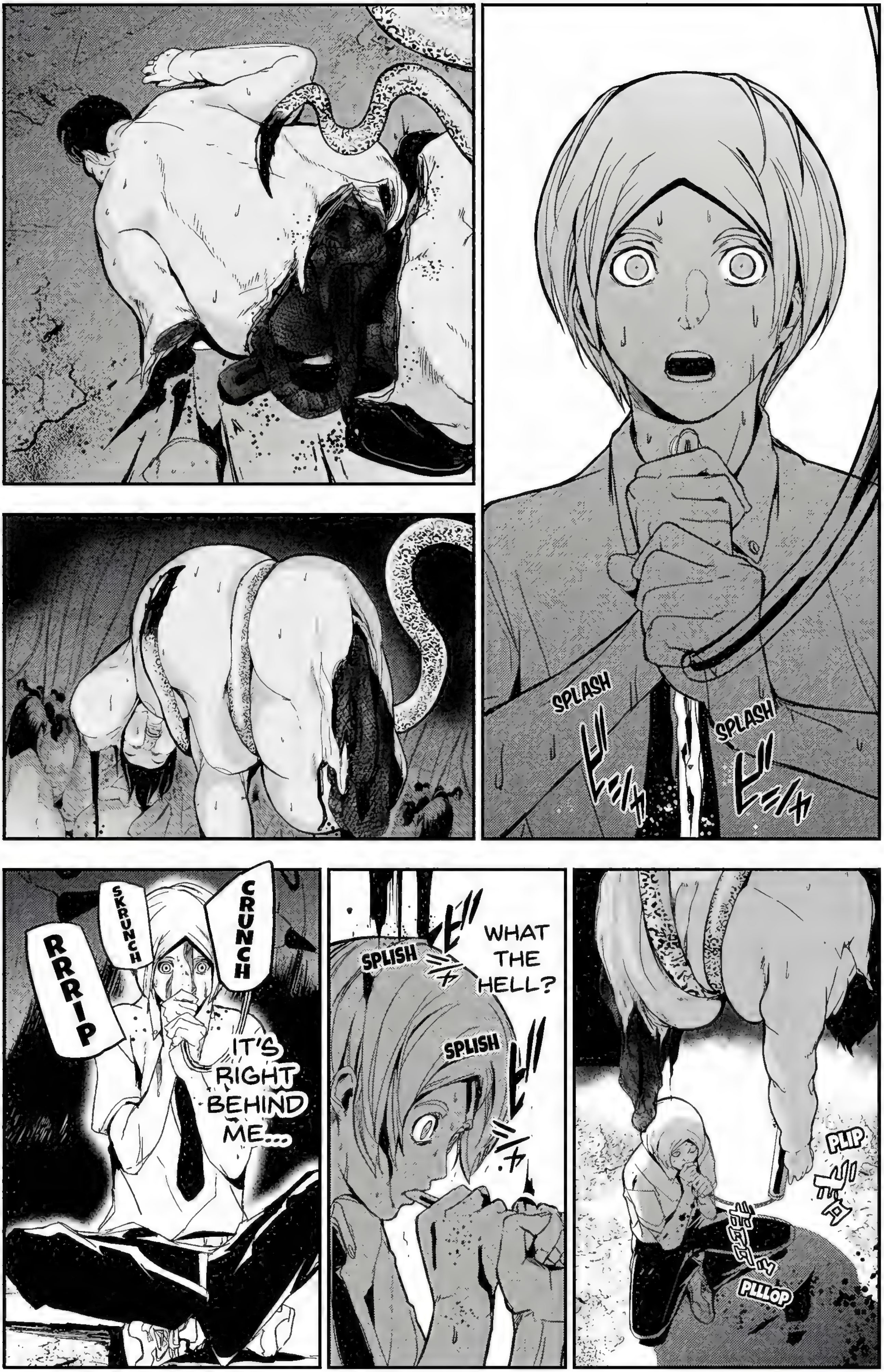

ヒィィィィィ
VREEEE
2C
ィィ
EE
2C
ィィィ
EEE
ィィィィィィィーン
EEEEEEEOOO

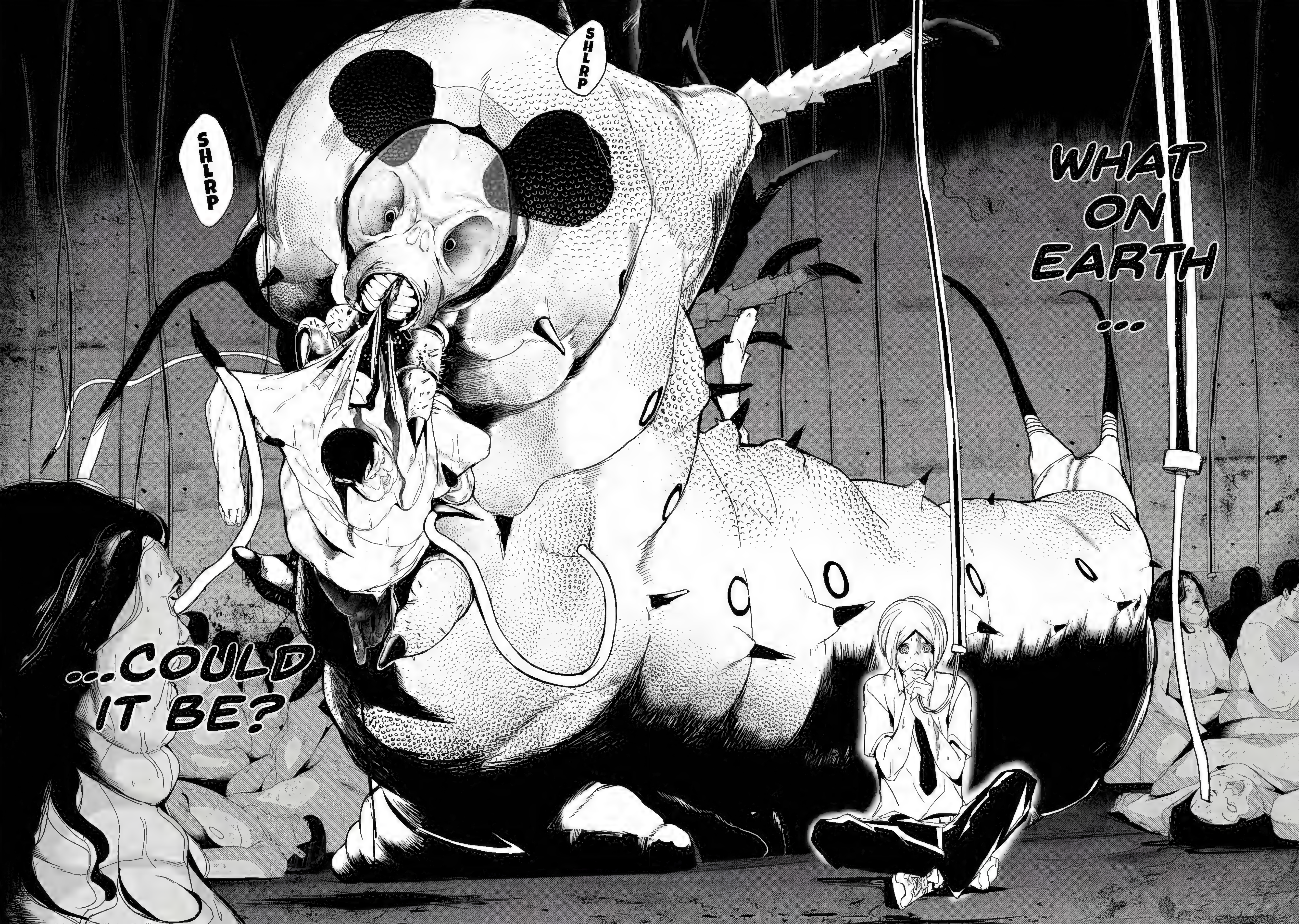

PEEK
PEEK
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE, YOU'D BETTER PRETEND YOU'RE DRINKING FROM THOSE TUBES!!

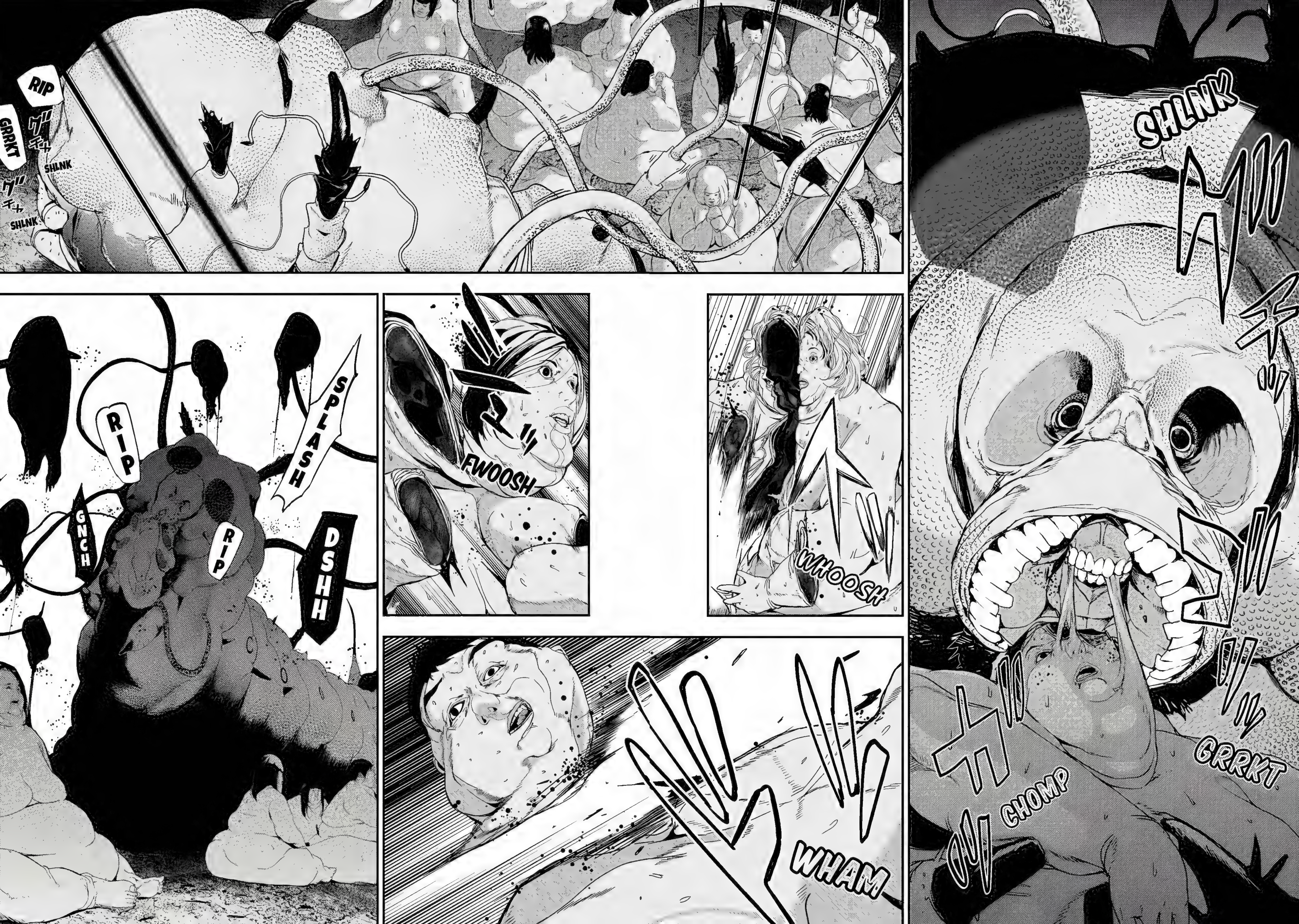

YOU'VE GOT TO PRETEND YOU'VE TOTALLY LOST YOUR MIND.
AND NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, NEVER TURN AROUND!
"NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS"? WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN, THEN?
?!
ZNSSHHHH
SHFF
ZSHH
ZNSSHHHH
WHAT? WHAT?! WHAT'S ALL THAT NOISE?
IT ALMOST SOUNDS LIKE...
LIKE SOMETHING'S SLITHERING AROUND...

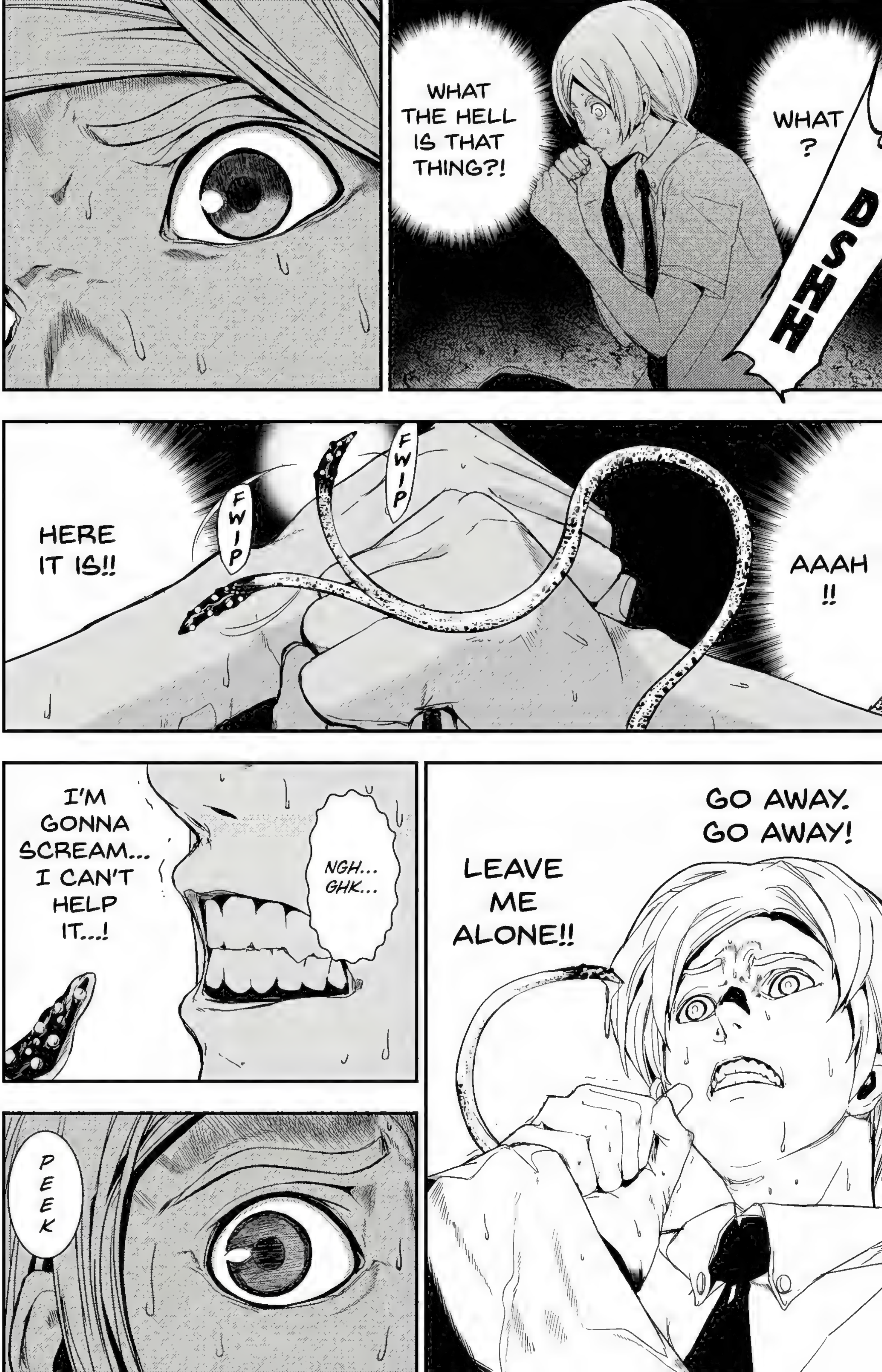

IS THAT...AN ANTENNA?
WHAT THE HELL? WHAT IS THAT BACK THERE...?
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, NEVER TURN AROUND!
WHAT THE HELL? WHAT IS THAT BACK THERE?!

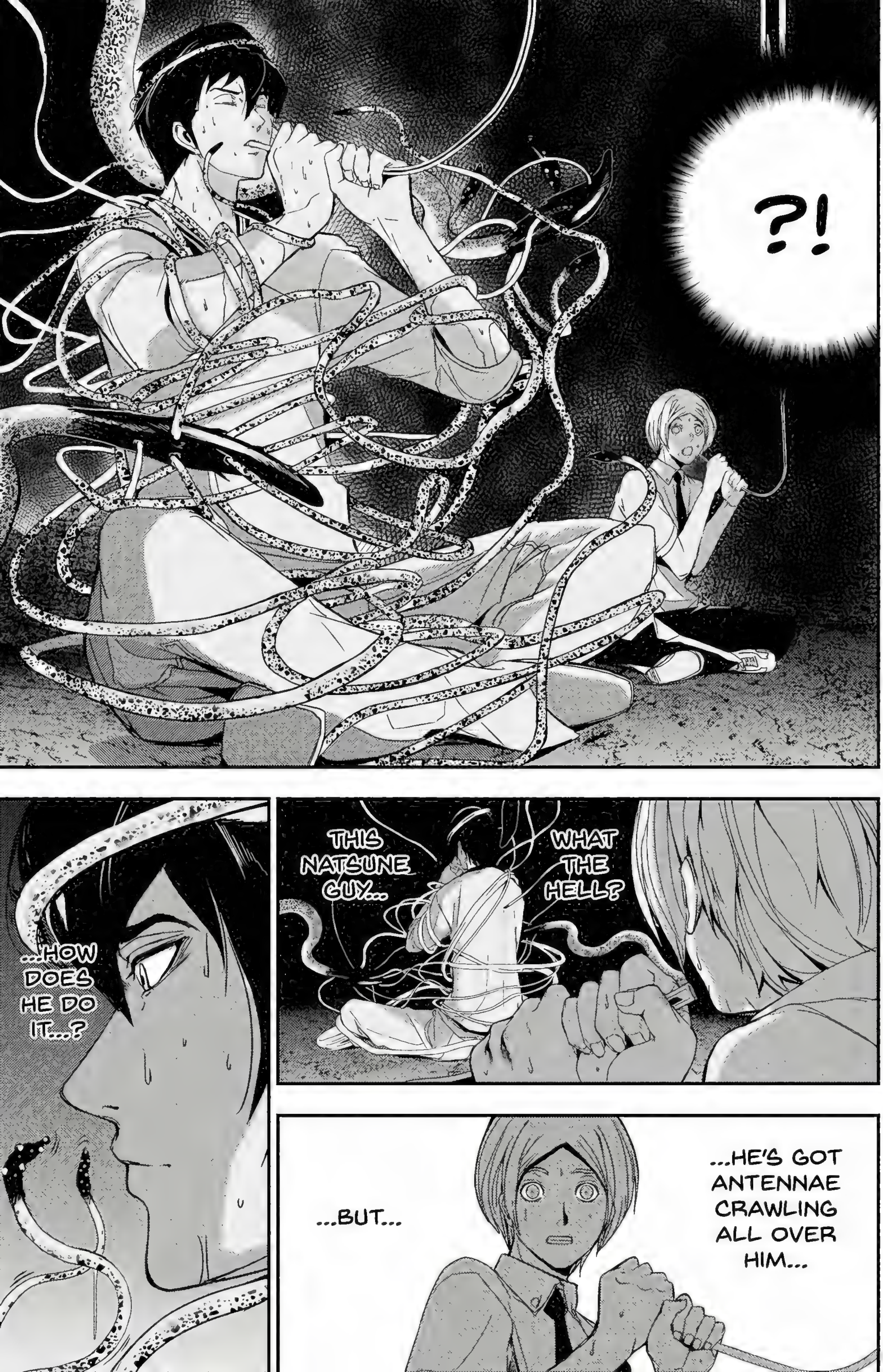

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANTENNAE SO BIG BEFORE.
WHAT KIND OF CREATURE COULD THEY—
WHOOSH
BOOFKSHH

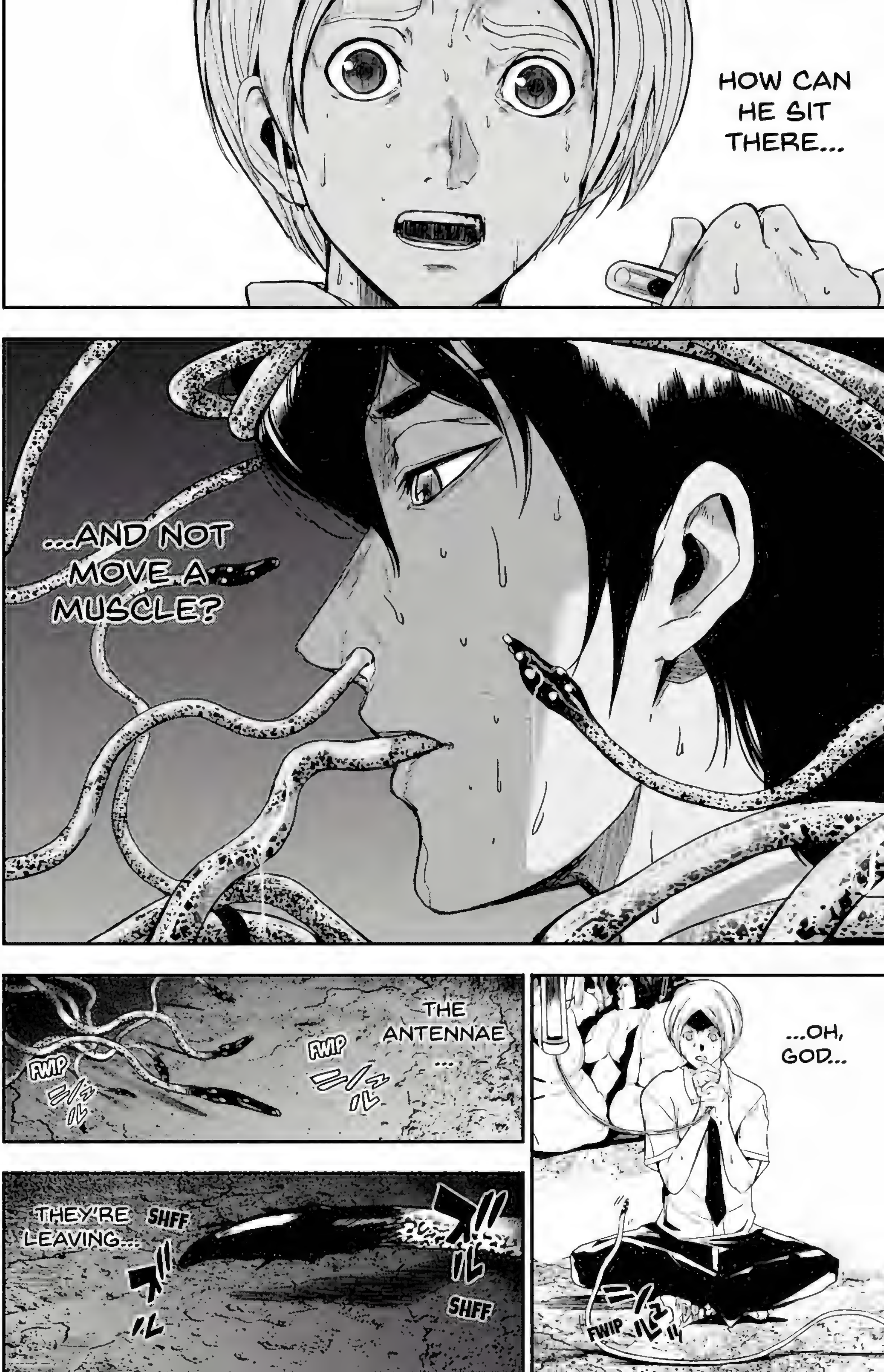

SPLASH
ビシャ
SPLASH
ビシャ
PLIP
PLLLOP
WHAT THE HELL?
SPLISH
ビシャ
SPLISH
ビシャ
CRUNCH
SKRUNCH
RRRIP
IT'S RIGHT BEHIND ME...

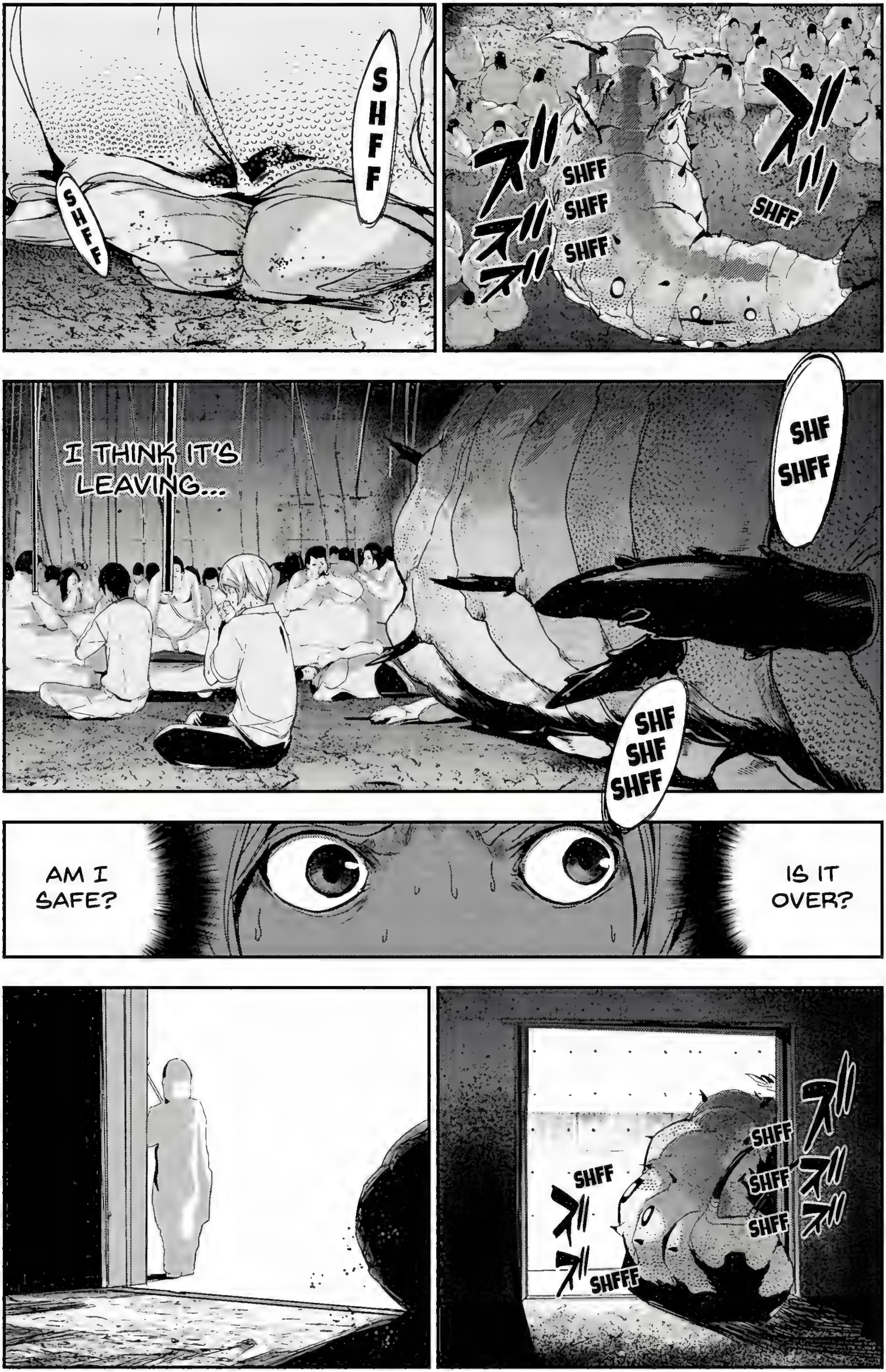

SHLRP
SHLRP
WHAT ON EARTH...
...COULD IT BE?

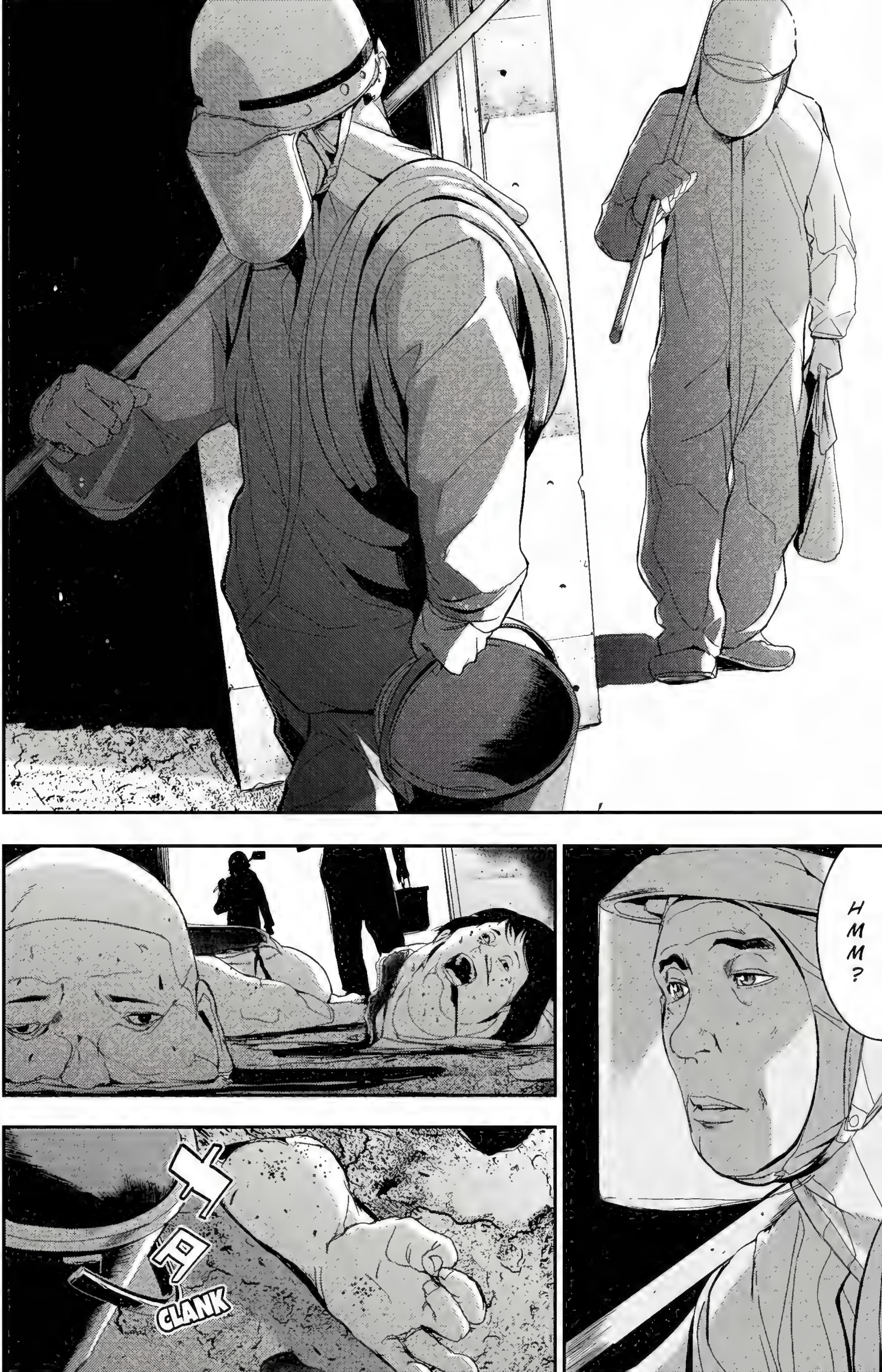

RIP
GRRKT
グチャ
SHLNK
グチャ
SHLNK
WHOOSH
FWOOSH
SPLASH
DSHH
RIP
RIP
GNCH
WHAM
SHLNK
CHOMP
GRRKT

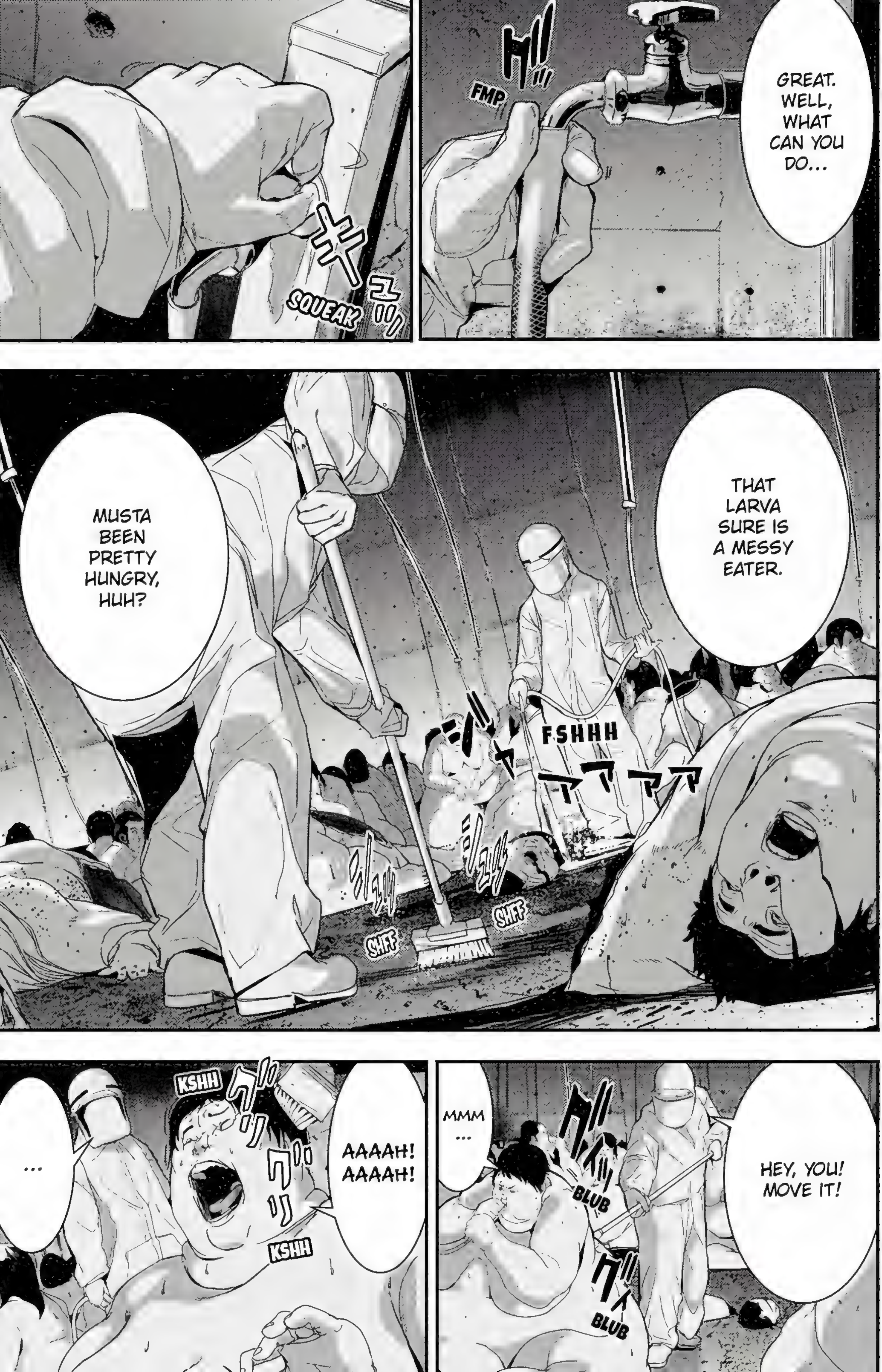

WHAT ?
DSHH
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT THING?!
AAAH !!
FWIP
FWIP
HERE IT IS!!
GO AWAY. GO AWAY!
LEAVE ME ALONE!!
NGH... GHK...
I'M GONNA SCREAM... I CAN'T HELP IT...!
PEEK

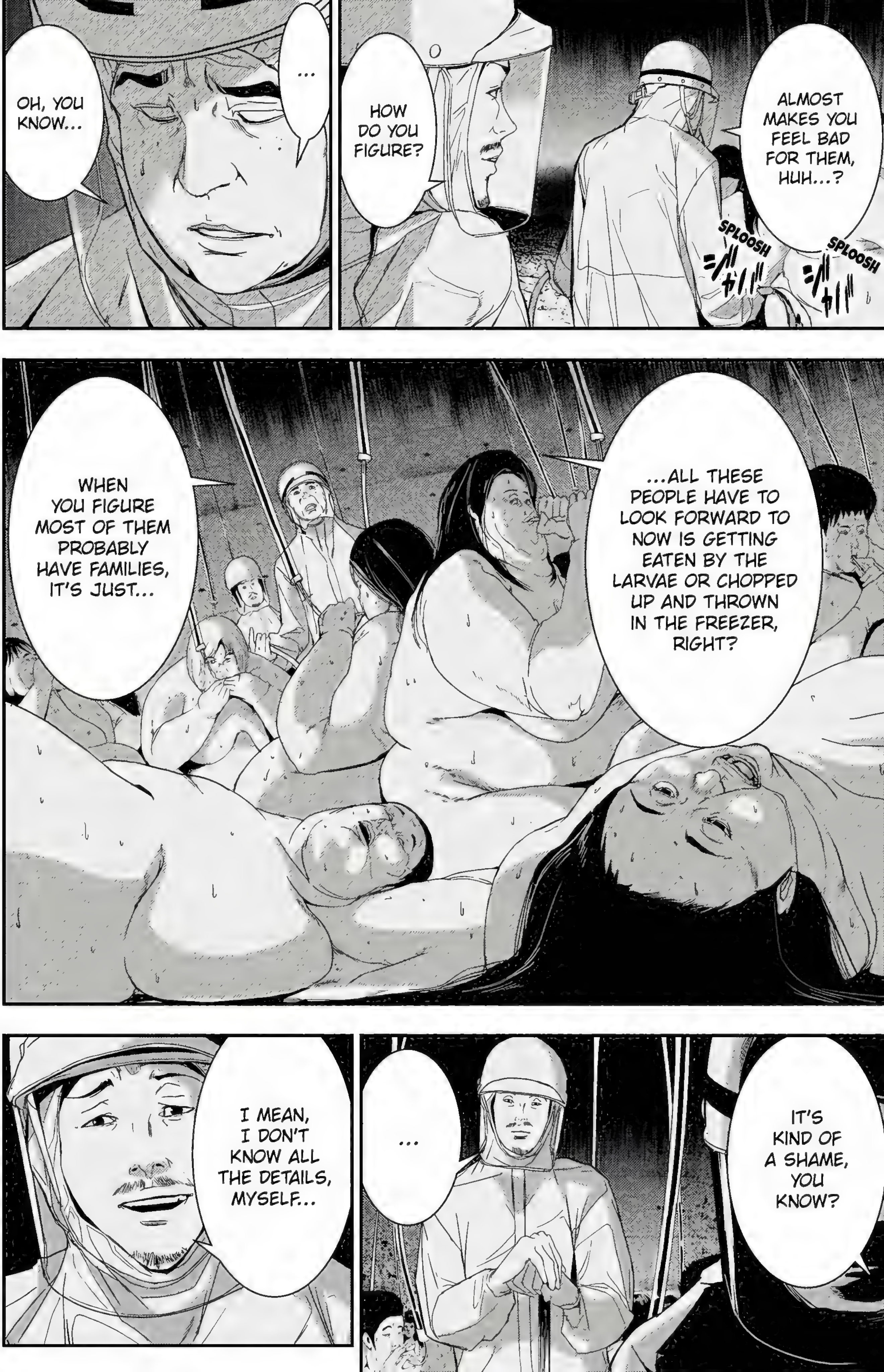

?!
WHAT THE HELL?
THIS NATSUNE GUY...
...HE'S GOT ANTENNAE CRAWLING ALL OVER HIM...
...BUT...
...HOW DOES HE DO IT...?

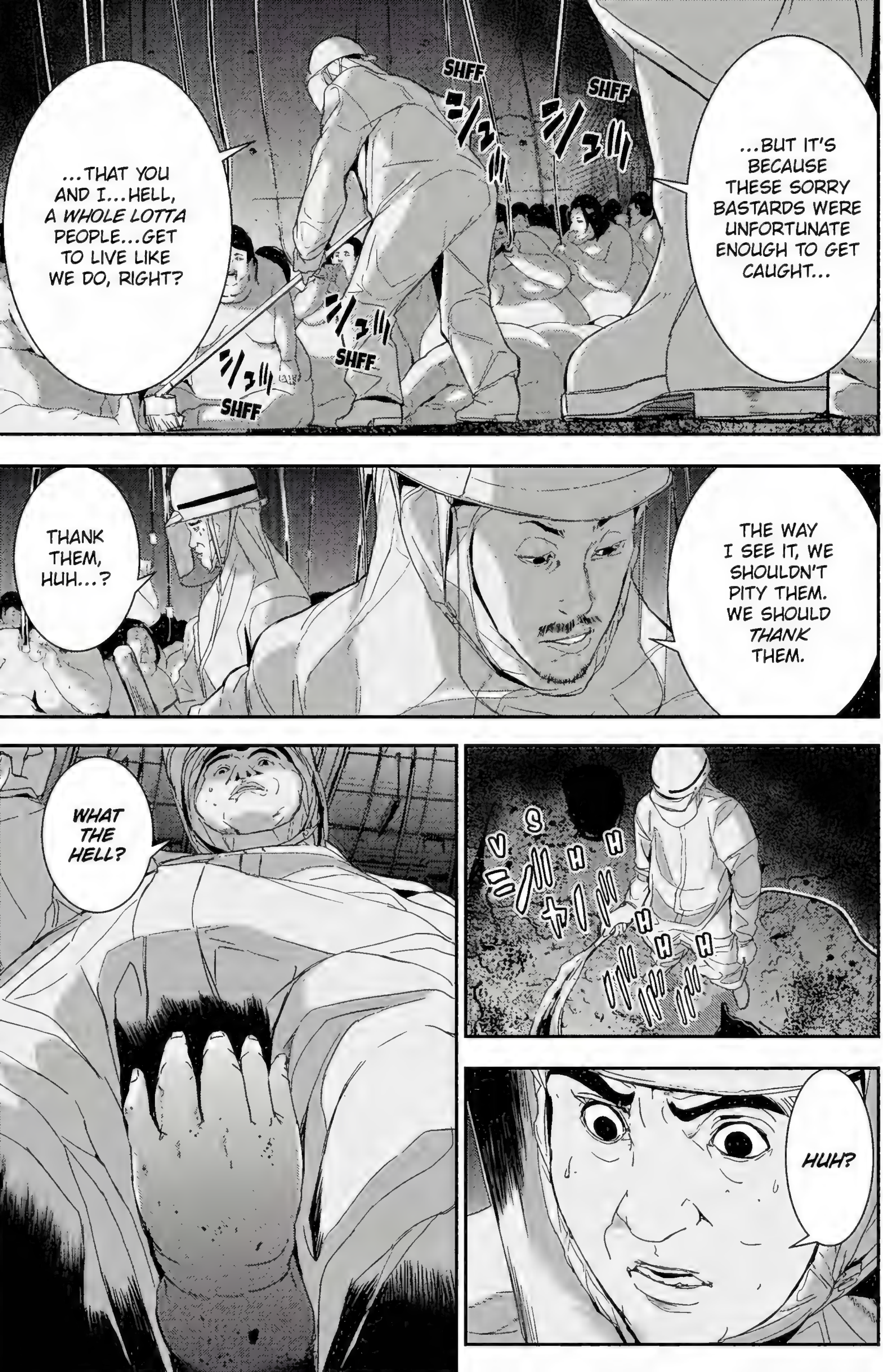

HOW CAN HE SIT THERE...
...AND NOT MOVE A MUSCLE?
...OH, GOD...
FWIP
ニョル
THE ANTENNAE...
FWIP
ニョル
FWIP
ニョル
THEY'RE LEAVING...
SHFF
ズル
SHFF
ズル

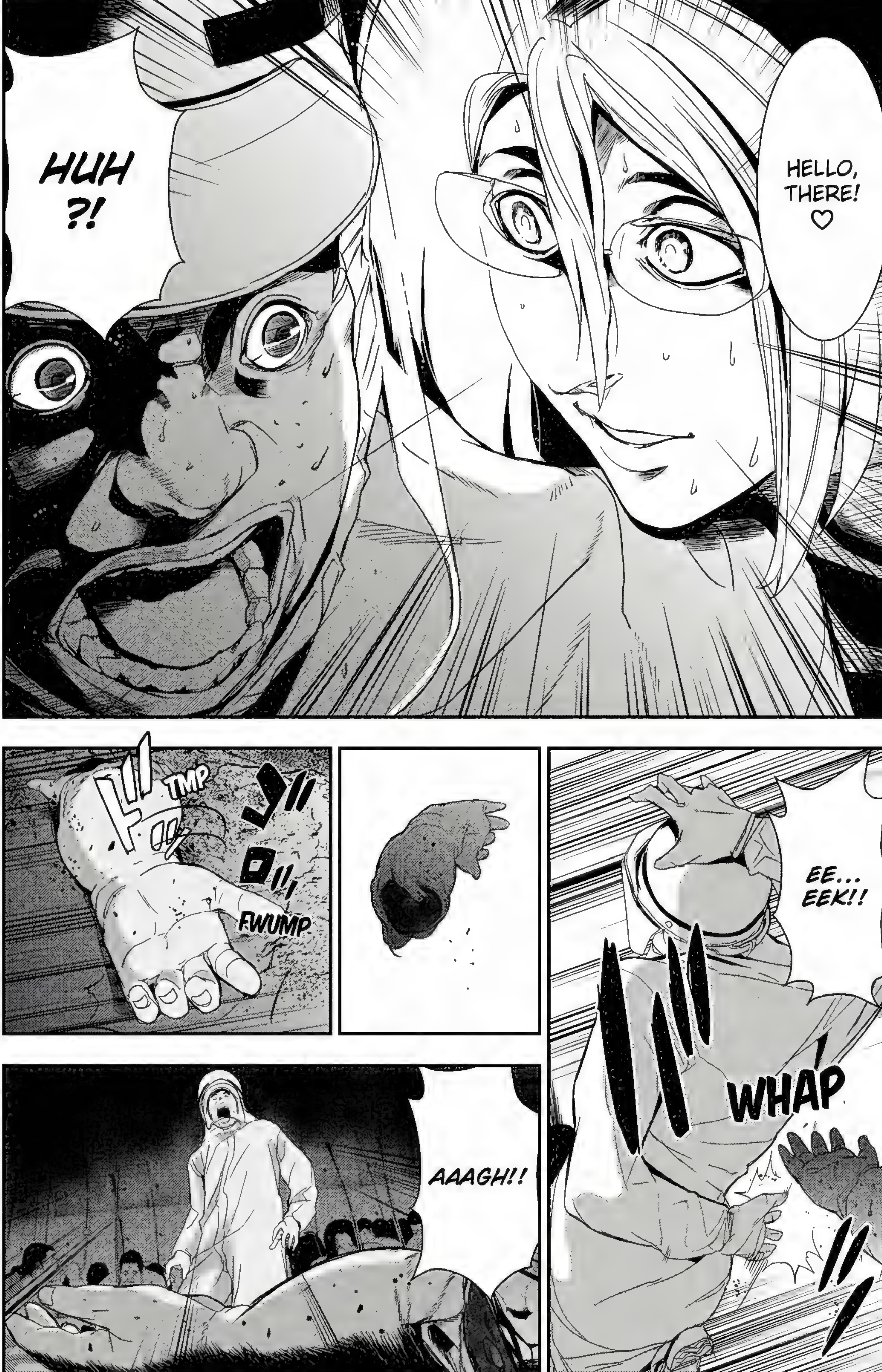

ズズ
SHFF
SHFF
SHFF
ズズ
SHFF
SHFF
SHFF
SHF
SHFF
I THINK IT'S LEAVING...
SHF
SHF
SHFF
IS IT OVER?
AM I SAFE?
ズズ
SHFF
SHFF
SHFF
SHFF
ズズ
SHFFF

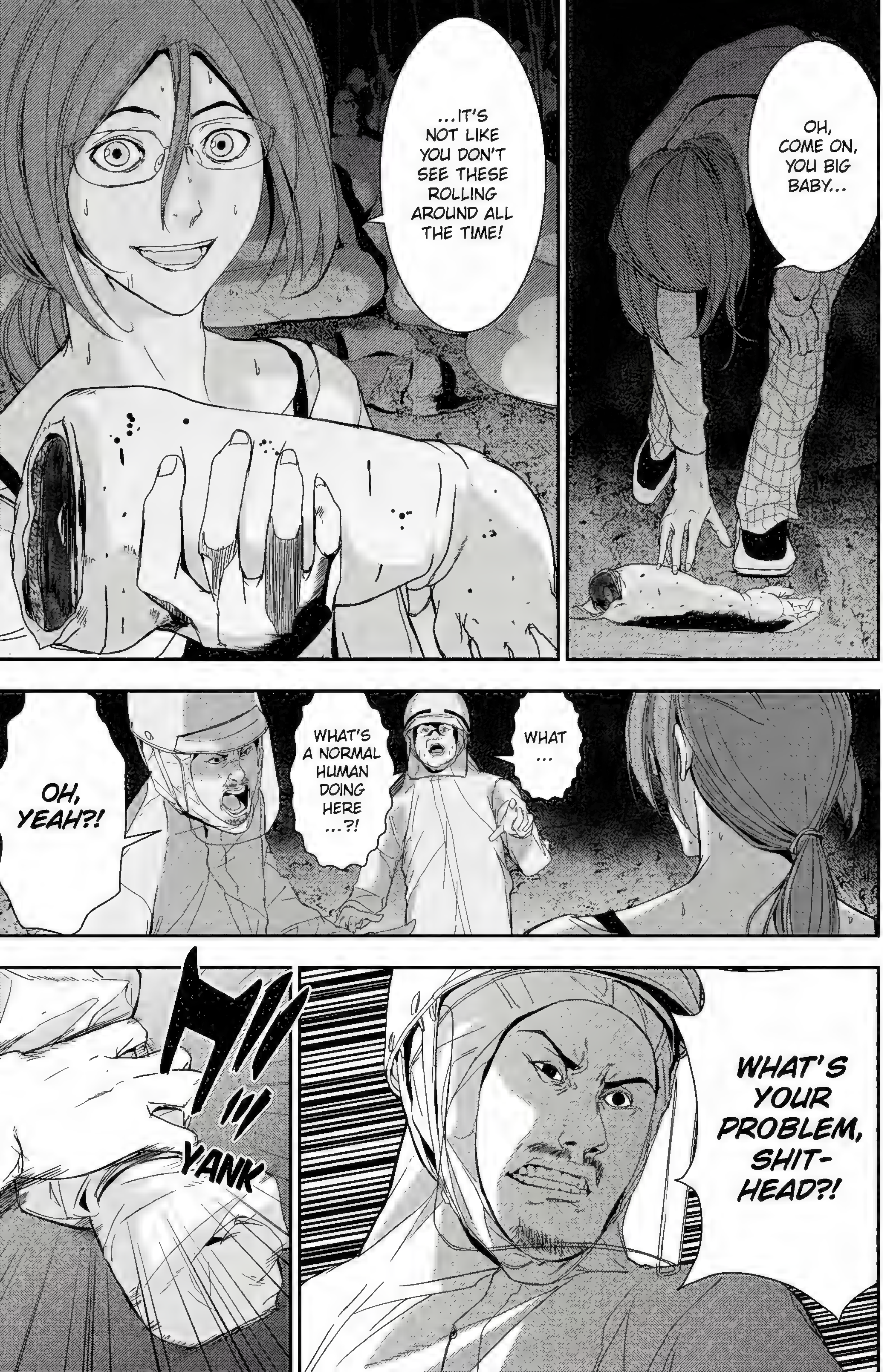

HMM?
CLANK

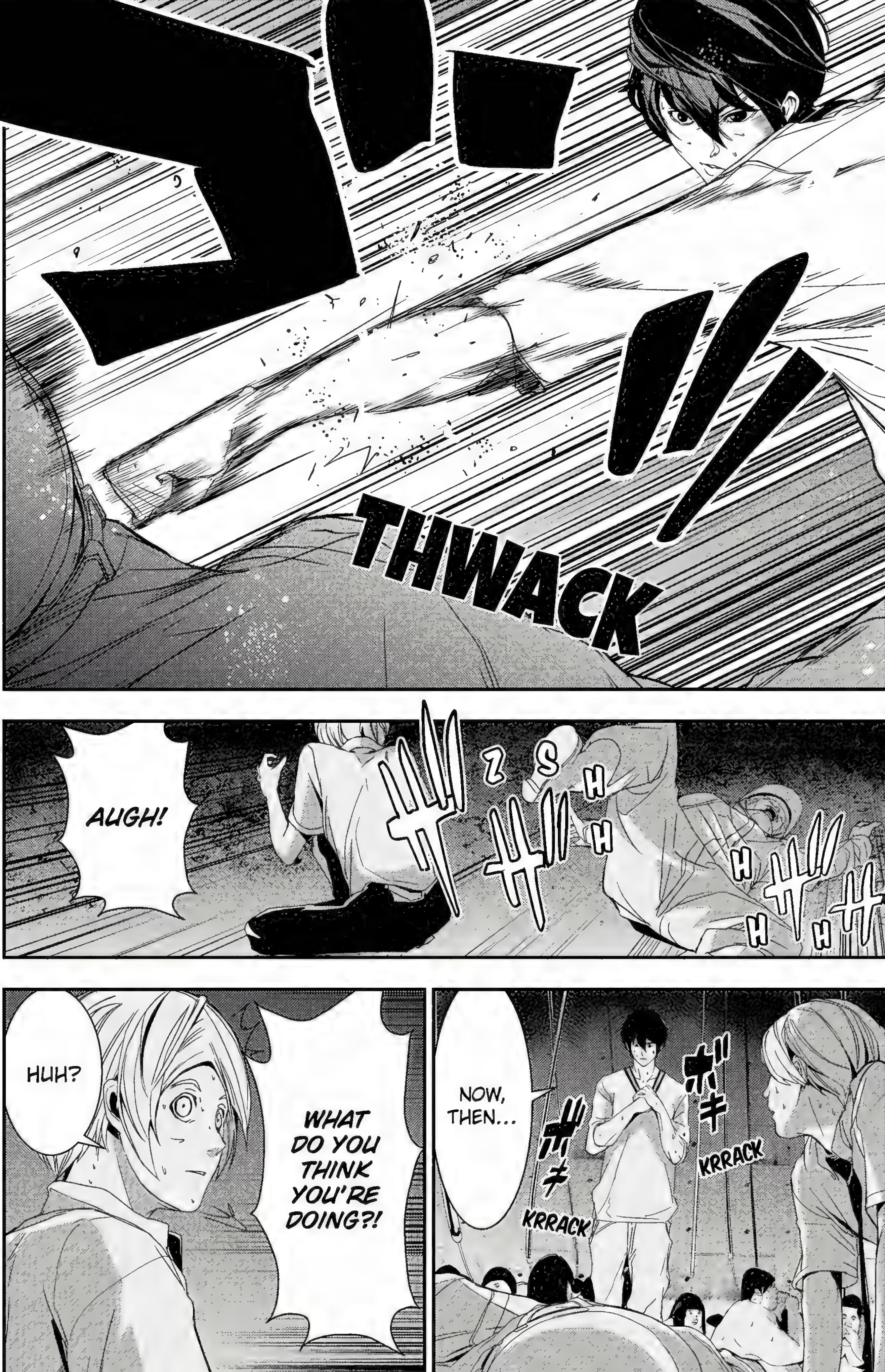

GREAT. WELL, WHAT CAN YOU DO...
FMP
SQUEAK
THAT LARVA SURE IS A MESSY EATER.
MUSTA BEEN PRETTY HUNGRY, HUH?
FSHHH
アアアア
SHFF
SHFF
HEY, YOU! MOVE IT!
MMM ...
BLUB
BLUB
AAAAH! AAAAH!
KSHH
KSHH
...

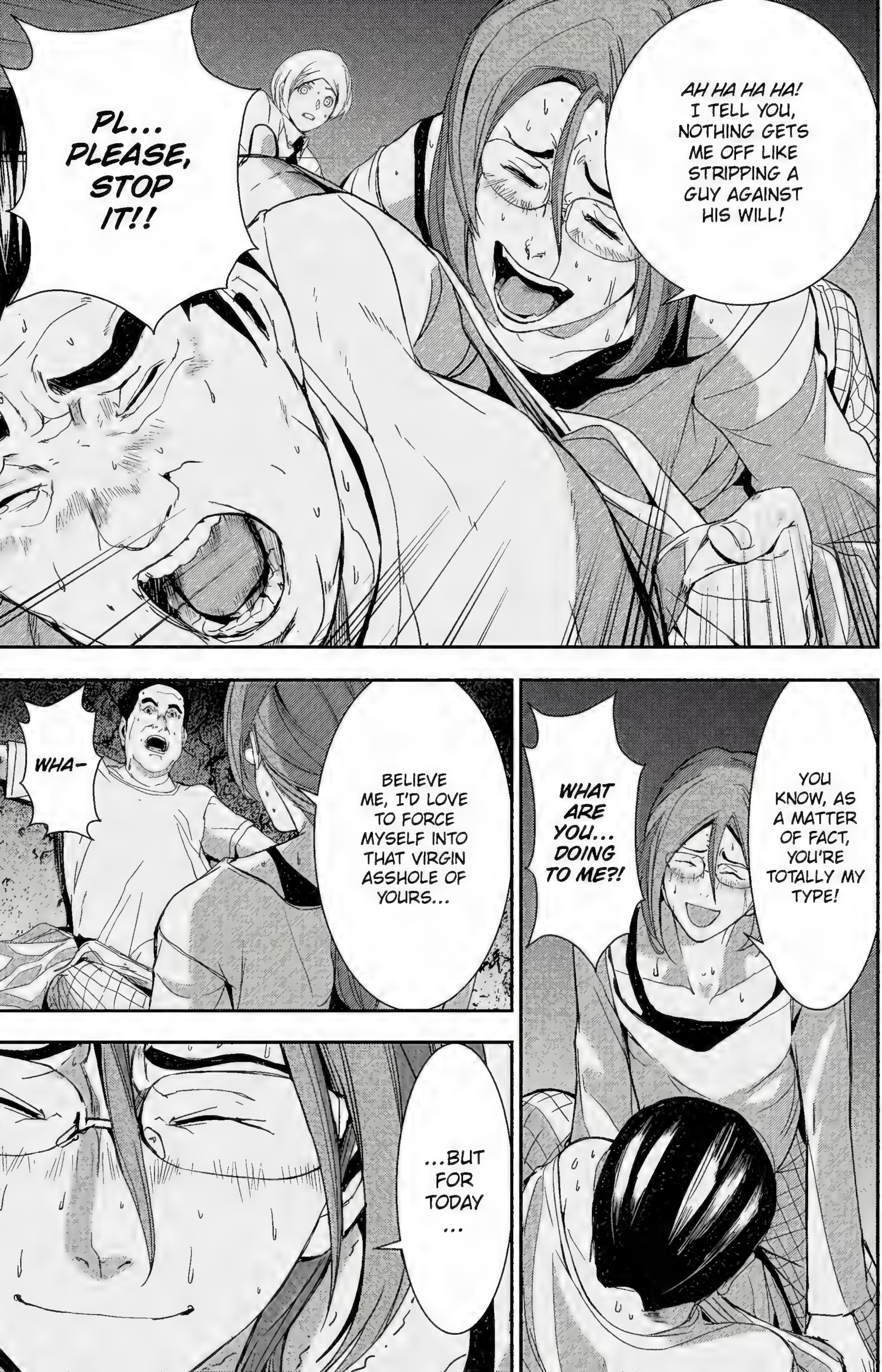

ALMOST MAKES YOU FEEL BAD FOR THEM, HUH...?
SPLOOSH
SPLOOSH
HOW DO YOU FIGURE?
...
OH, YOU KNOW...
WHEN YOU FIGURE MOST OF THEM PROBABLY HAVE FAMILIES, IT'S JUST...
...ALL THESE PEOPLE HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO NOW IS GETTING EATEN BY THE LARVAE OR CHOPPED UP AND THROWN IN THE FREEZER, RIGHT?
IT'S KIND OF A SHAME, YOU KNOW?
...
I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW ALL THE DETAILS, MYSELF...

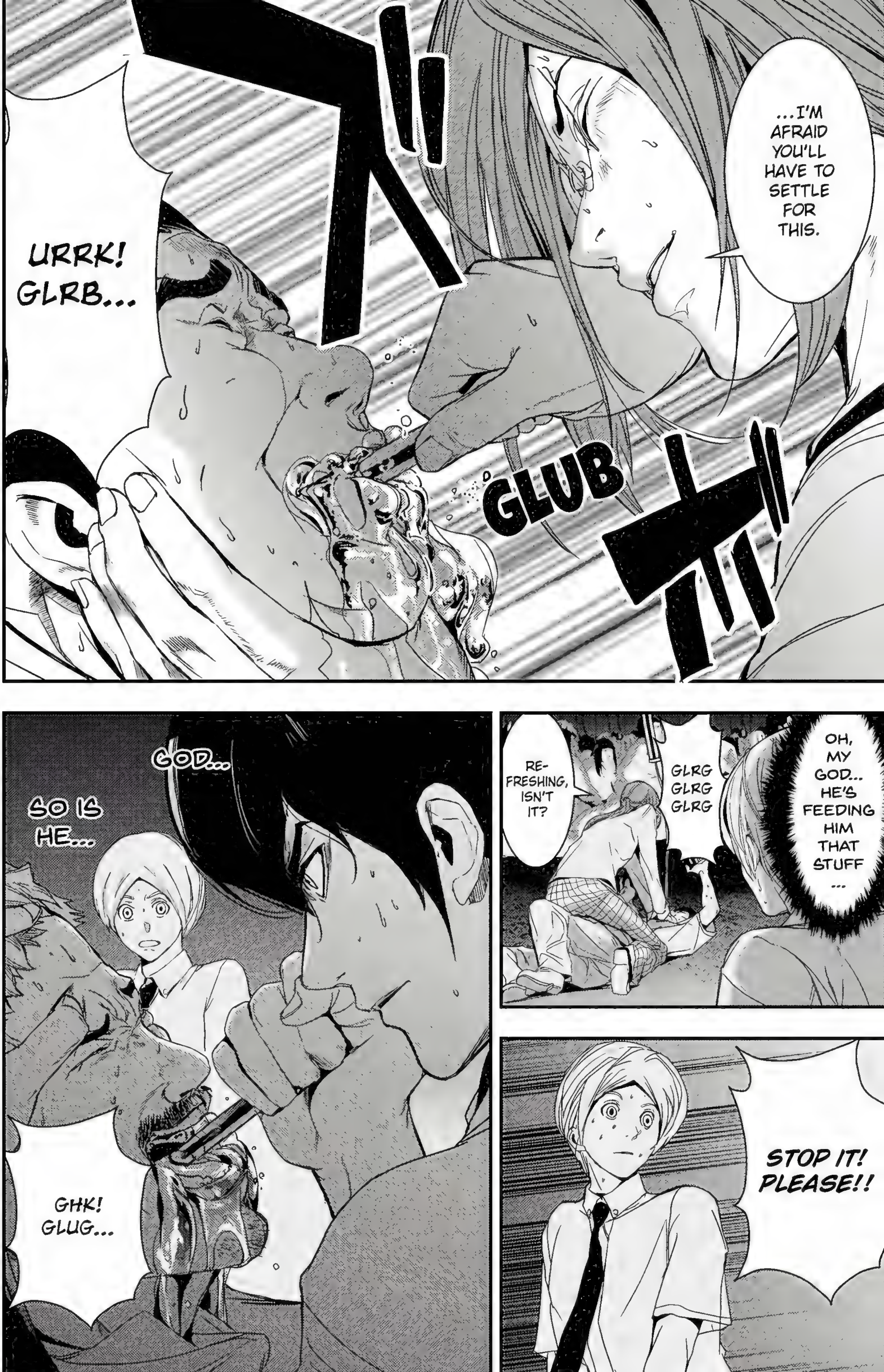

...BUT IT'S BECAUSE THESE SORRY BASTARDS WERE UNFORTUNATE ENOUGH TO GET CAUGHT...
SHFF
SHFF
...THAT YOU AND I...HELL, A *WHOLE LOTTA* PEOPLE...GET TO LIVE LIKE WE DO, RIGHT?
SHFF
SHFF
THE WAY I SEE IT, WE SHOULDN'T PITY THEM. WE SHOULD *THANK* THEM.
THANK THEM, HUH...?
SHHHHHV
HUH?
WHAT THE HELL?

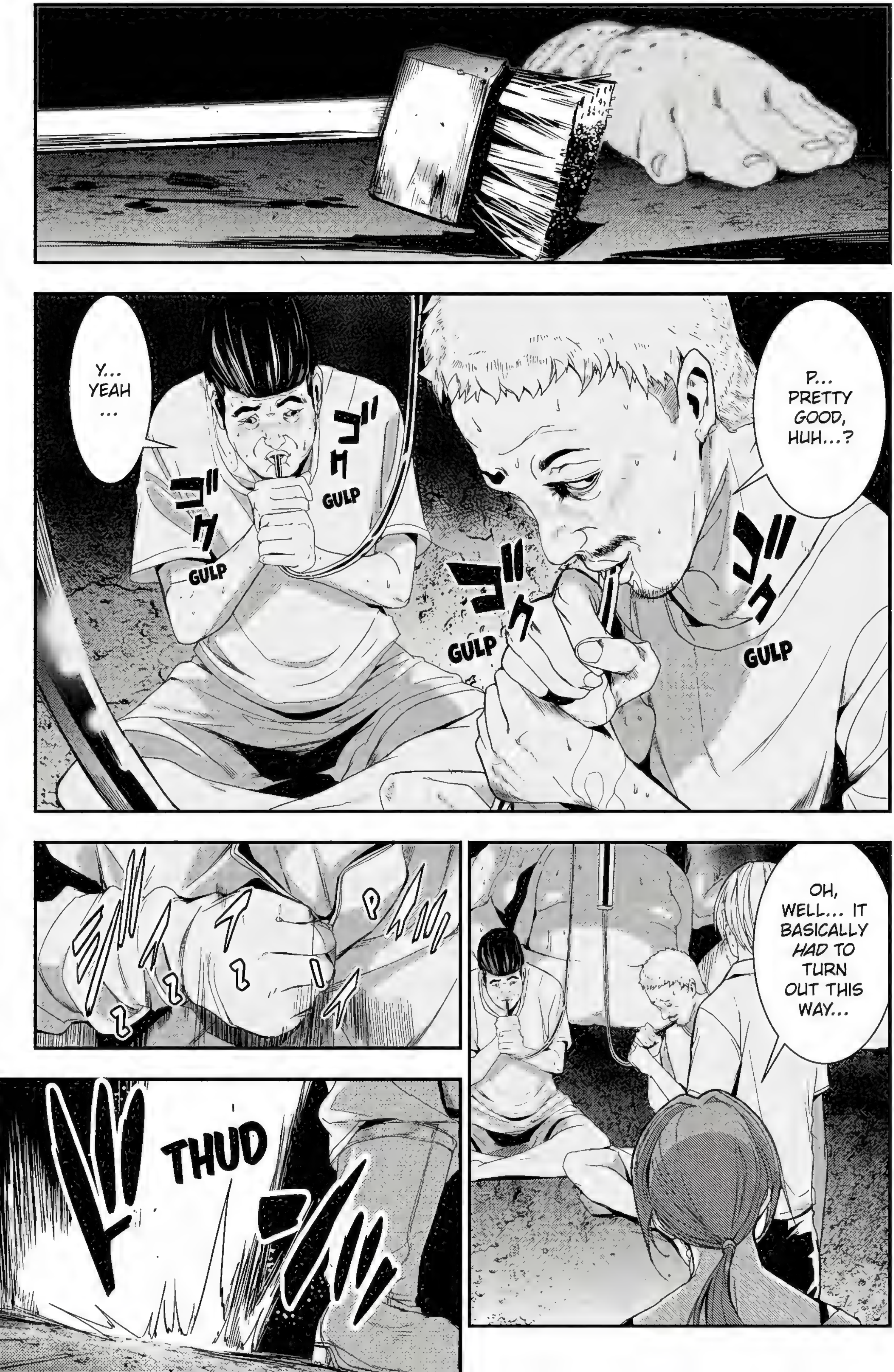

HELLO, THERE! ♡
HUH ?!
EE... EEK!!
WHAP
TMP
FWUMP
AAAGH!!

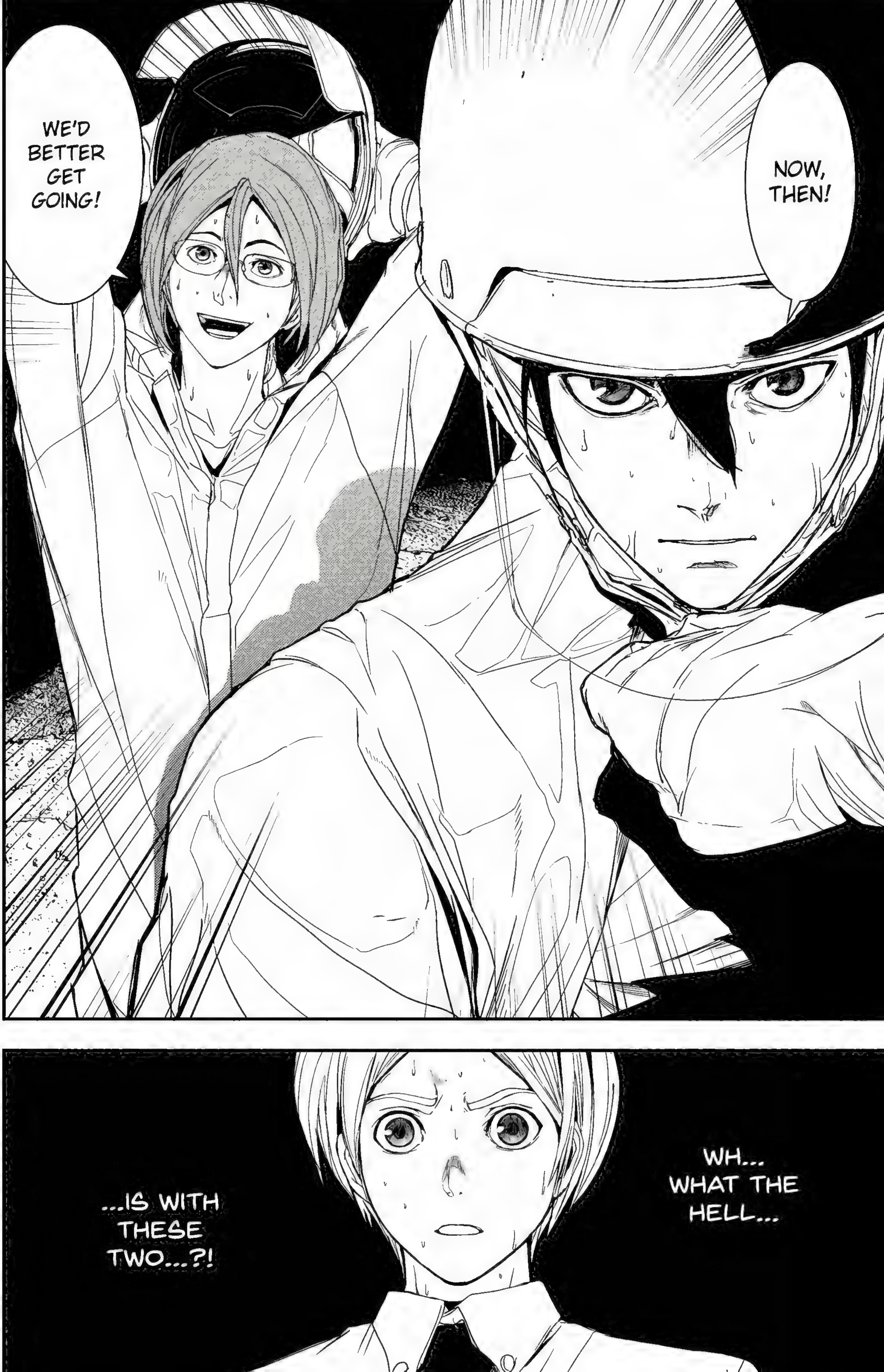

OH, COME ON, YOU BIG BABY...
...IT'S NOT LIKE YOU DON'T SEE THESE ROLLING AROUND ALL THE TIME!
WHAT ...
WHAT'S A NORMAL HUMAN DOING HERE ...?!
OH, YEAH?!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, SHIT-HEAD?!
YANK

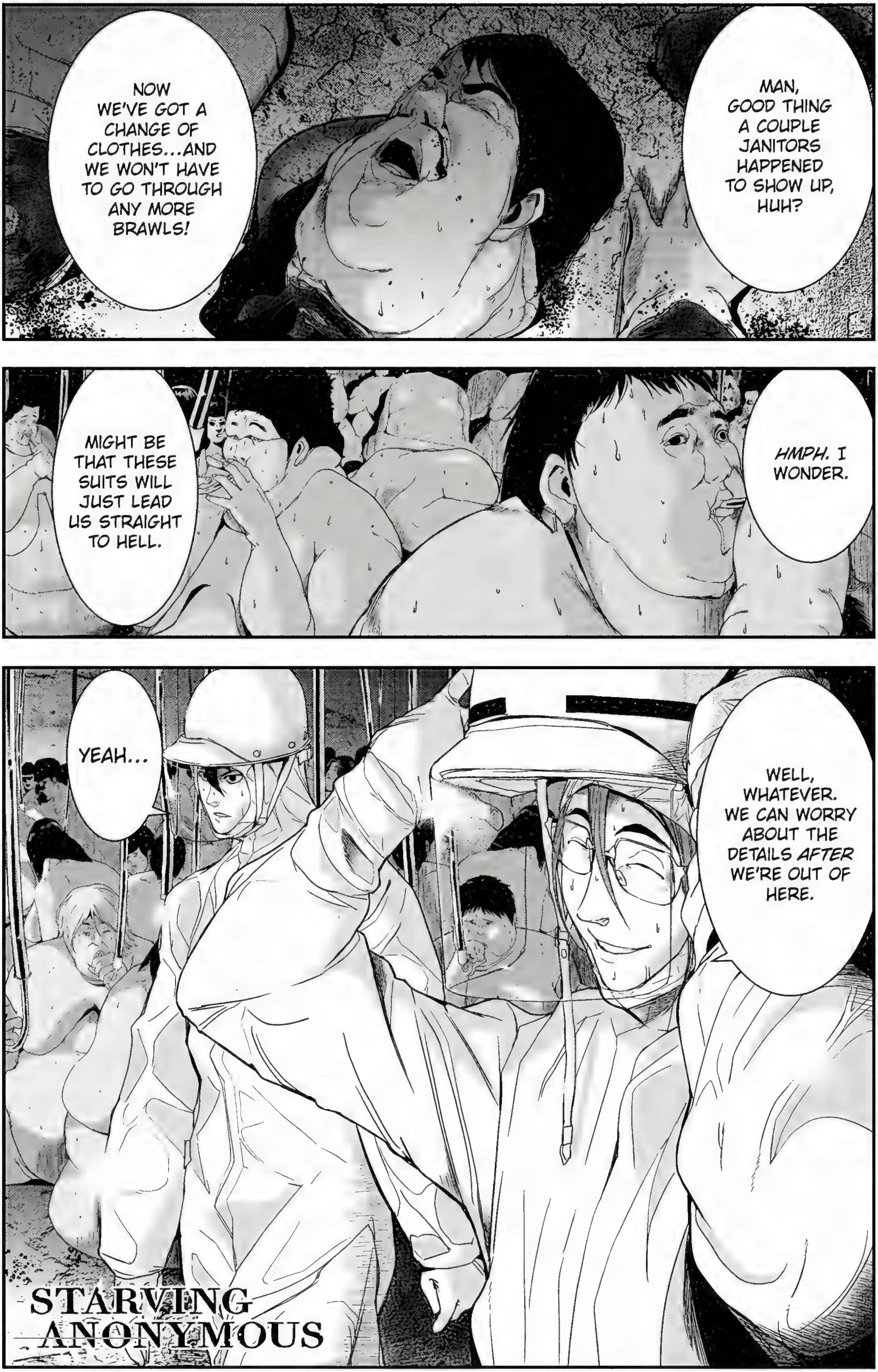

ゴッ
THWACK
ZSHHHHHH
AUGH!
NOW, THEN...
ボキ KRRACK
ボキ KRRACK
HUH?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

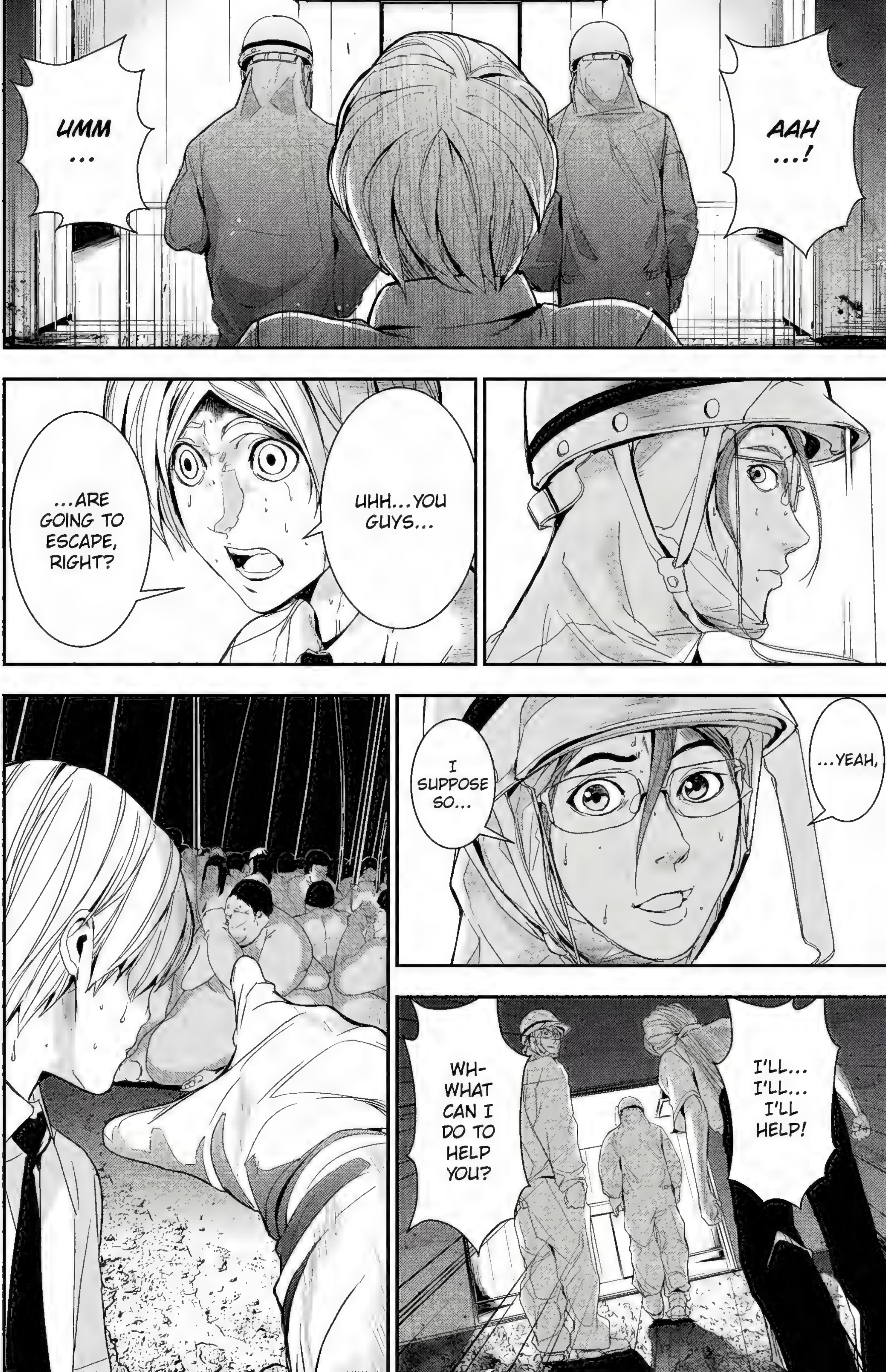

AH HA HA HA! I TELL YOU, NOTHING GETS ME OFF LIKE STRIPPING A GUY AGAINST HIS WILL!
PL... PLEASE, STOP IT!!
YOU KNOW, AS A MATTER OF FACT, YOU'RE TOTALLY MY TYPE!
WHAT ARE YOU... DOING TO ME?!
BELIEVE ME, I'D LOVE TO FORCE MYSELF INTO THAT VIRGIN ASSHOLE OF YOURS...
WHA-
...BUT FOR TODAY...

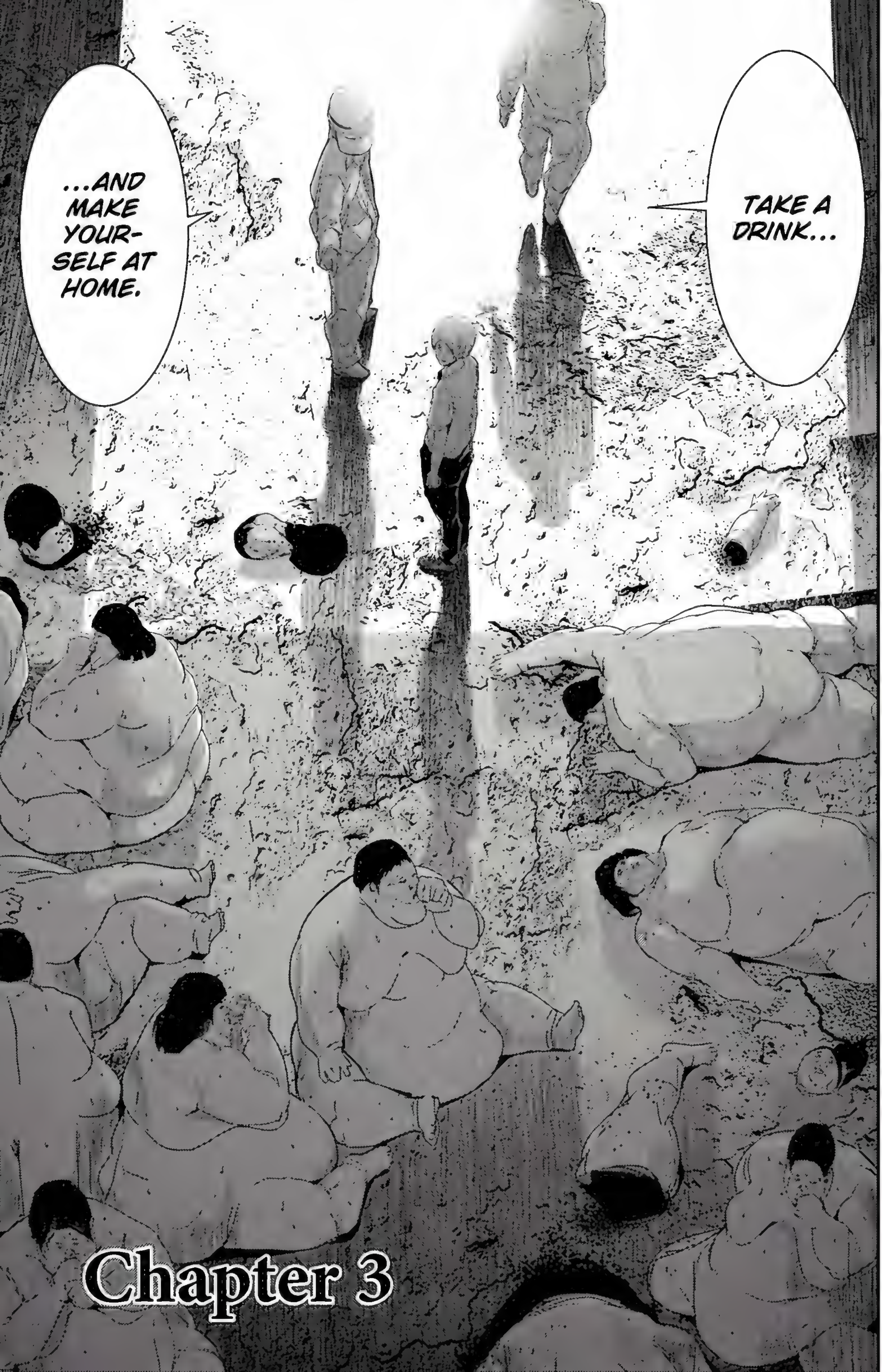

...I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO SETTLE FOR THIS.
GLUB
URRK! GLRB...
OH, MY GOD... HE'S FEEDING HIM THAT STUFF...
GLRG GLRG GLRG
RE-FRESHING, ISN'T IT?
STOP IT! PLEASE!!
GOD...
SO IS HE...
GHK! GLUG...


P... PRETTY GOOD, HUH...?
ゴク
GULP
ゴク
GULP
Y... YEAH ...
ゴク
GULP
ゴク
GULP
OH, WELL... IT BASICALLY *HAD* TO TURN OUT THIS WAY...
ドン
THUD


NOW, THEN!
WE'D BETTER GET GOING!
WH... WHAT THE HELL...
...IS WITH THESE TWO...?!

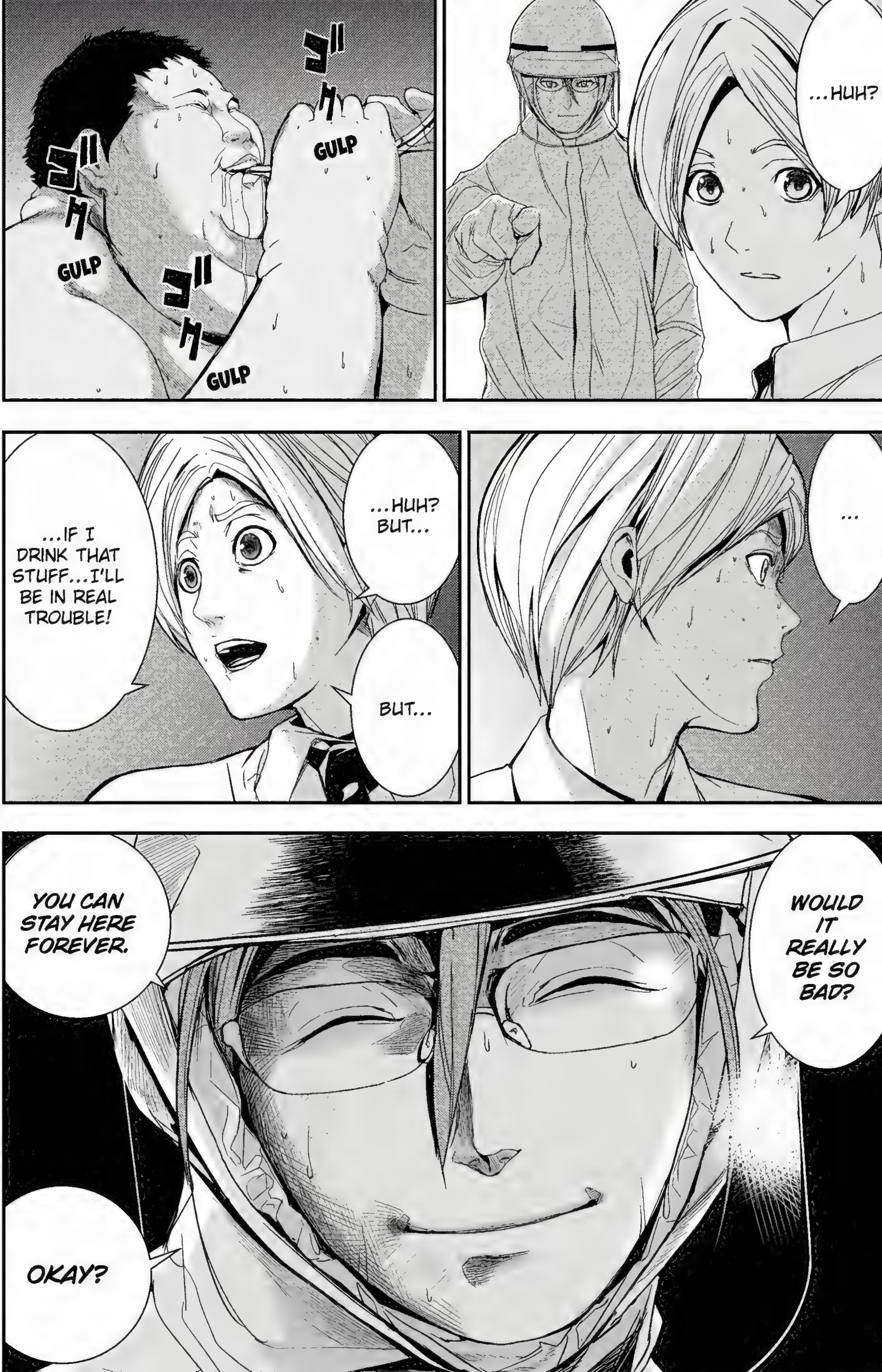

MAN, GOOD THING A COUPLE JANITORS HAPPENED TO SHOW UP, HUH?
NOW WE'VE GOT A CHANGE OF CLOTHES...AND WE WON'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH ANY MORE BRAWLS!
HMPH. I WONDER.
MIGHT BE THAT THESE SUITS WILL JUST LEAD US STRAIGHT TO HELL.
WELL, WHATEVER. WE CAN WORRY ABOUT THE DETAILS *AFTER* WE'RE OUT OF HERE.
YEAH...
STARVING ANONYMOUS

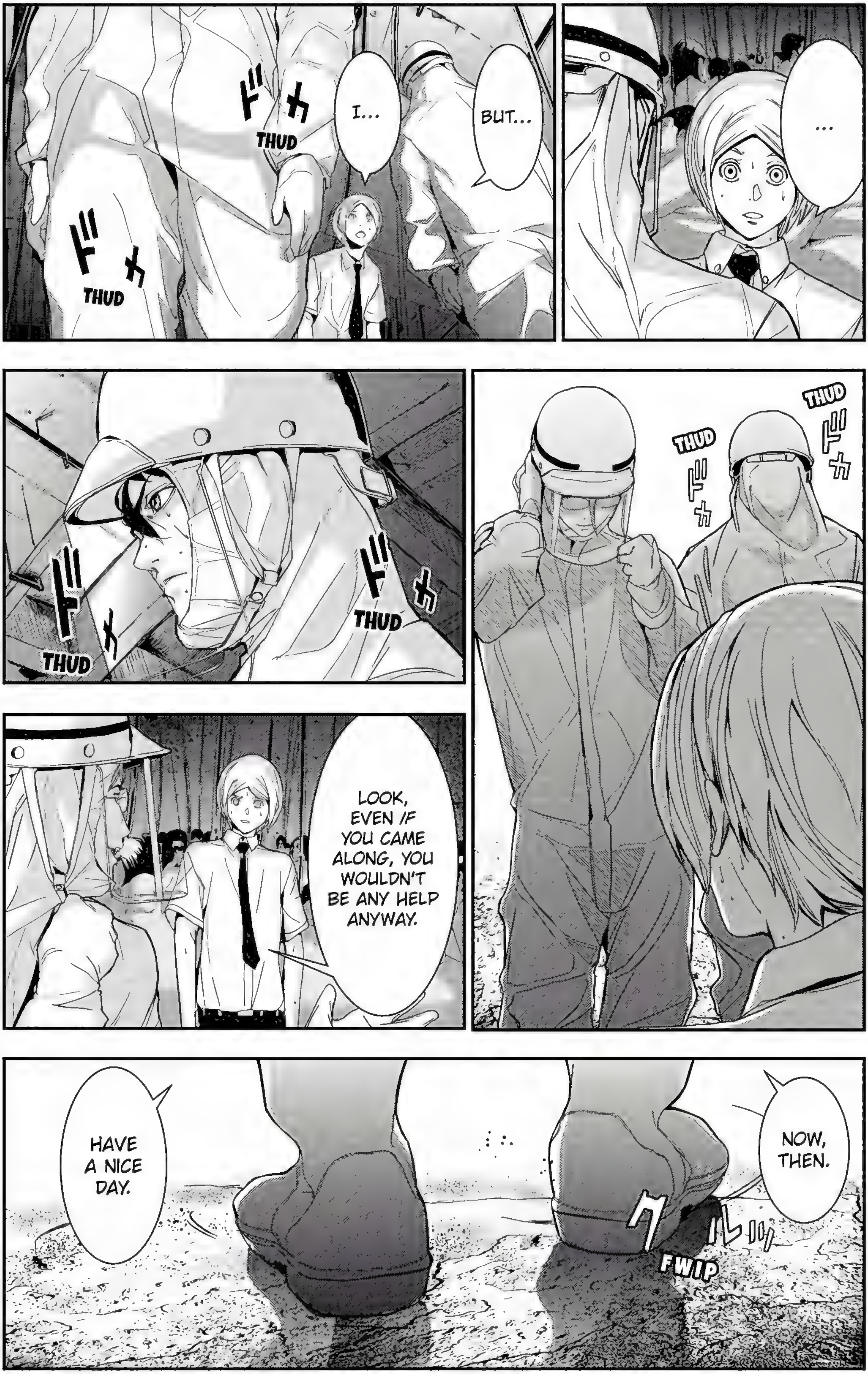

AAH ...!
UMM ...
UHH... YOU GUYS...
...ARE GOING TO ESCAPE, RIGHT?
...YEAH,
I SUPPOSE SO...
I'LL... I'LL... I'LL HELP!
WH-WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP YOU?

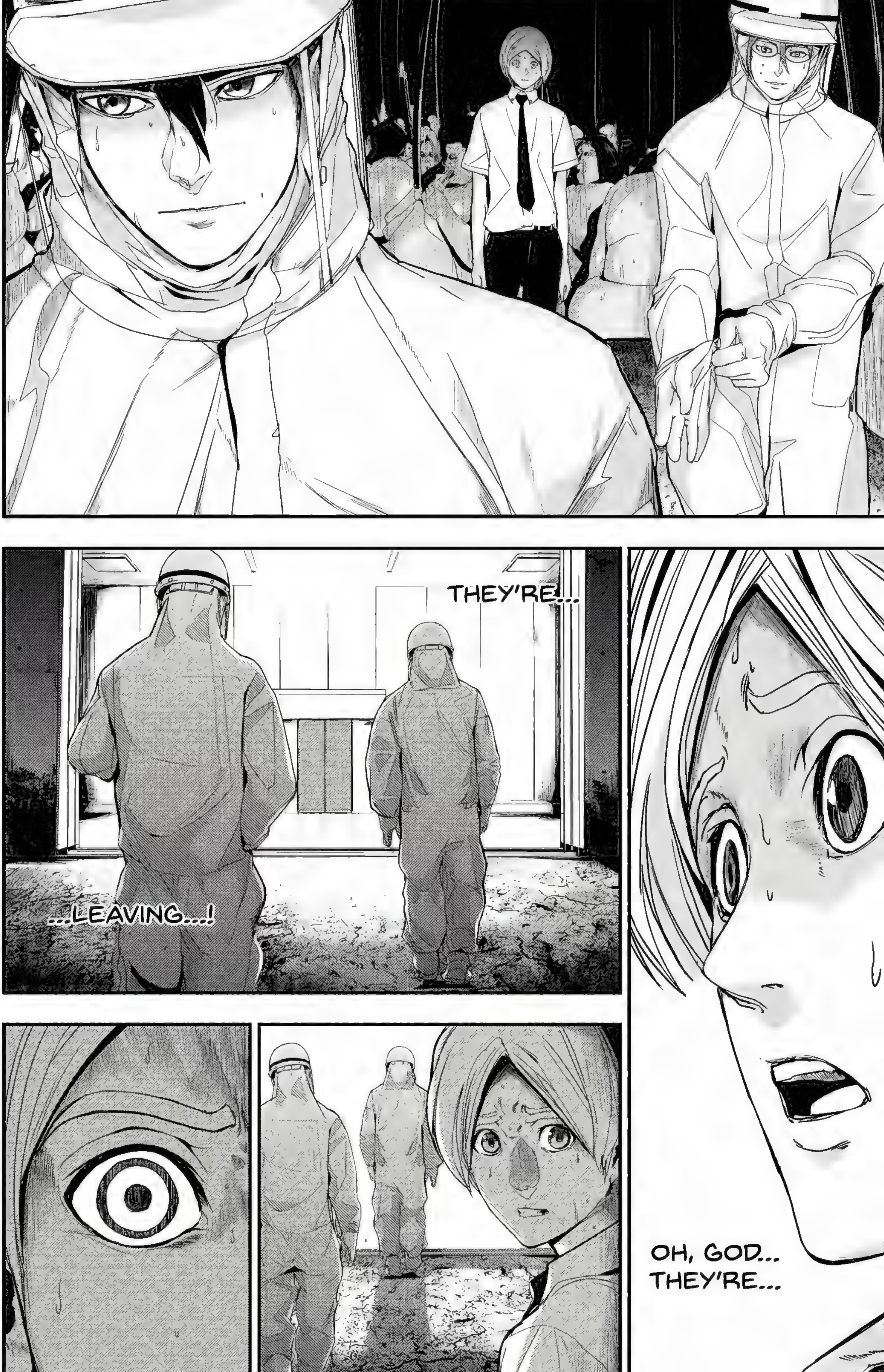


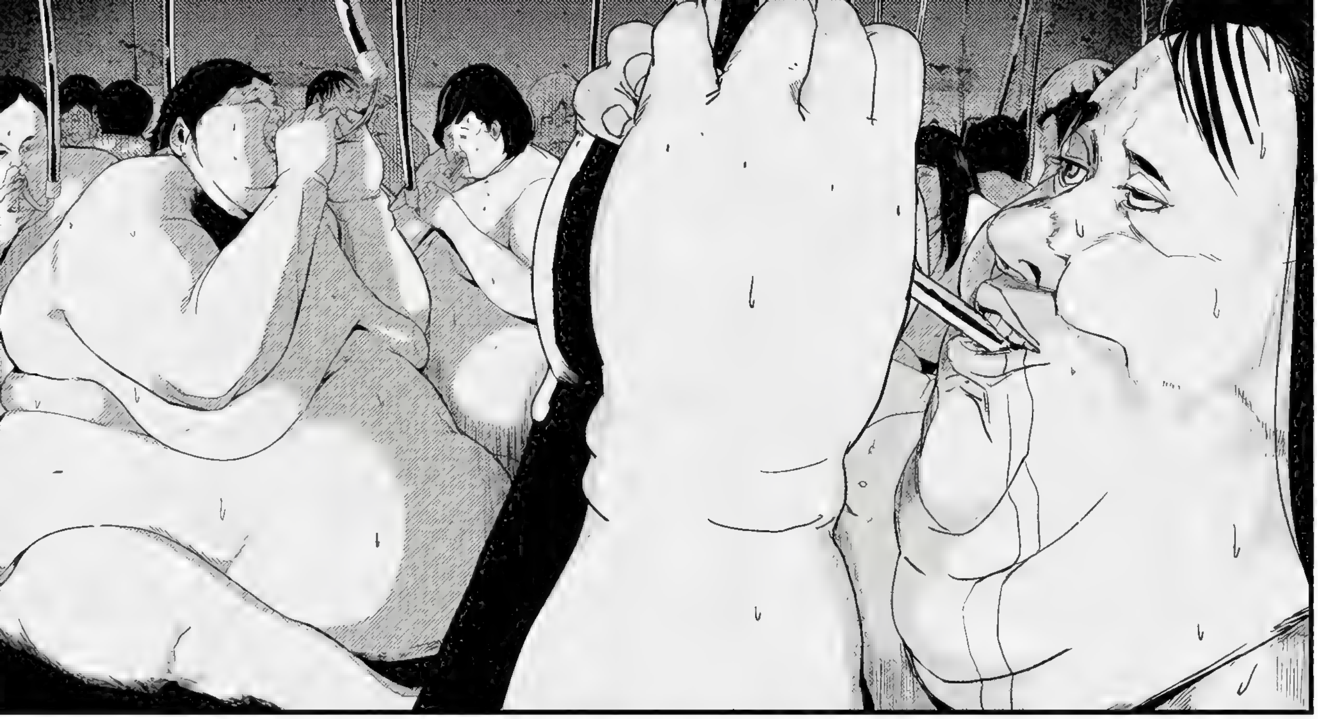
TAKE A DRINK...
...AND MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.

Chapter 3

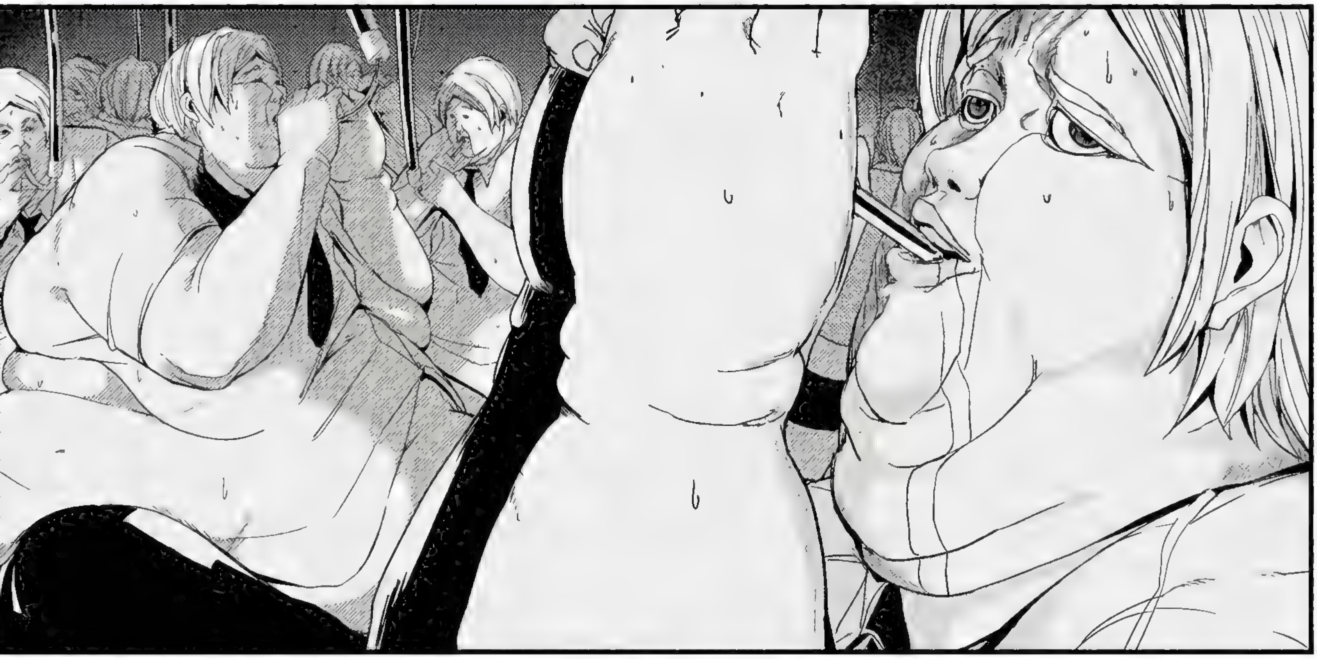

…HUH?
ゴク
GULP
ゴク
GULP
ゴク
GULP
…
…HUH? BUT…
BUT…
…IF I DRINK THAT STUFF…I'LL BE IN REAL TROUBLE!
WOULD IT REALLY BE SO BAD?
YOU CAN STAY HERE FOREVER.
OKAY?

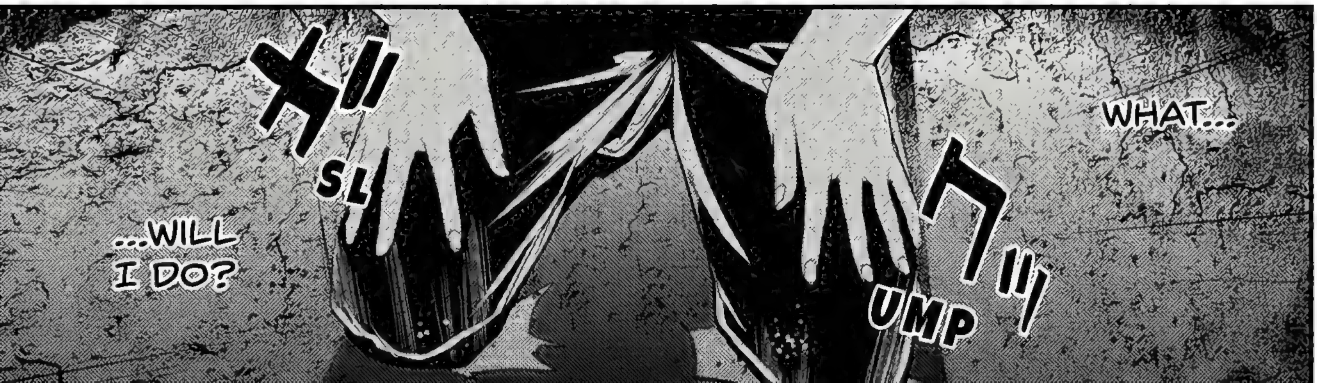

…
BUT…
I…
ドカ
THUD
ドカ
THUD
ドカ
THUD
ドカ
THUD
ドカ
THUD
ドカ
THUD
LOOK, EVEN *IF* YOU CAME ALONG, YOU WOULDN'T BE ANY HELP ANYWAY.
NOW, THEN.
クルッ
FWIP
HAVE A NICE DAY.

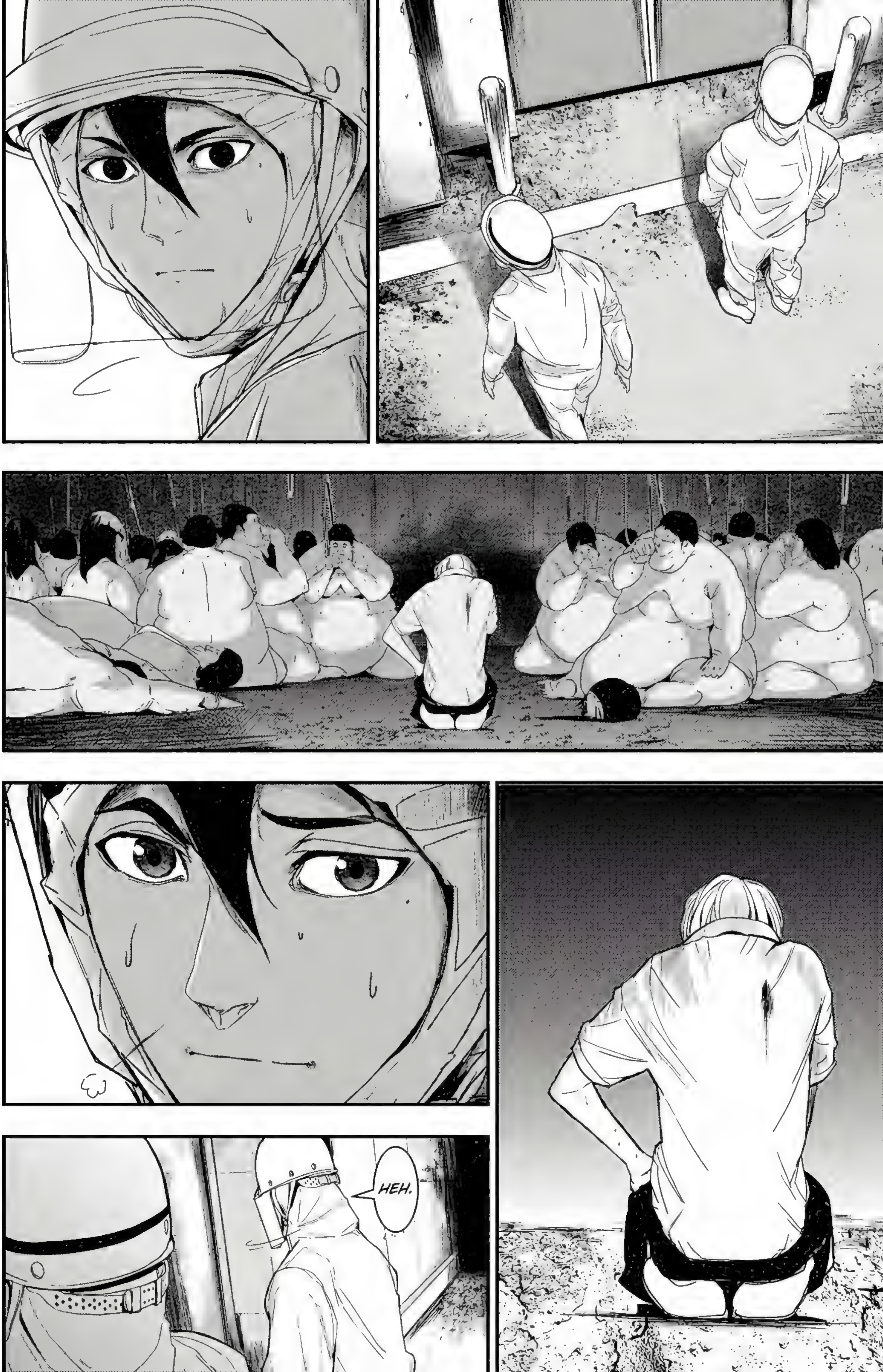

THEY'RE...
...LEAVING...!
OH, GOD... THEY'RE...

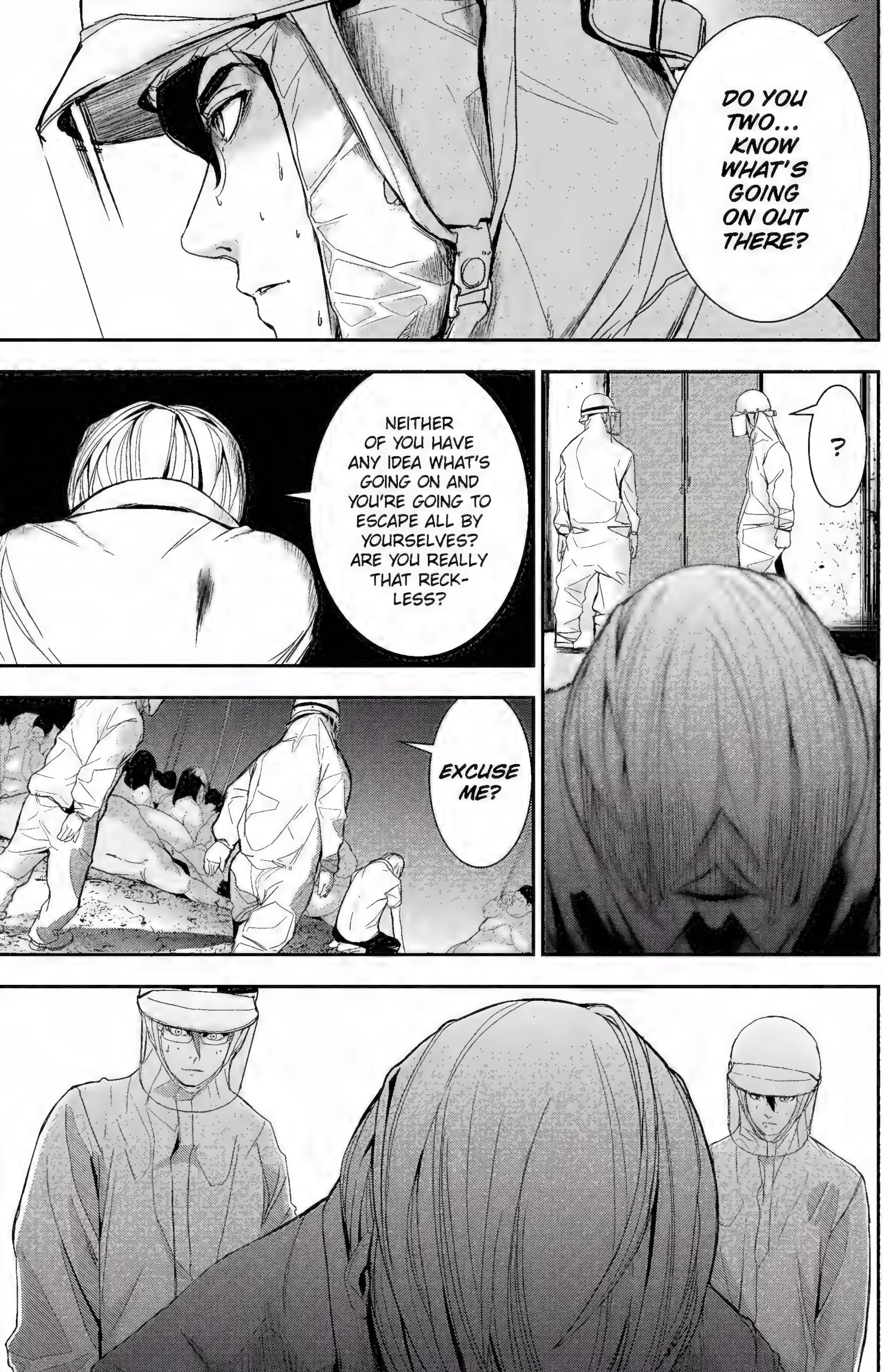


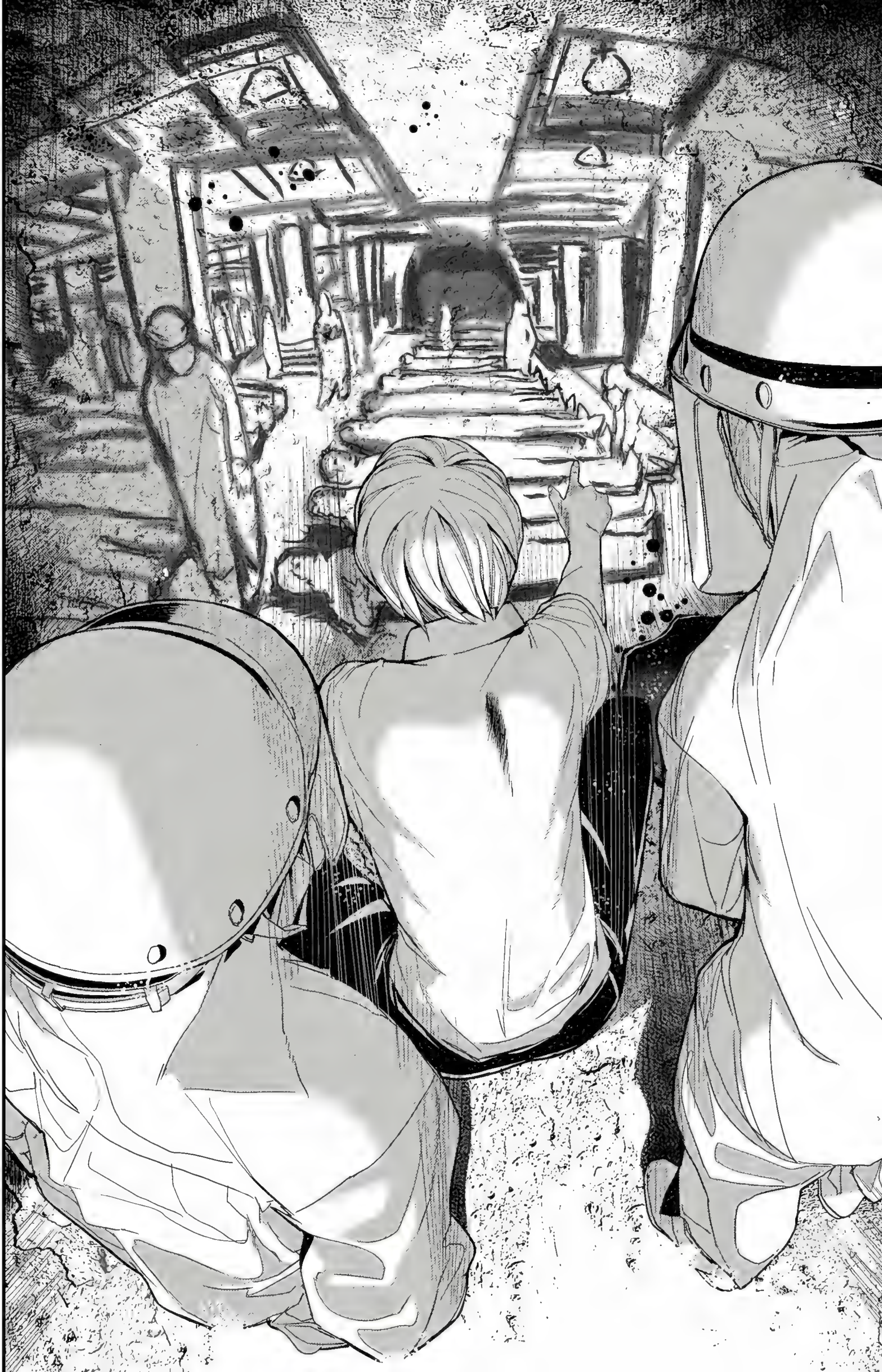
IF I LET THEM LEAVE ME HERE ALL ALONE...

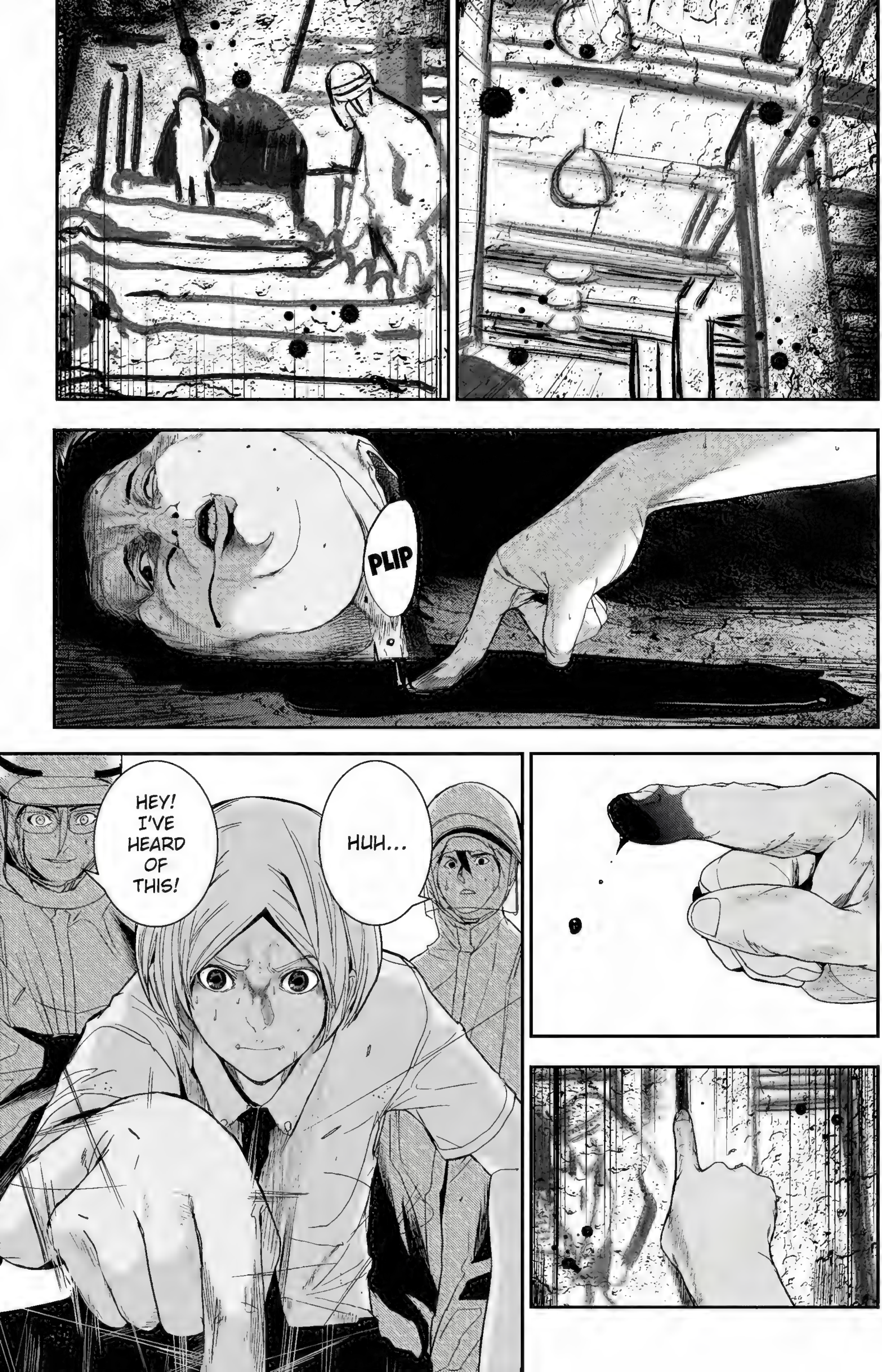


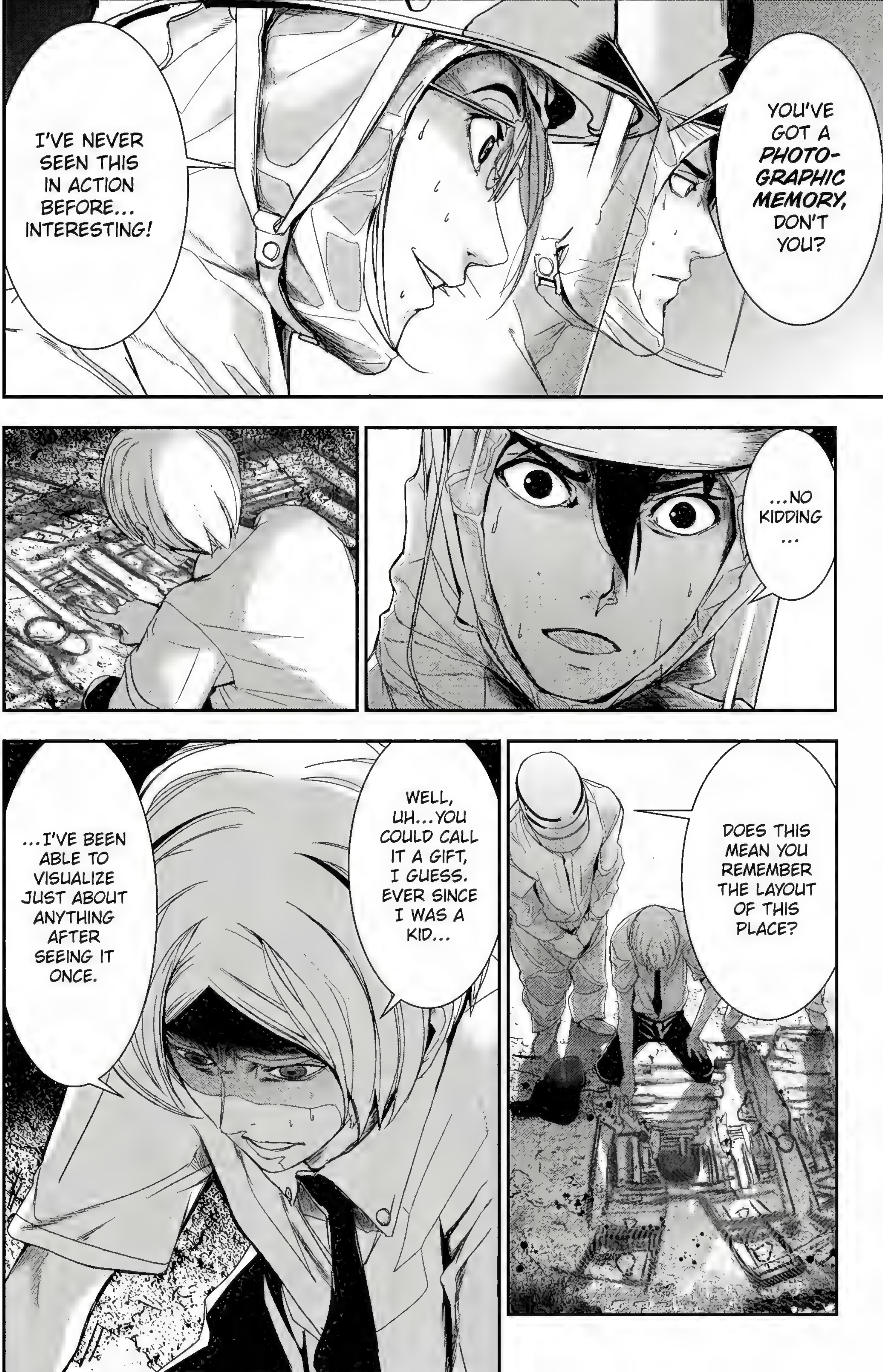

WHAT...
グッ
UMP
メリ
SL
...WILL I DO?

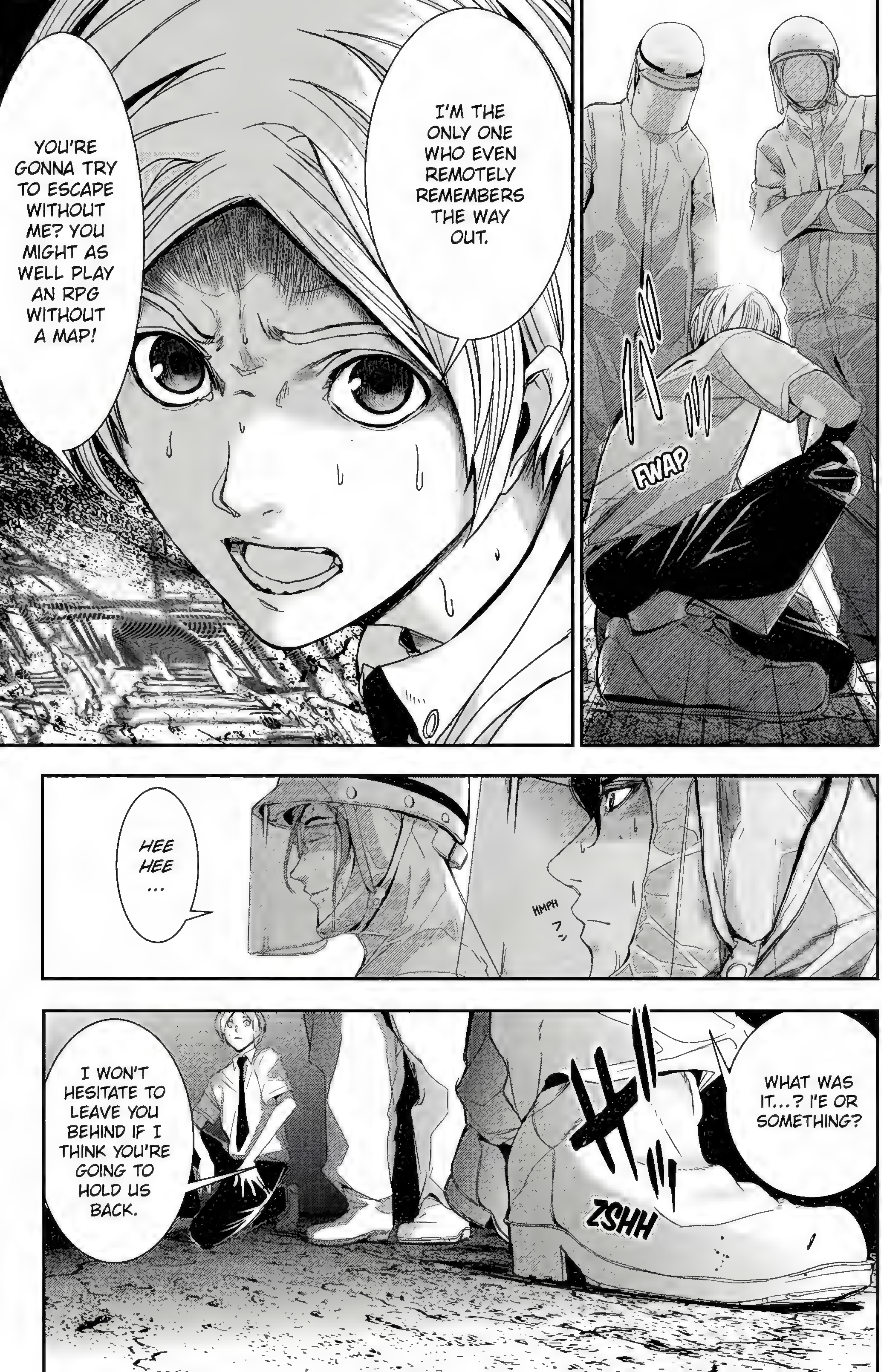

HEH.

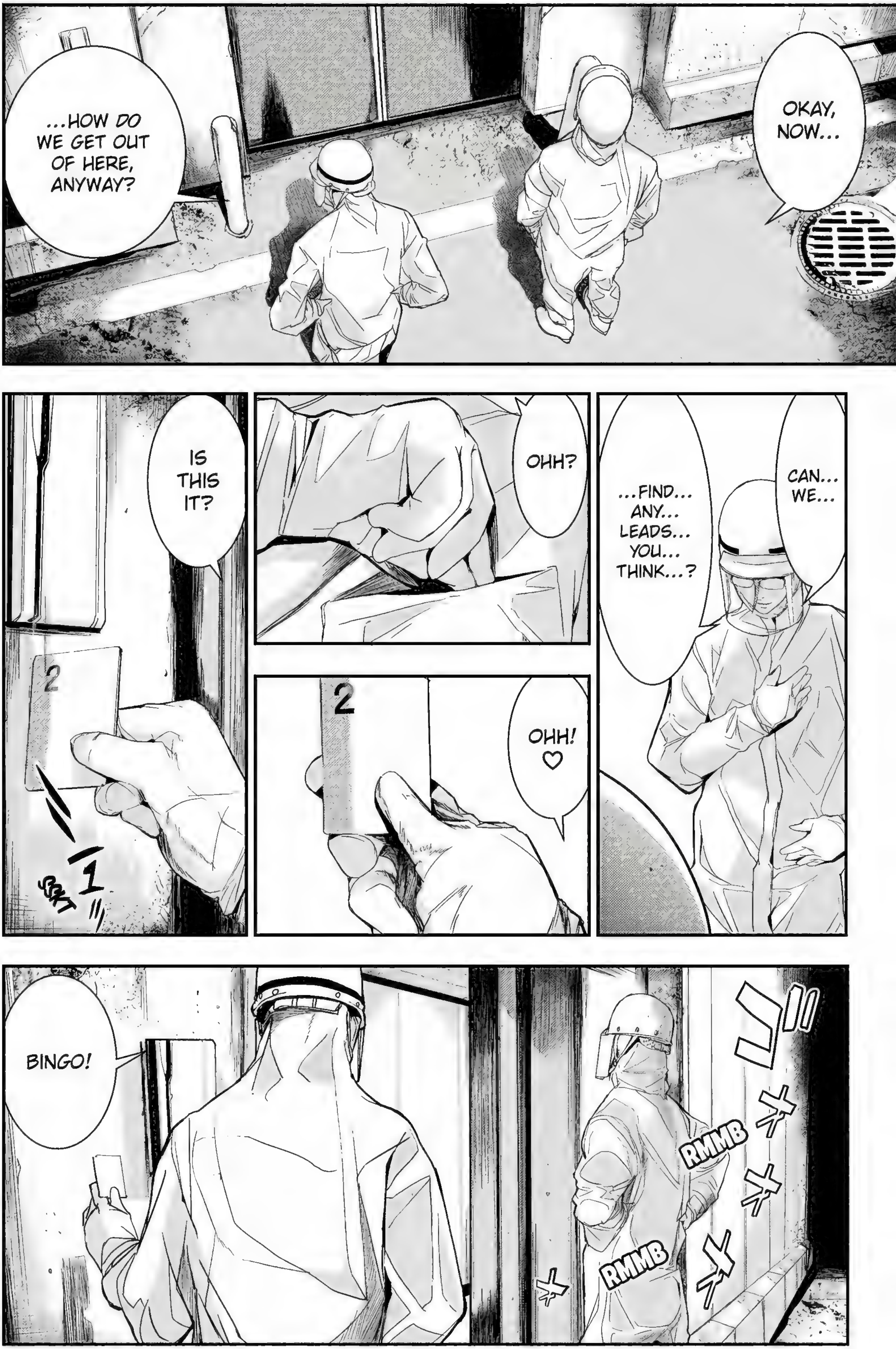

DO YOU TWO... KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE?
?
NEITHER OF YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON AND YOU'RE GOING TO ESCAPE ALL BY YOURSELVES? ARE YOU REALLY THAT RECKLESS?
EXCUSE ME?

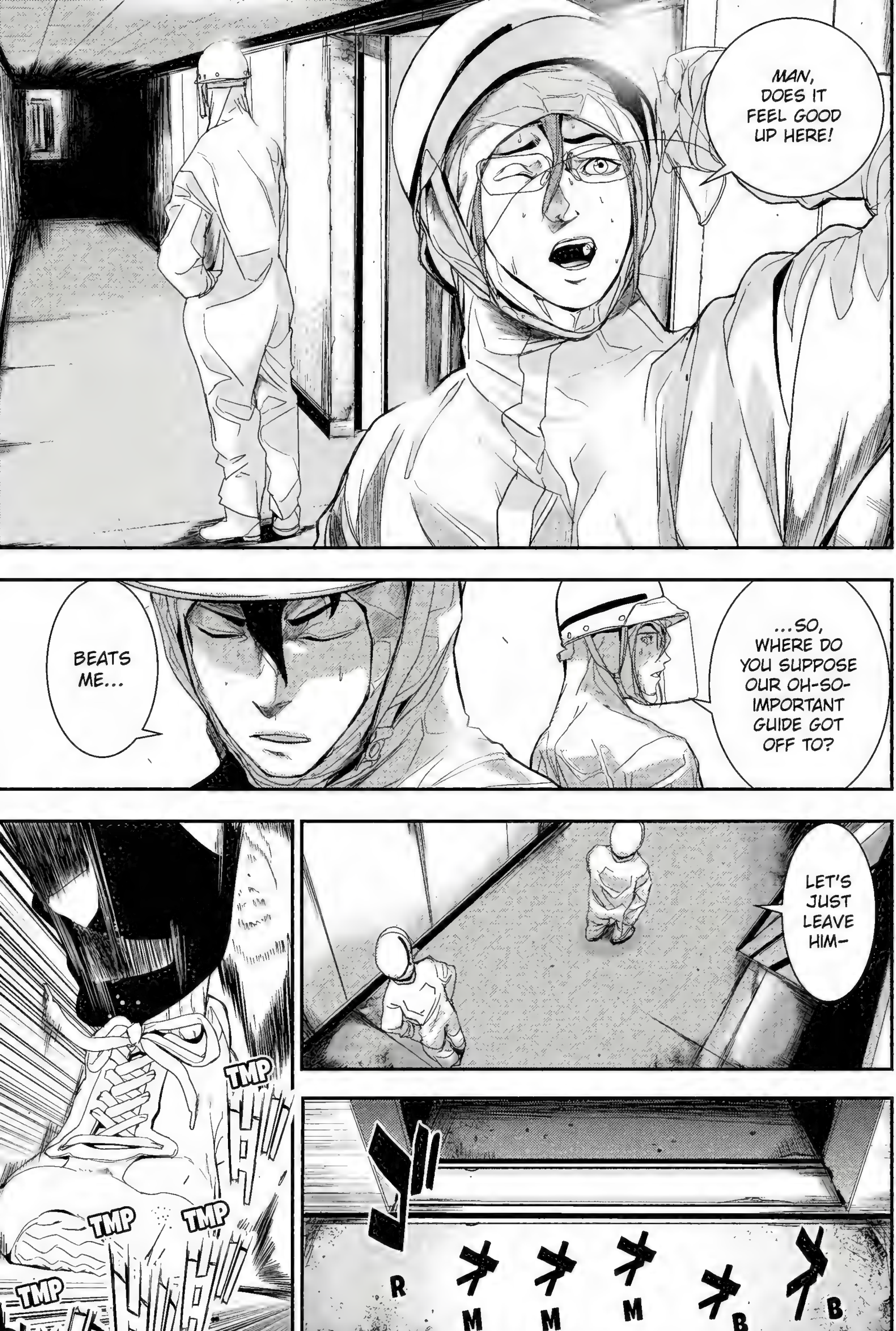


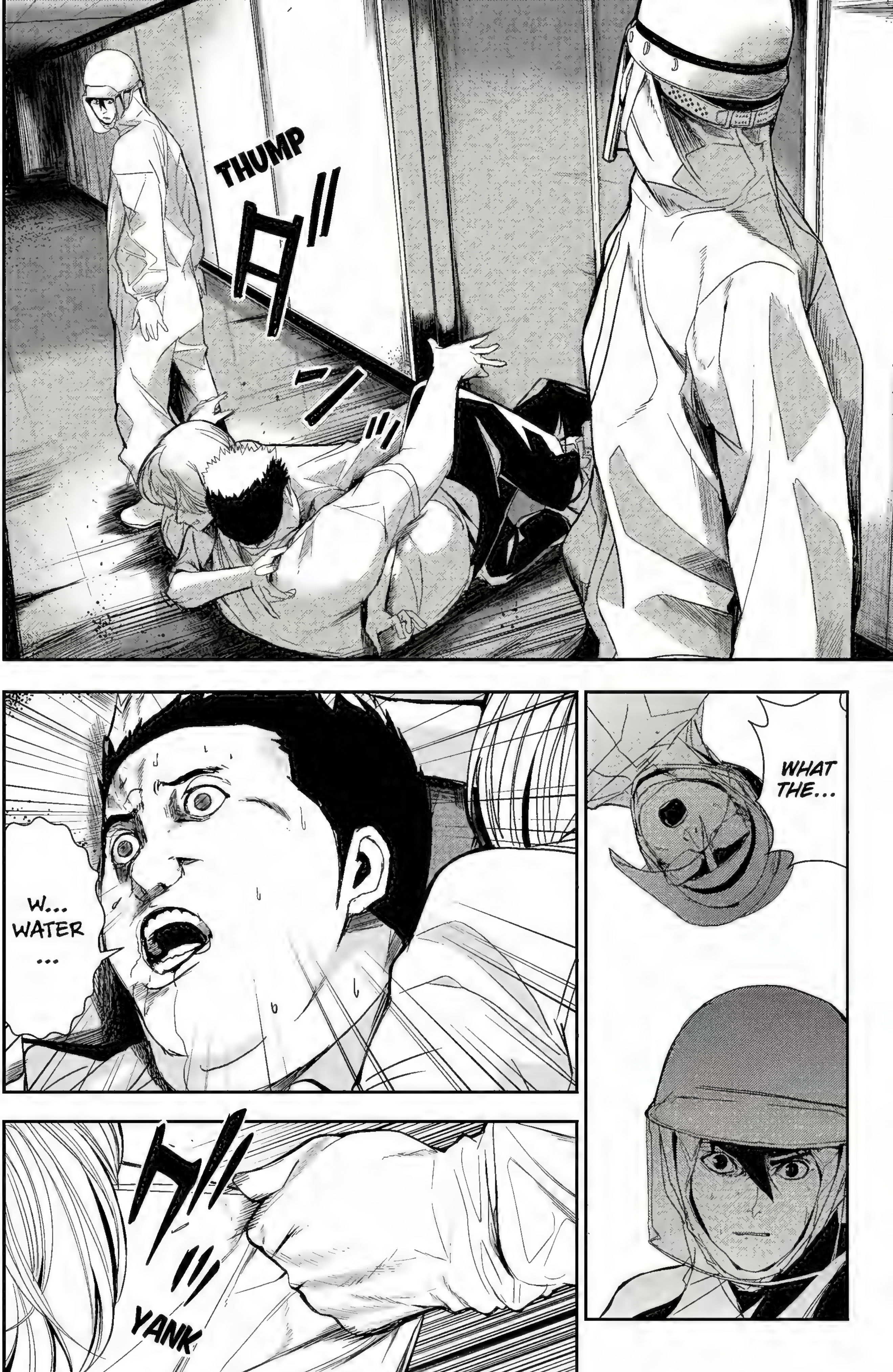

PLIP
HUH...
HEY! I'VE HEARD OF THIS!

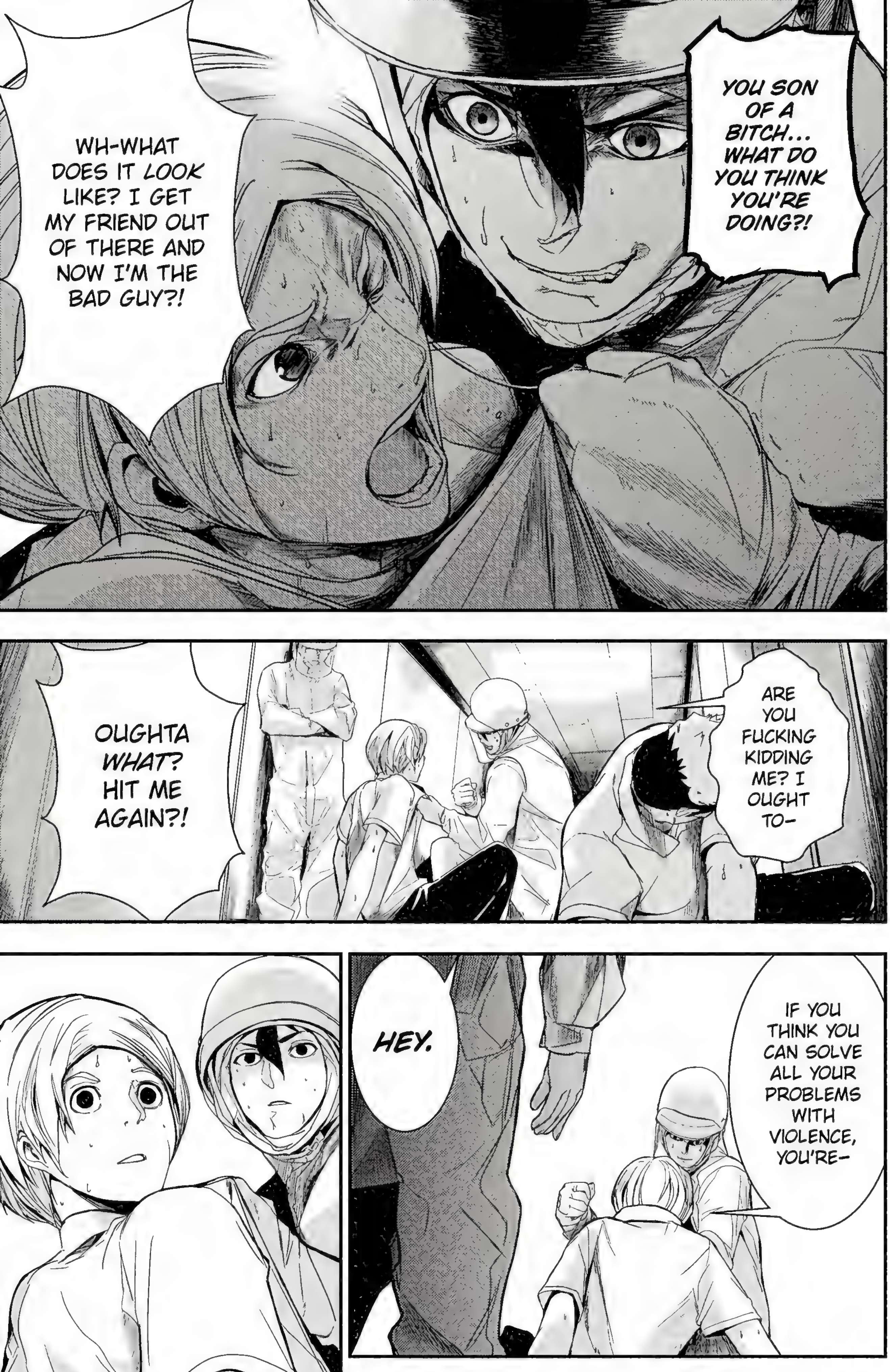

YOU'VE GOT A *PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY,* DON'T YOU?
I'VE NEVER SEEN THIS IN ACTION BEFORE... INTERESTING!
...NO KIDDING...
DOES THIS MEAN YOU REMEMBER THE LAYOUT OF THIS PLACE?
WELL, UH...YOU COULD CALL IT A GIFT, I GUESS. EVER SINCE I WAS A KID...
...I'VE BEEN ABLE TO VISUALIZE JUST ABOUT ANYTHING AFTER SEEING IT ONCE.

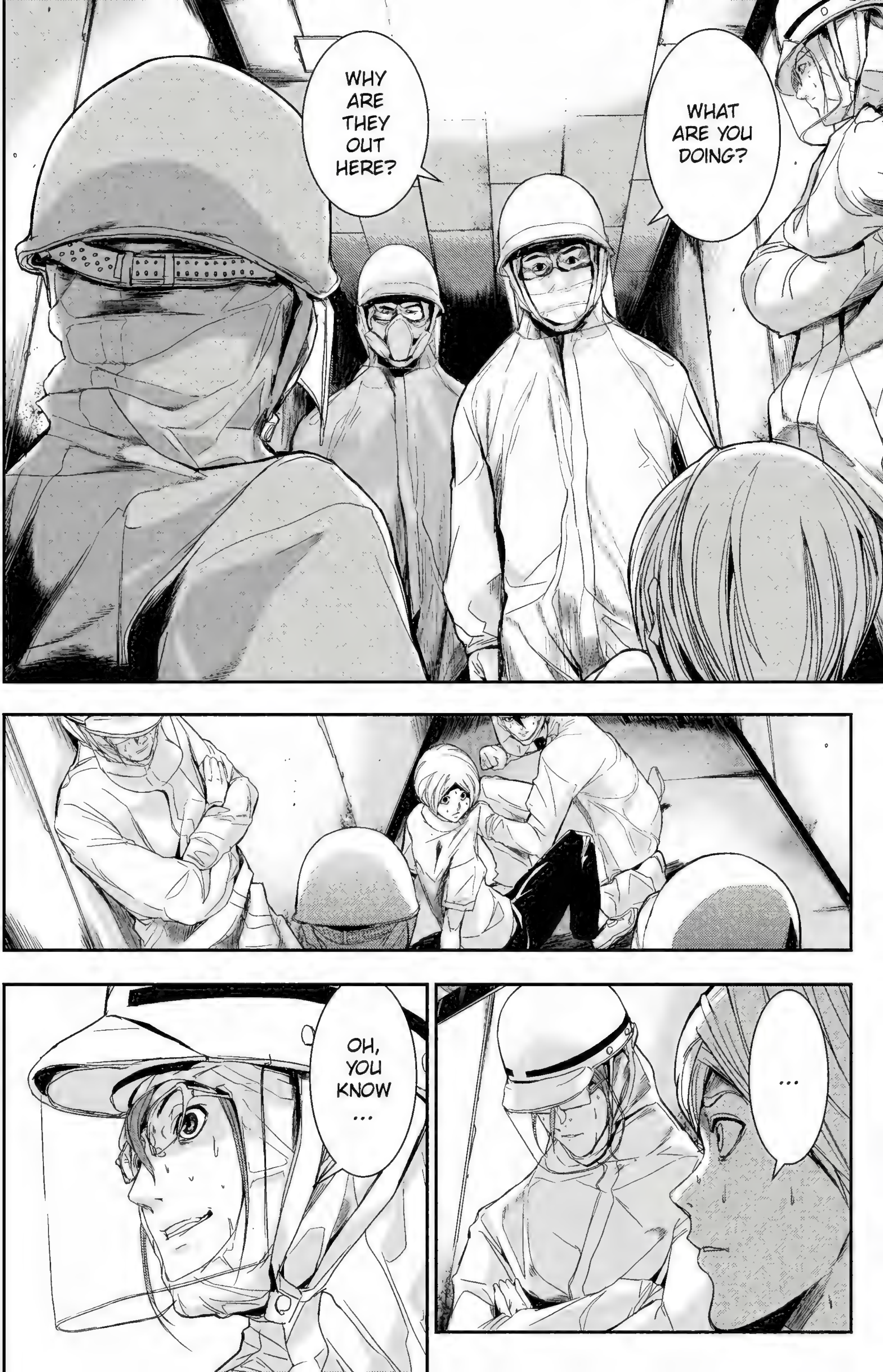

FWAP
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO EVEN REMOTELY REMEMBERS THE WAY OUT.
YOU'RE GONNA TRY TO ESCAPE WITHOUT ME? YOU MIGHT AS WELL PLAY AN RPG WITHOUT A MAP!
HMPH
HEE HEE ...
WHAT WAS IT...? I'E OR SOMETHING?
ZSHH
I WON'T HESITATE TO LEAVE YOU BEHIND IF I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO HOLD US BACK.

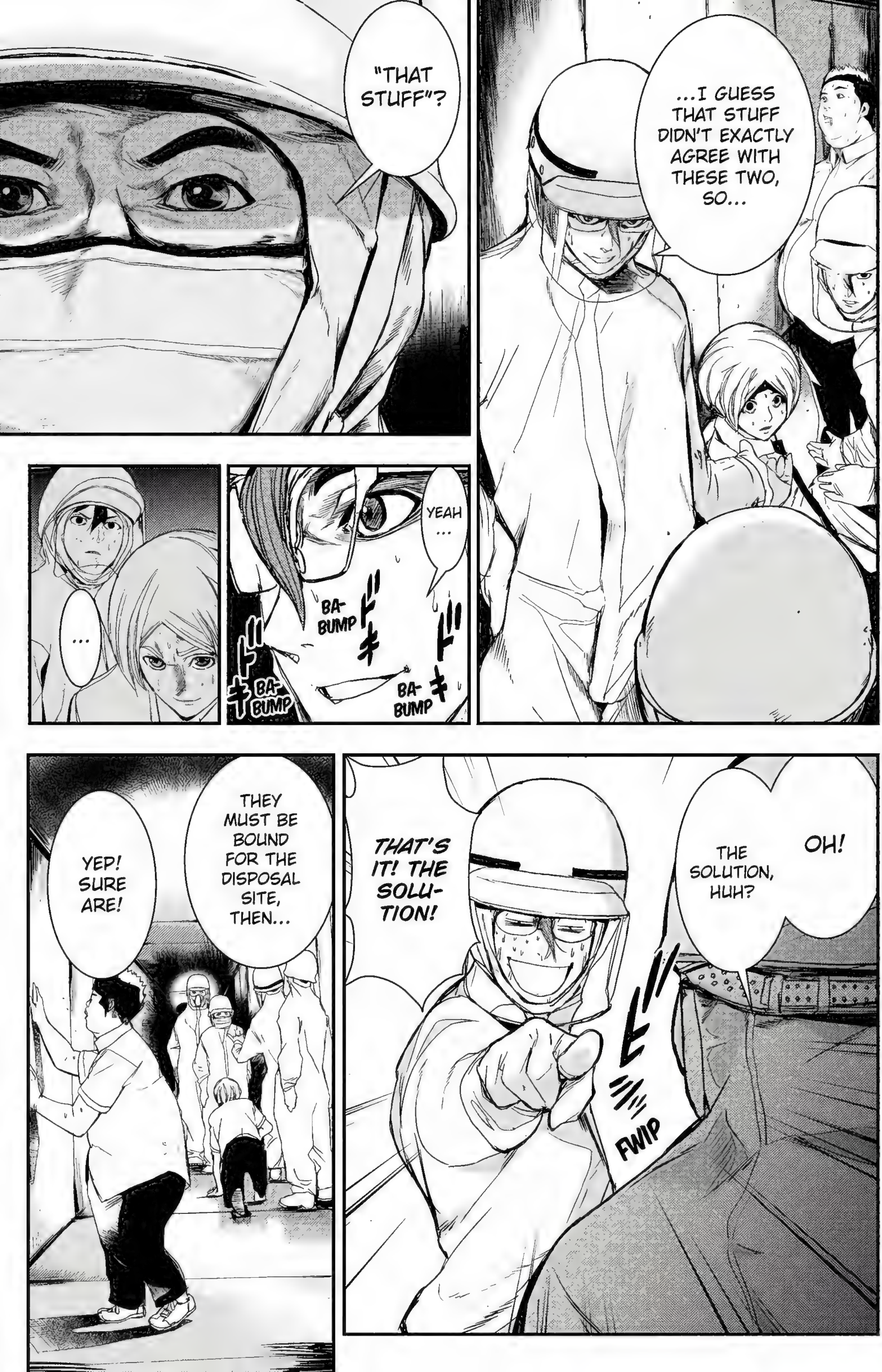

OKAY, NOW...
...HOW DO WE GET OUT OF HERE, ANYWAY?
CAN... WE...
...FIND... ANY... LEADS... YOU... THINK...?
OHH?
OHH! ♡
IS THIS IT?
2
2
RMMB
RMMB
BINGO!

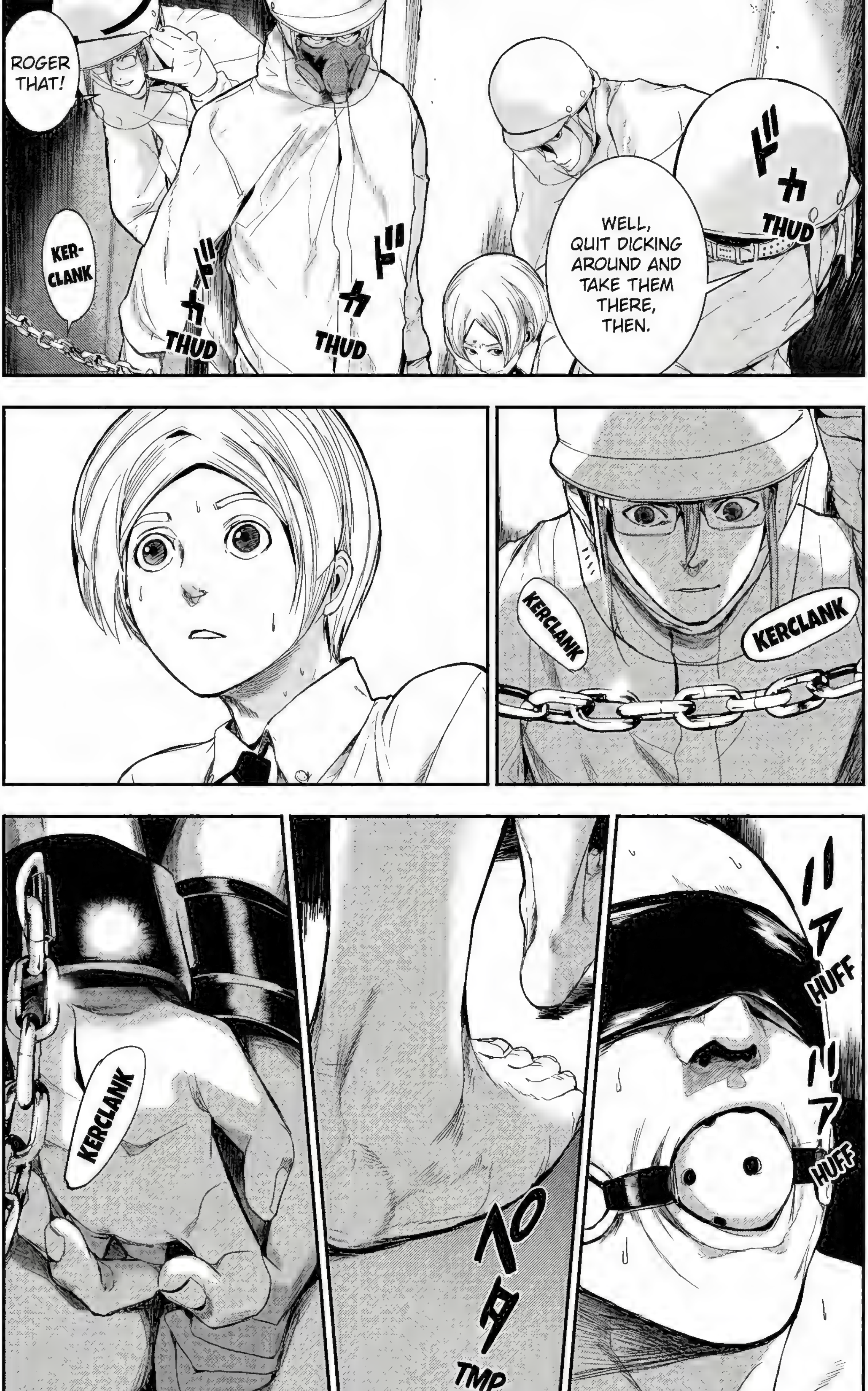

MAN, DOES IT FEEL GOOD UP HERE!
...SO, WHERE DO YOU SUPPOSE OUR OH-SO-IMPORTANT GUIDE GOT OFF TO?
BEATS ME...
LET'S JUST LEAVE HIM-
RMMMBB
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

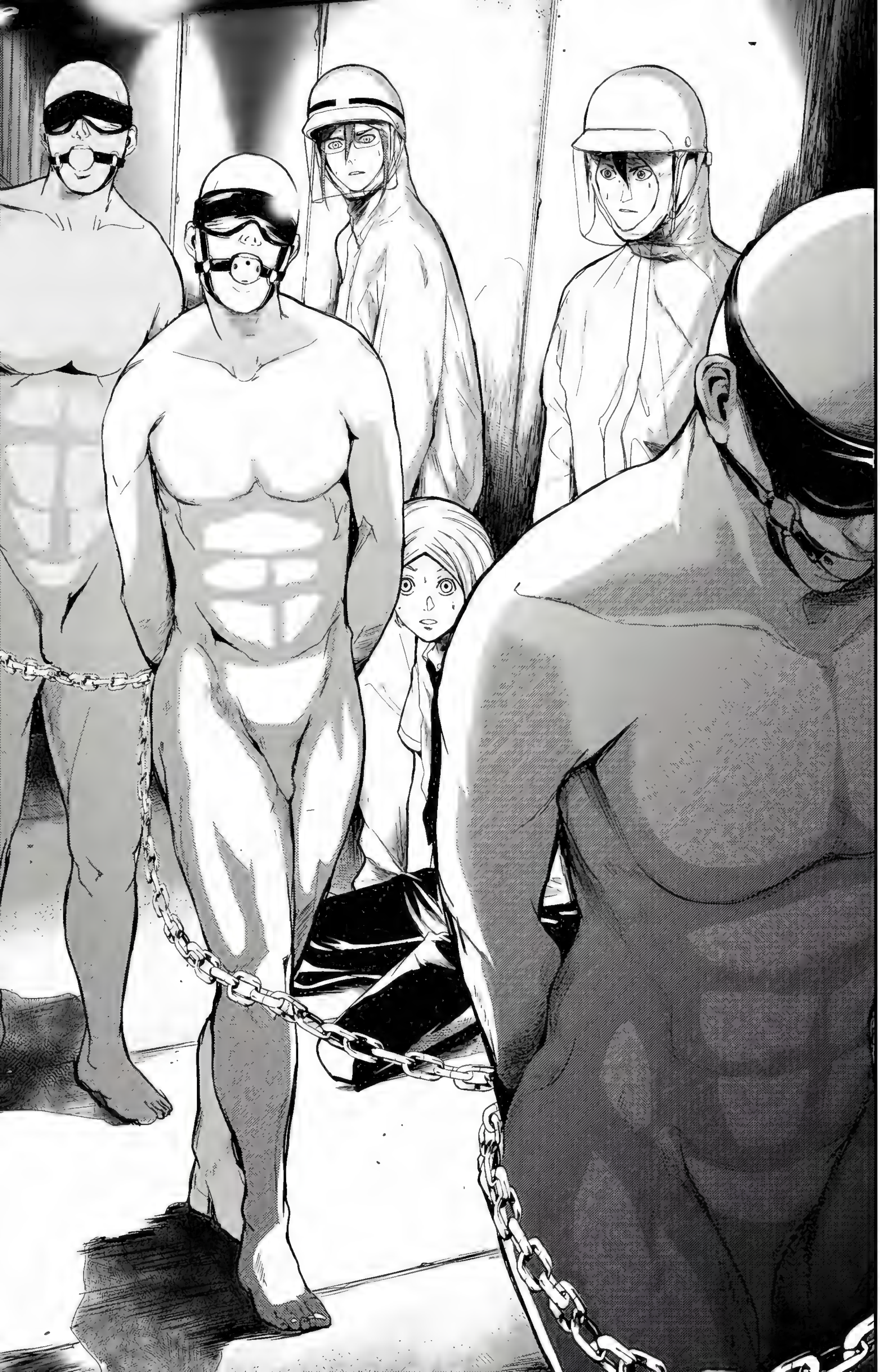

THUMP
ダン
WHAT THE...
W... WATER ...
グッ
YANK

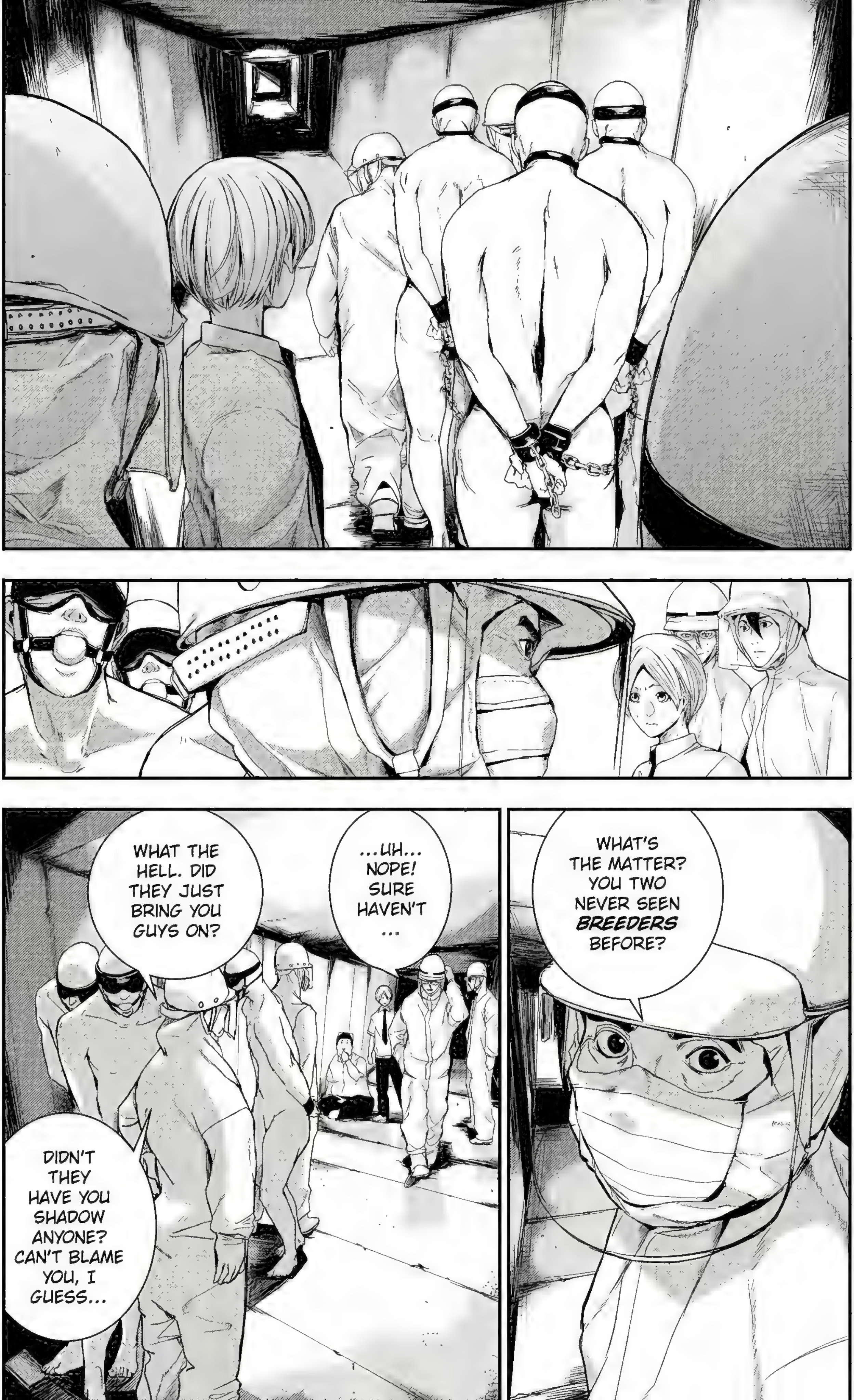

YOU SON OF A BITCH... WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
WH-WHAT DOES IT *LOOK* LIKE? I GET MY FRIEND OUT OF THERE AND NOW I'M THE BAD GUY?!
ARE YOU FUCKING KIDDING ME? I OUGHT TO-
OUGHTA *WHAT?* HIT ME AGAIN?!
IF YOU THINK YOU CAN SOLVE ALL YOUR PROBLEMS WITH VIOLENCE, YOU'RE-
HEY.

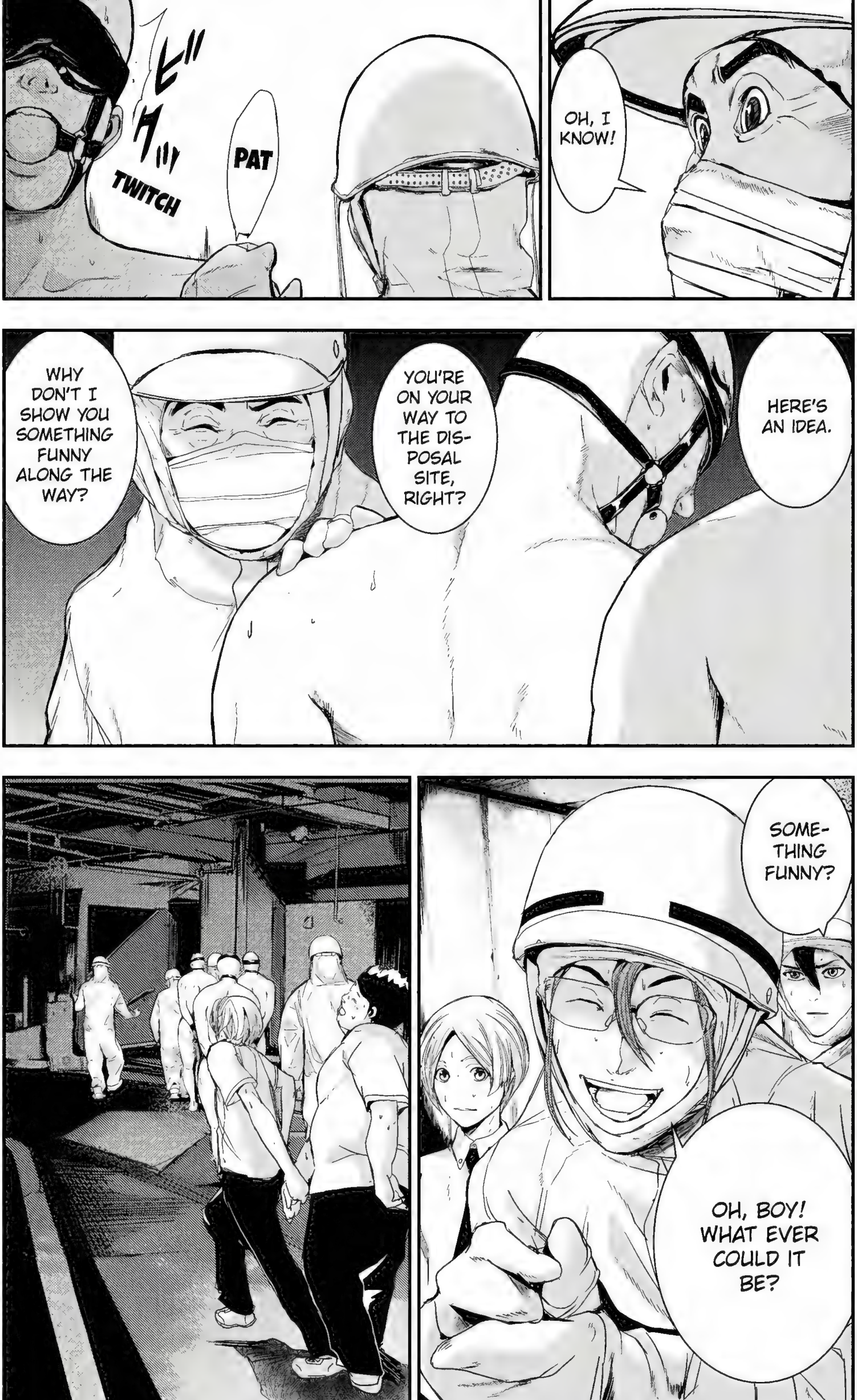

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHY ARE THEY OUT HERE?
...
OH, YOU KNOW ...

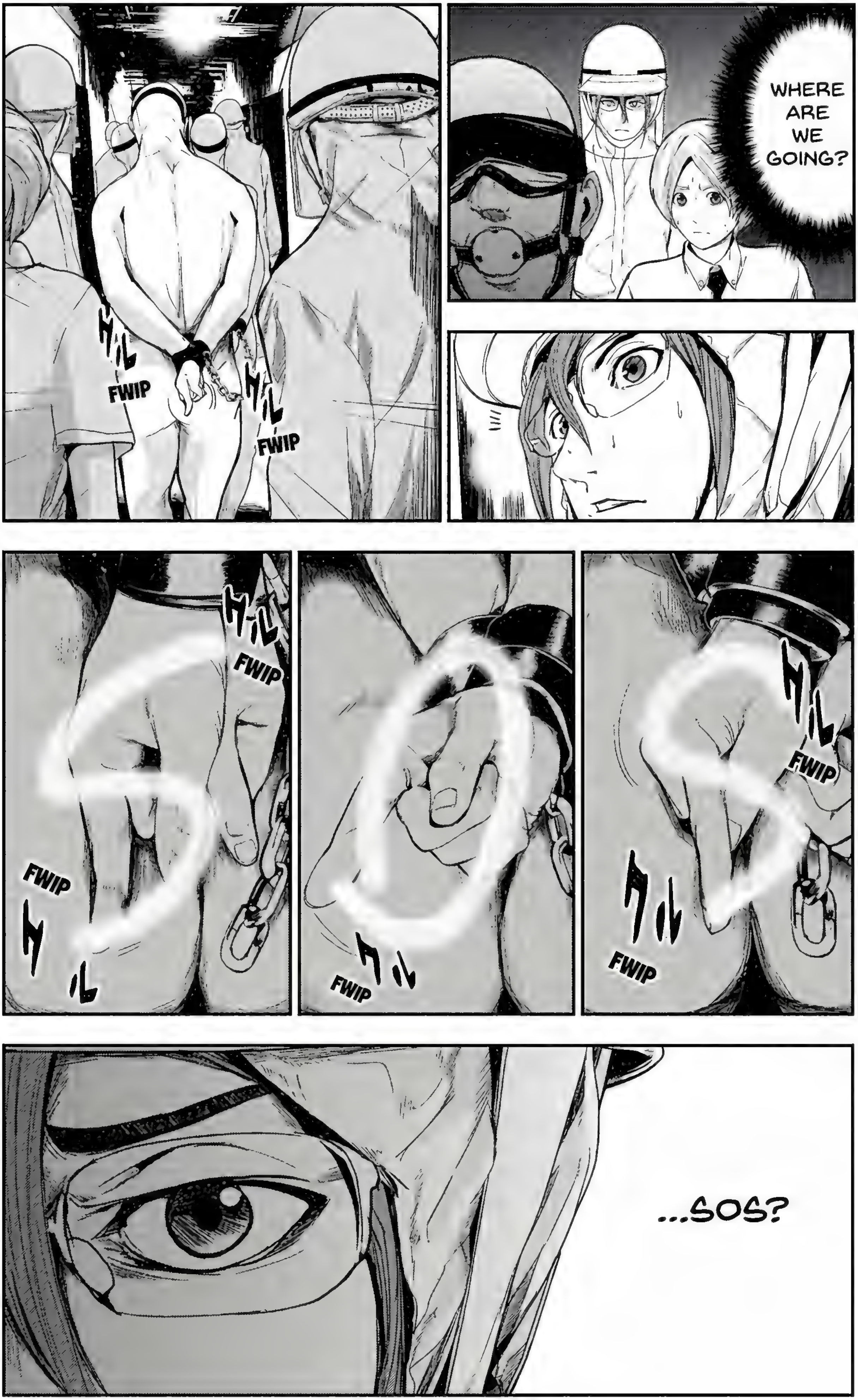

...I GUESS THAT STUFF DIDN'T EXACTLY AGREE WITH THESE TWO, SO...
"THAT STUFF"?
YEAH ...
ドキ BA-BUMP
ドキ BA-BUMP
ドキ BA-BUMP
...
OH!
THE SOLUTION, HUH?
THAT'S IT! THE SOLUTION!
FWIP
THEY MUST BE BOUND FOR THE DISPOSAL SITE, THEN...
YEP! SURE ARE!

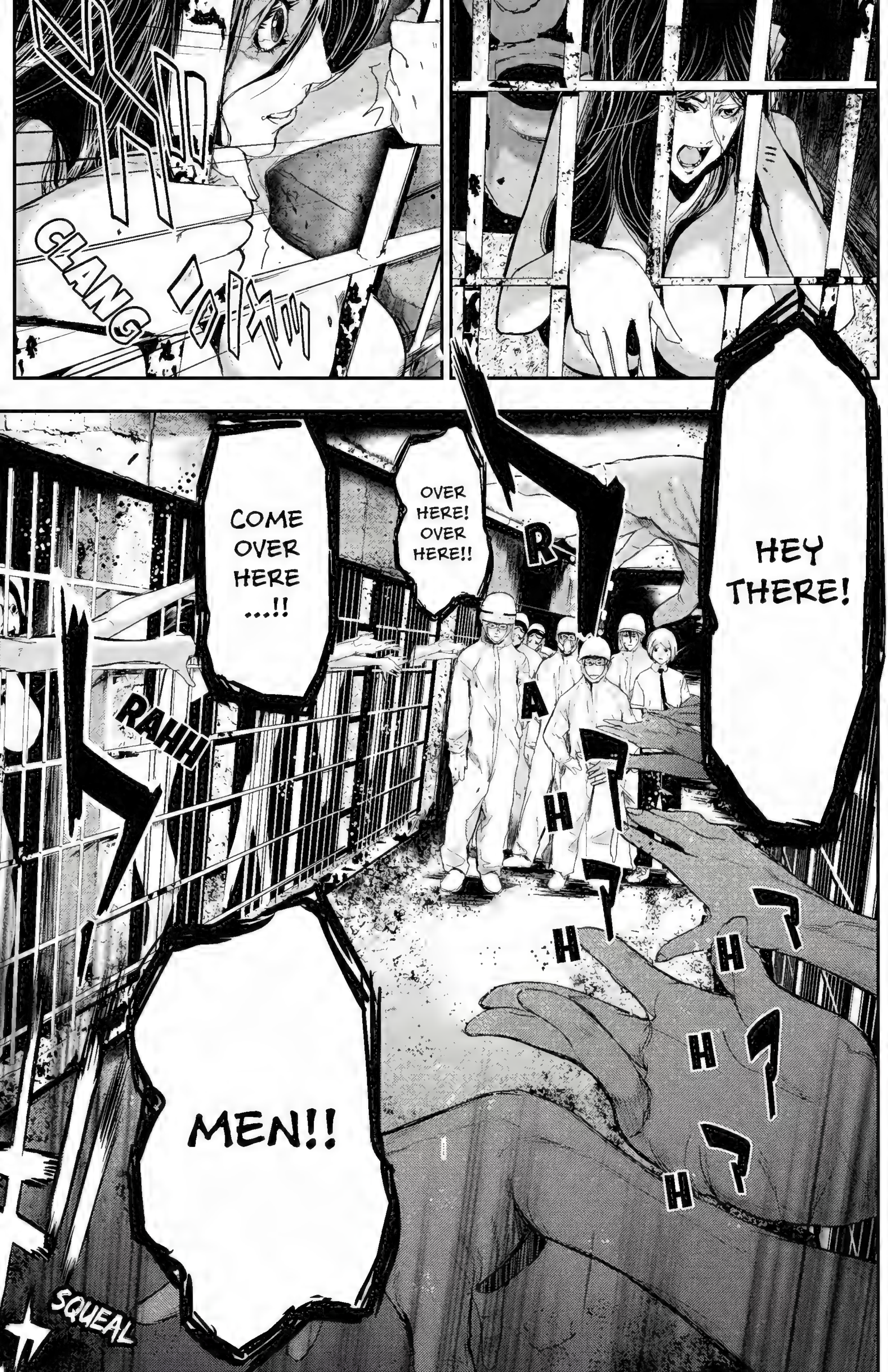

ドカ THUD
WELL, QUIT DICKING AROUND AND TAKE THEM THERE, THEN.
ドカ THUD
ドカ THUD
ROGER THAT!
KER-CLANK
KERCLANK
KERCLANK
ハァ HUFF
ハァ HUFF
ペタ TMP
KERCLANK

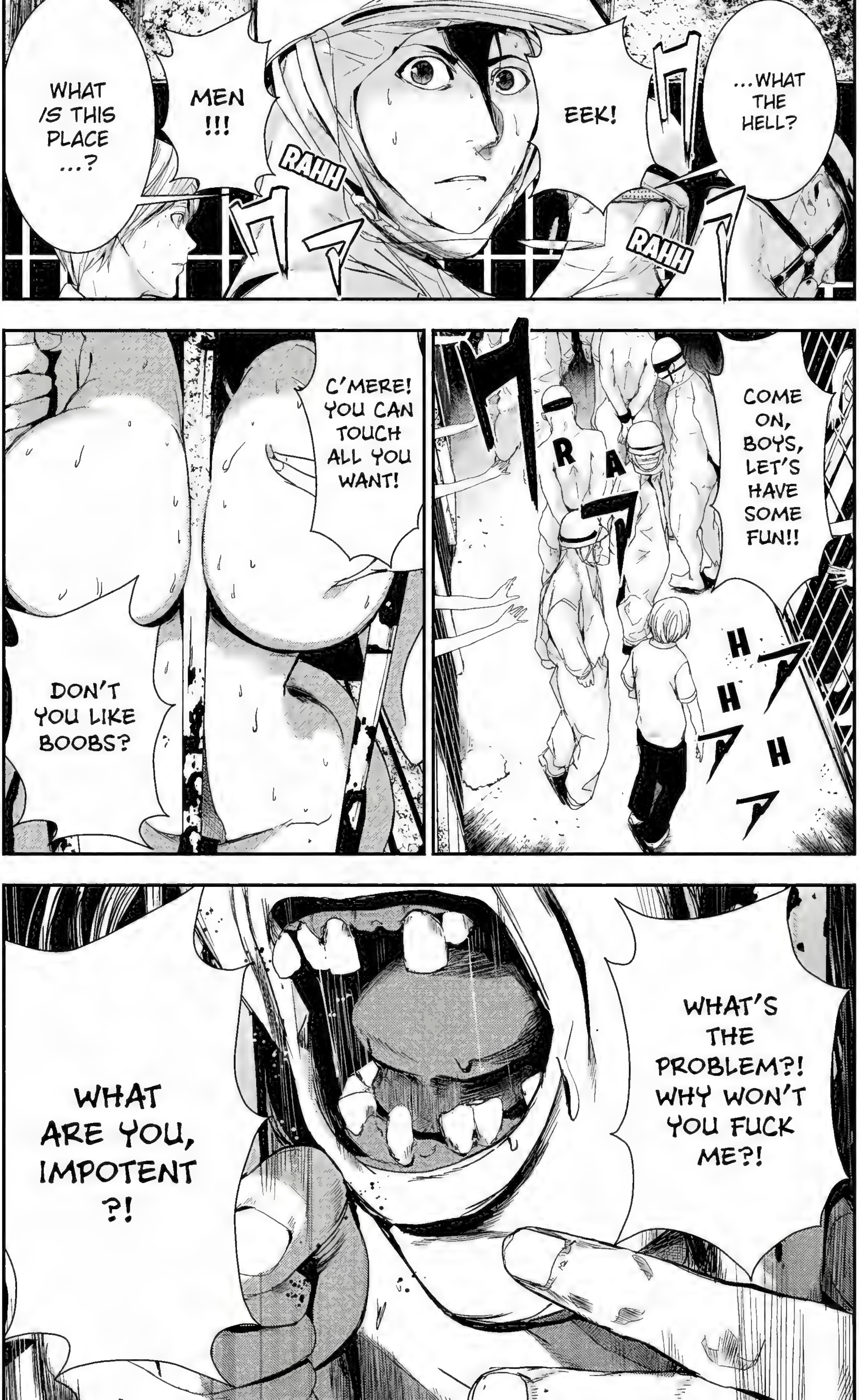


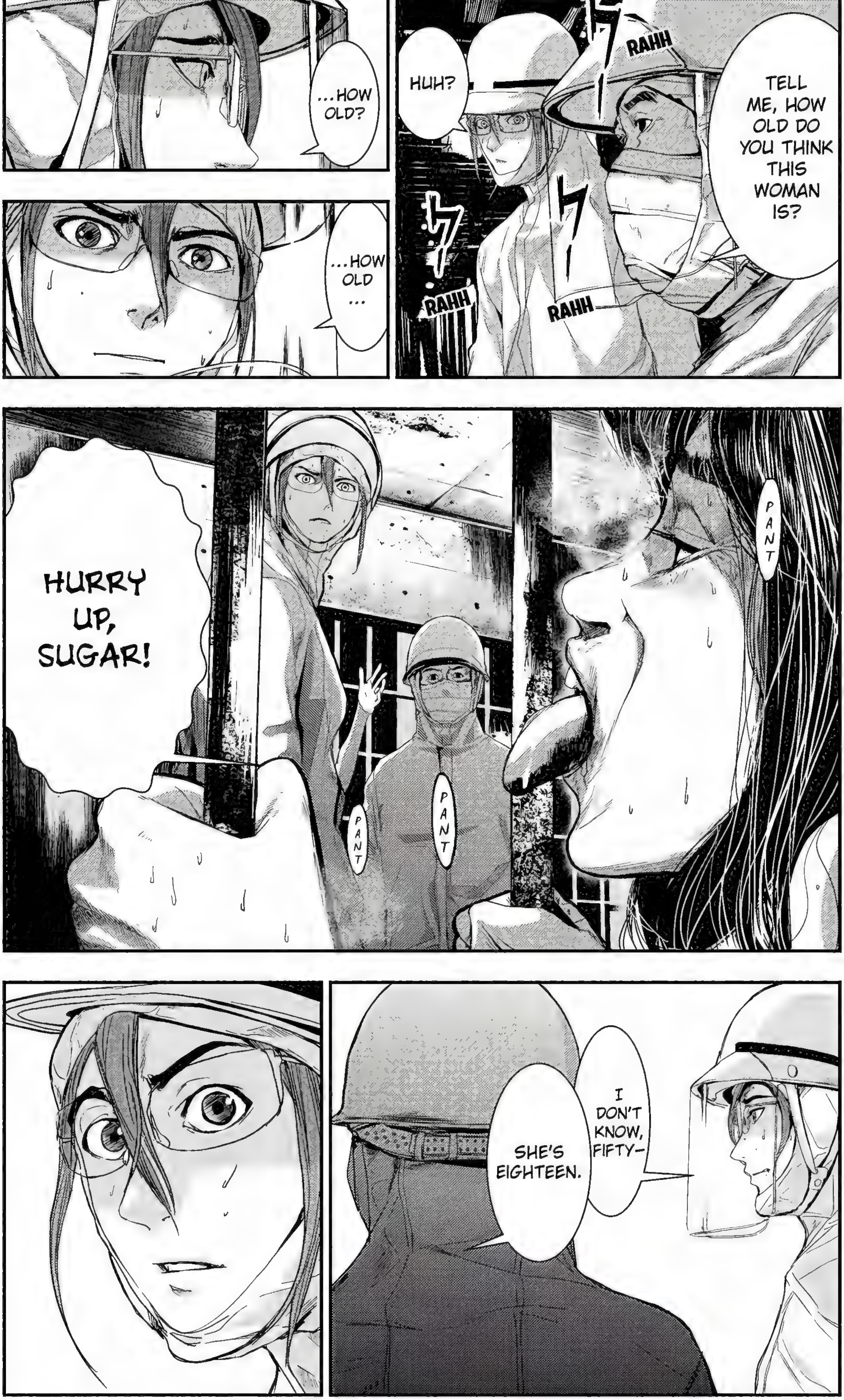

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU TWO NEVER SEEN **BREEDERS** BEFORE?
...UH... NOPE! SURE HAVEN'T...
WHAT THE HELL. DID THEY JUST BRING YOU GUYS ON?
DIDN'T THEY HAVE YOU SHADOW ANYONE? CAN'T BLAME YOU, I GUESS...

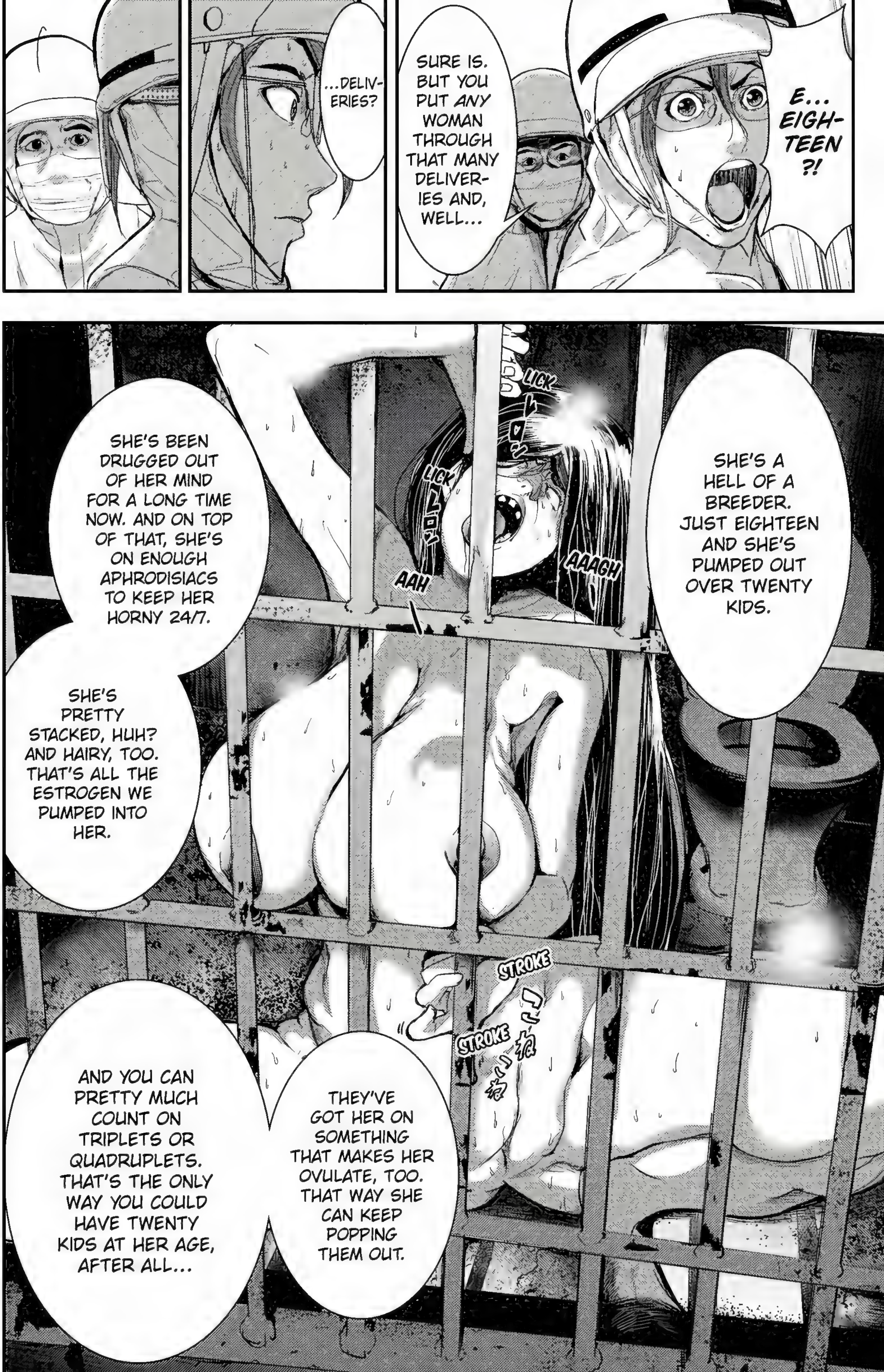

OH, I KNOW!
PAT
ビクッ
TWITCH
HERE'S AN IDEA.
YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY TO THE DISPOSAL SITE, RIGHT?
WHY DON'T I SHOW YOU SOMETHING FUNNY ALONG THE WAY?
SOMETHING FUNNY?
OH, BOY! WHAT EVER COULD IT BE?

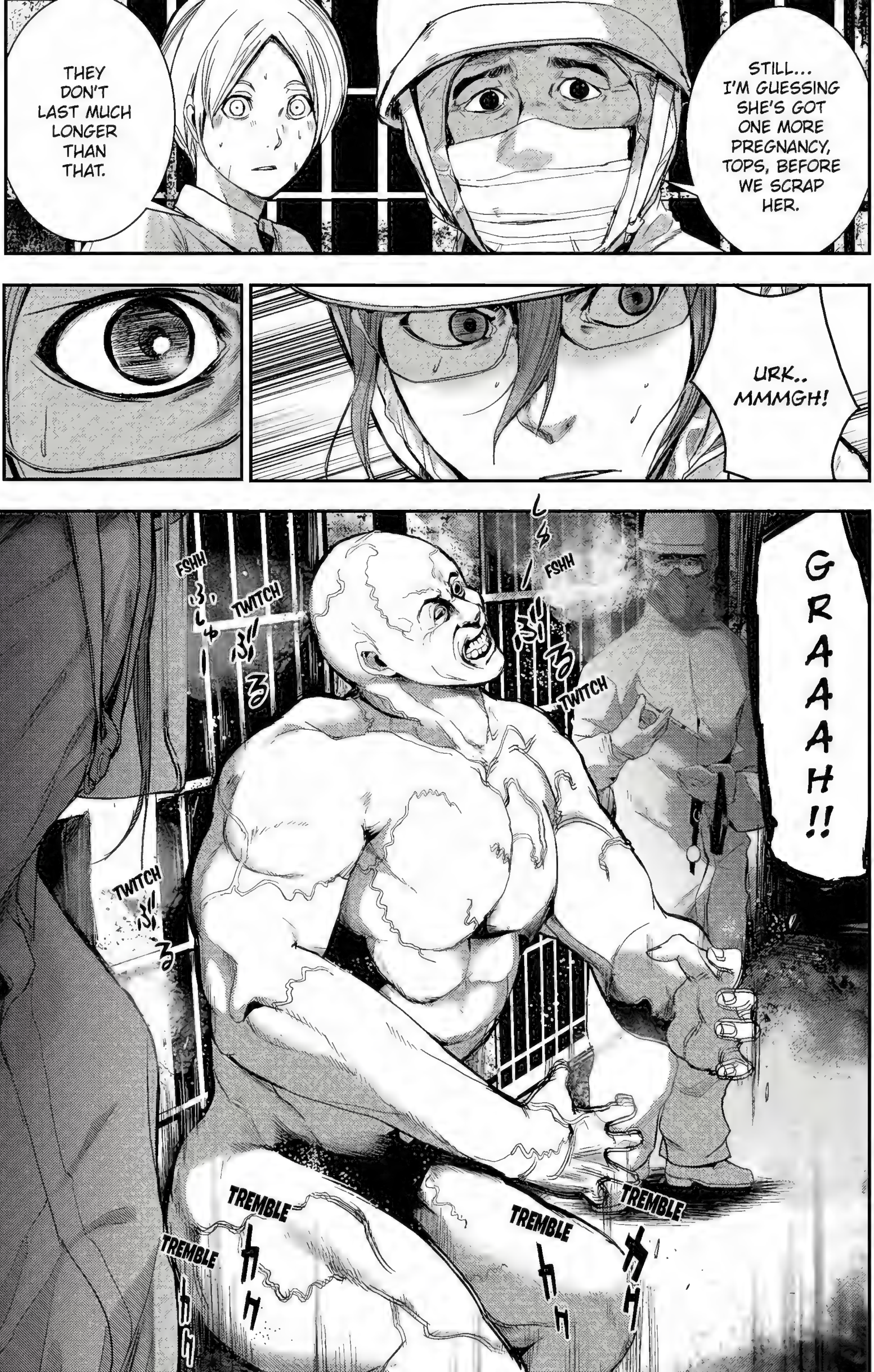

FWIP
FWIP
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
FWIP
FWIP
S
FWIP
O
FWIP
FWIP
S
...SOS?

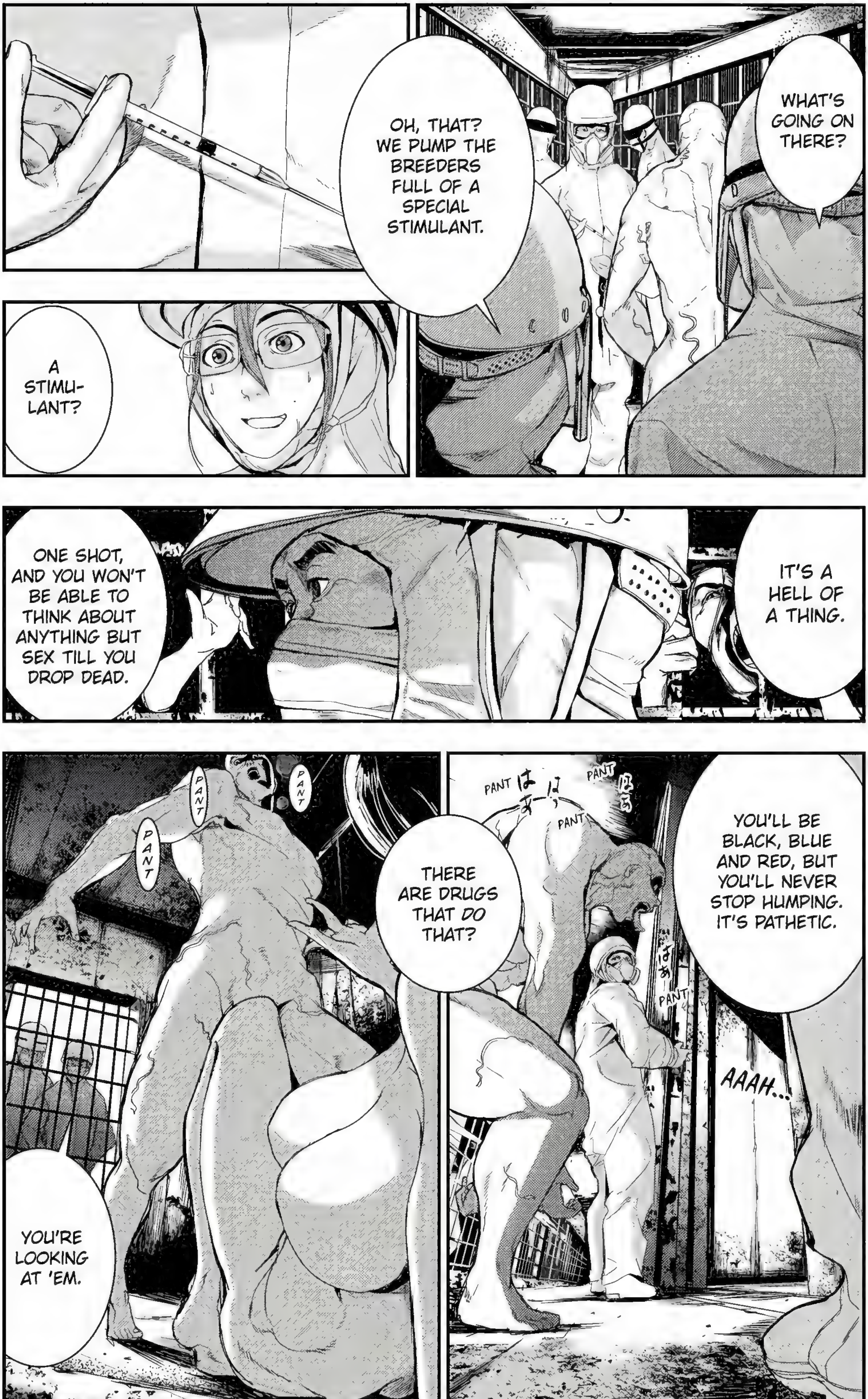

CLANG
HEY THERE!
OVER HERE! OVER HERE!!
COME OVER HERE...!!
RAHHHHH
RAHH
MEN!!
SQUEAL

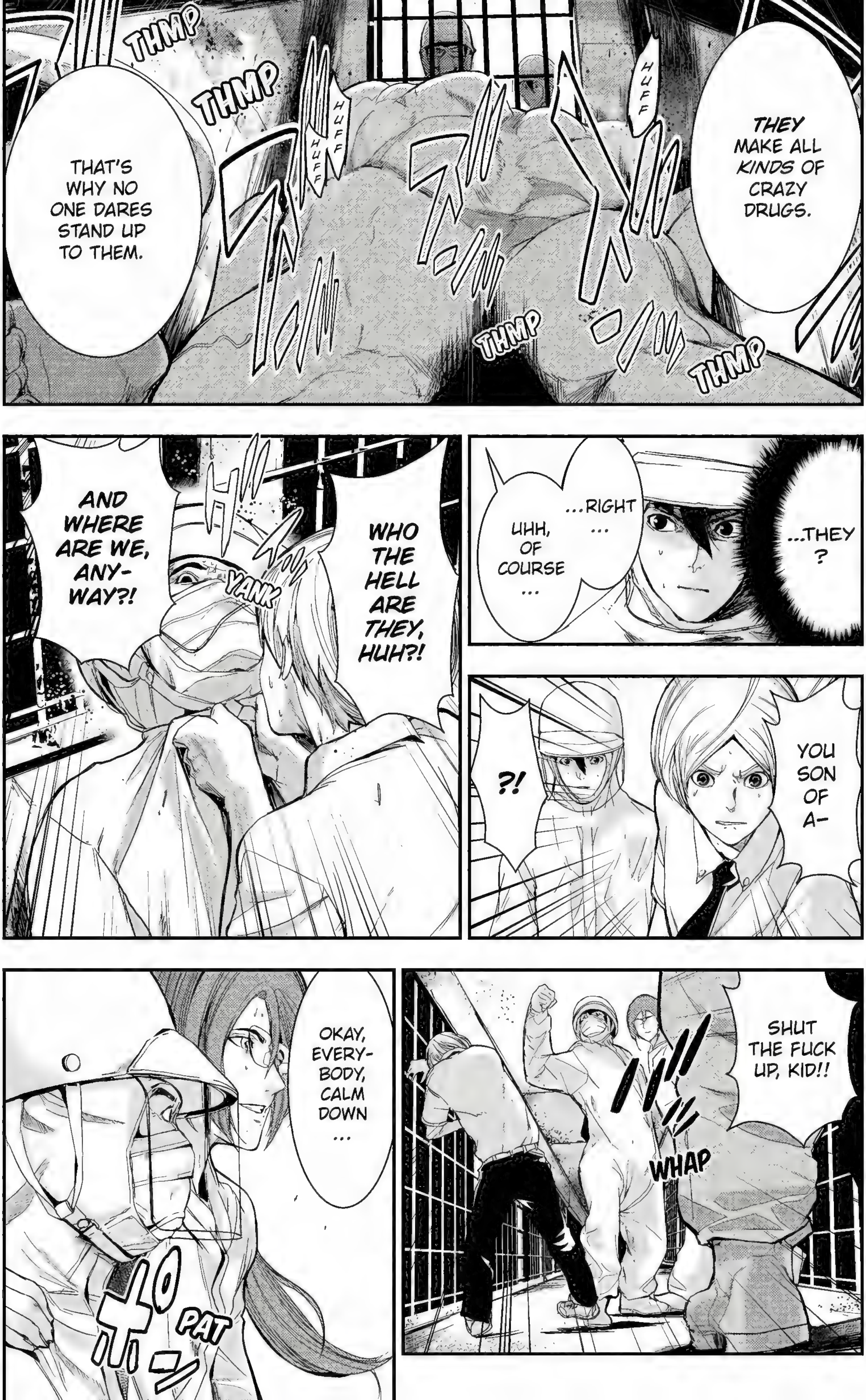

...WHAT THE HELL?
RAHH
EEK!
RAHH
MEN !!!
WHAT IS THIS PLACE ...?
COME ON, BOYS, LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!!
RA
HHH
C'MERE! YOU CAN TOUCH ALL YOU WANT!
DON'T YOU LIKE BOOBS?
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?! WHY WON'T YOU FUCK ME?!
WHAT ARE YOU, IMPOTENT ?!

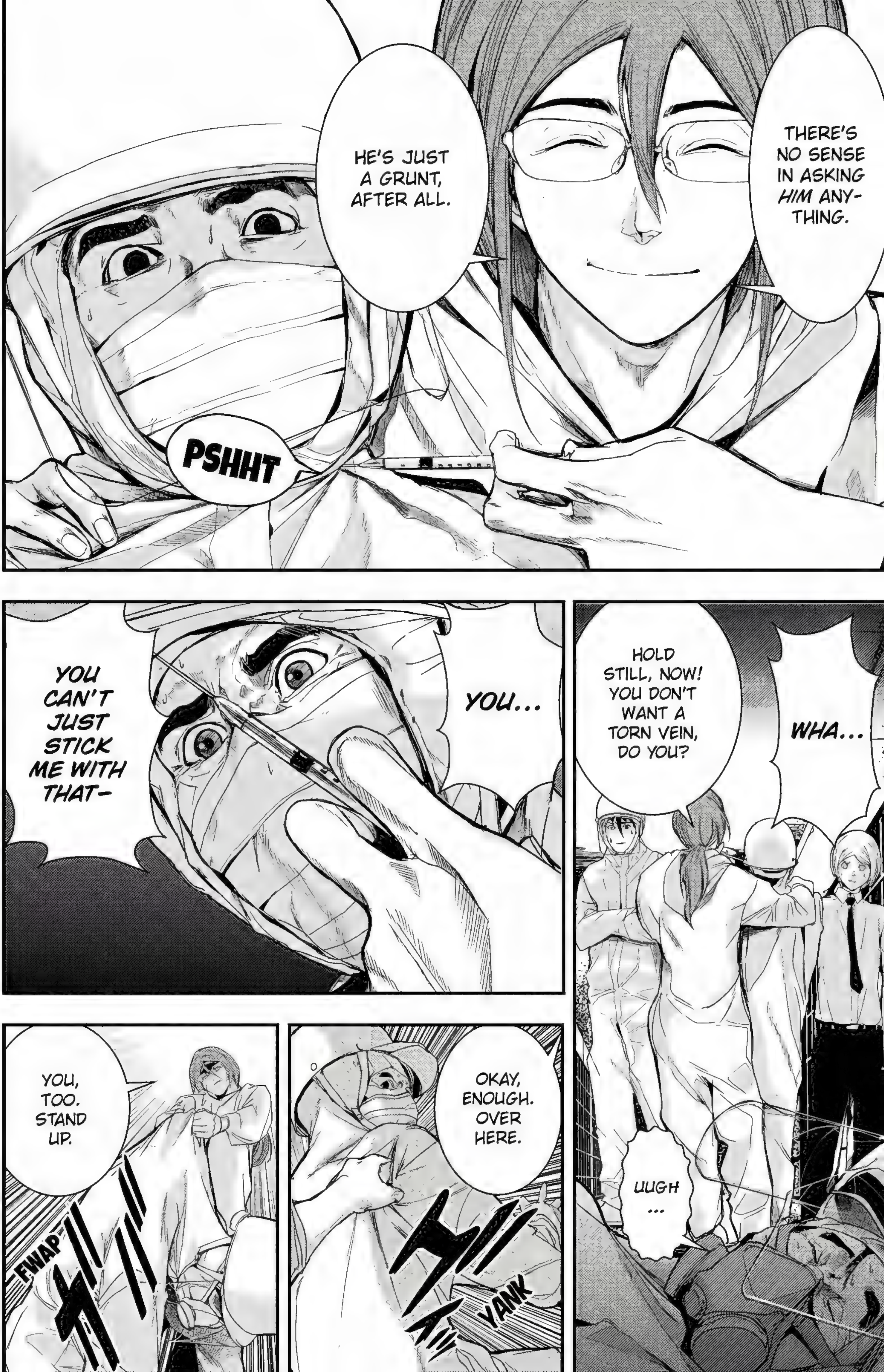

TELL ME, HOW OLD DO YOU THINK THIS WOMAN IS?
RAHH
RAHH
RAHH
HUH?
...HOW OLD?
...HOW OLD ...
PANT
HURRY UP, SUGAR!
PANT
PANT
I DON'T KNOW, FIFTY—
SHE'S EIGHTEEN.

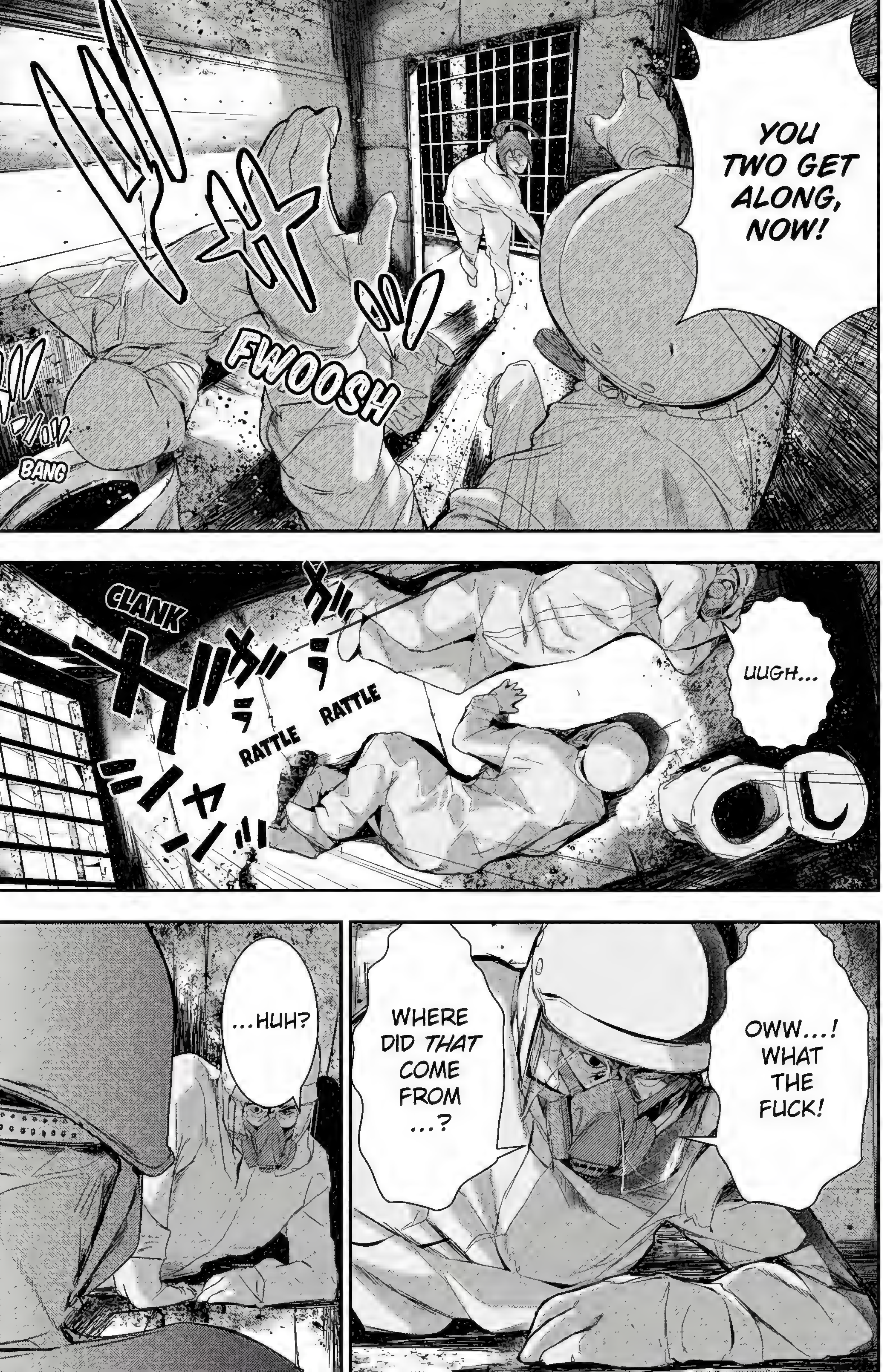

E... EIGHTEEN?!
SURE IS. BUT YOU PUT *ANY* WOMAN THROUGH THAT MANY DELIVERIES AND, WELL...
...DELIVERIES?
SHE'S A HELL OF A BREEDER. JUST EIGHTEEN AND SHE'S PUMPED OUT OVER TWENTY KIDS.
LICK
LICK
AAAGH
AAH
SHE'S BEEN DRUGGED OUT OF HER MIND FOR A LONG TIME NOW. AND ON TOP OF THAT, SHE'S ON ENOUGH APHRODISIACS TO KEEP HER HORNY 24/7.
SHE'S PRETTY STACKED, HUH? AND HAIRY, TOO. THAT'S ALL THE ESTROGEN WE PUMPED INTO HER.
STROKE
STROKE
THEY'VE GOT HER ON SOMETHING THAT MAKES HER OVULATE, TOO. THAT WAY SHE CAN KEEP POPPING THEM OUT.
AND YOU CAN PRETTY MUCH COUNT ON TRIPLETS OR QUADRUPLETS. THAT'S THE ONLY WAY YOU COULD HAVE TWENTY KIDS AT HER AGE, AFTER ALL...

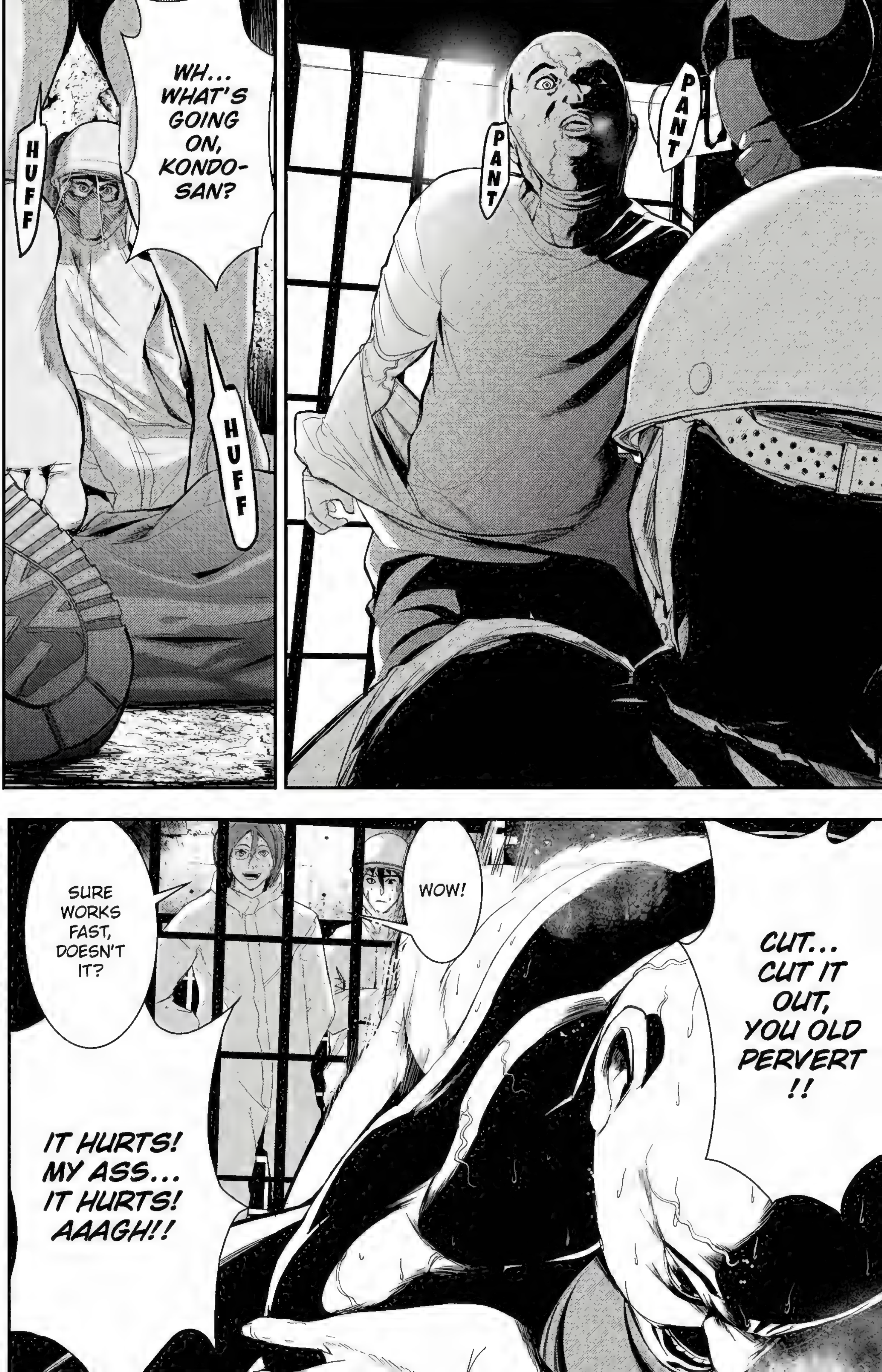

STILL... I'M GUESSING SHE'S GOT ONE MORE PREGNANCY, TOPS, BEFORE WE SCRAP HER.
THEY DON'T LAST MUCH LONGER THAN THAT.
URK.. MMMGH!
GRAAAAH!!
FSHH
しゅー
TWITCH
ぶる
TWITCH
ぶる
FSHH
ふしゅー
TWITCH
ぶる
TWITCH
ぶる
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE

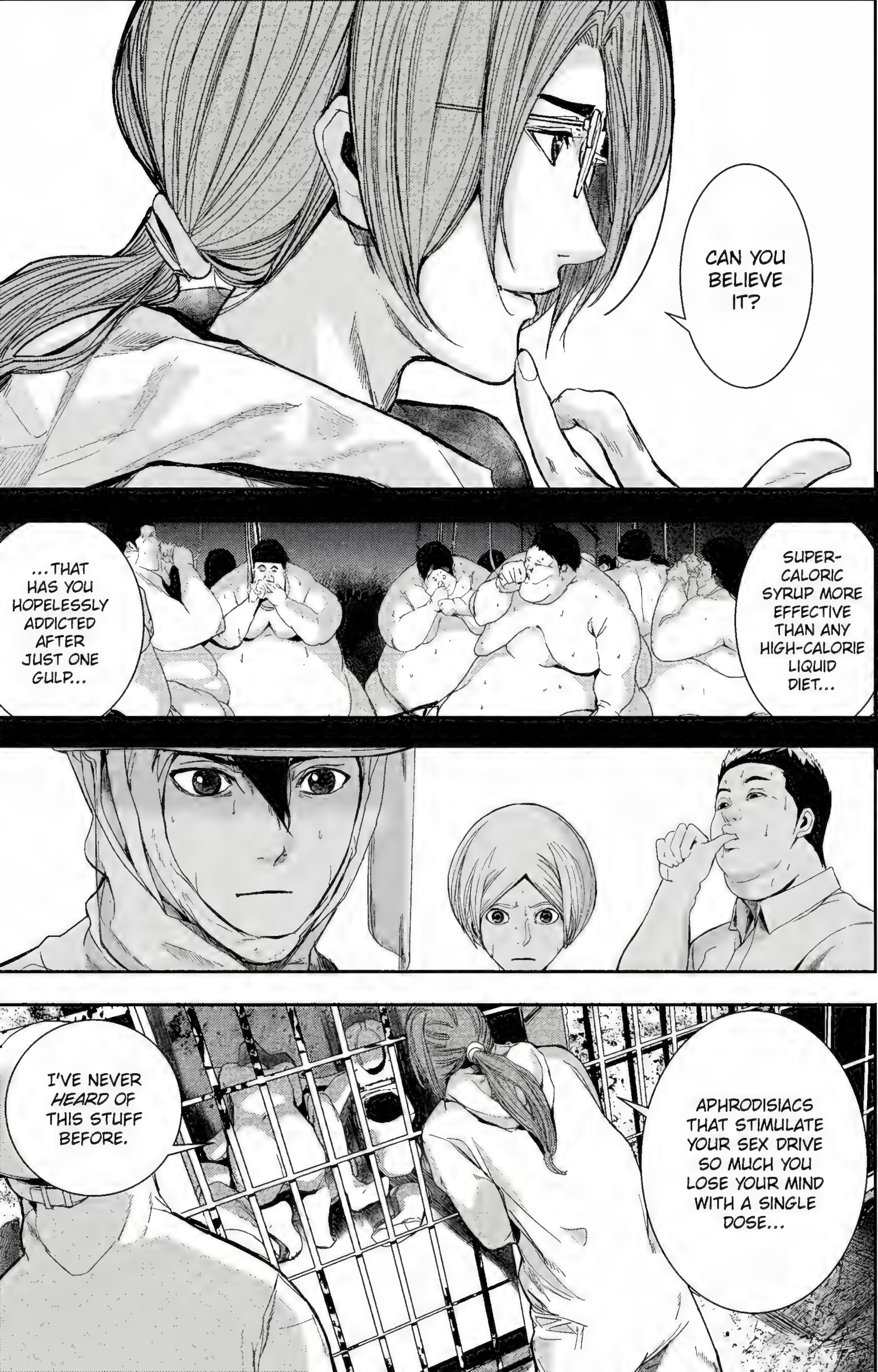

WHAT'S GOING ON THERE?
OH, THAT? WE PUMP THE BREEDERS FULL OF A SPECIAL STIMULANT.
A STIMULANT?
IT'S A HELL OF A THING.
ONE SHOT, AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING BUT SEX TILL YOU DROP DEAD.
YOU'LL BE BLACK, BLUE AND RED, BUT YOU'LL NEVER STOP HUMPING. IT'S PATHETIC.
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
AAAH...
THERE ARE DRUGS THAT *DO* THAT?
PANT
PANT
PANT
YOU'RE LOOKING AT 'EM.

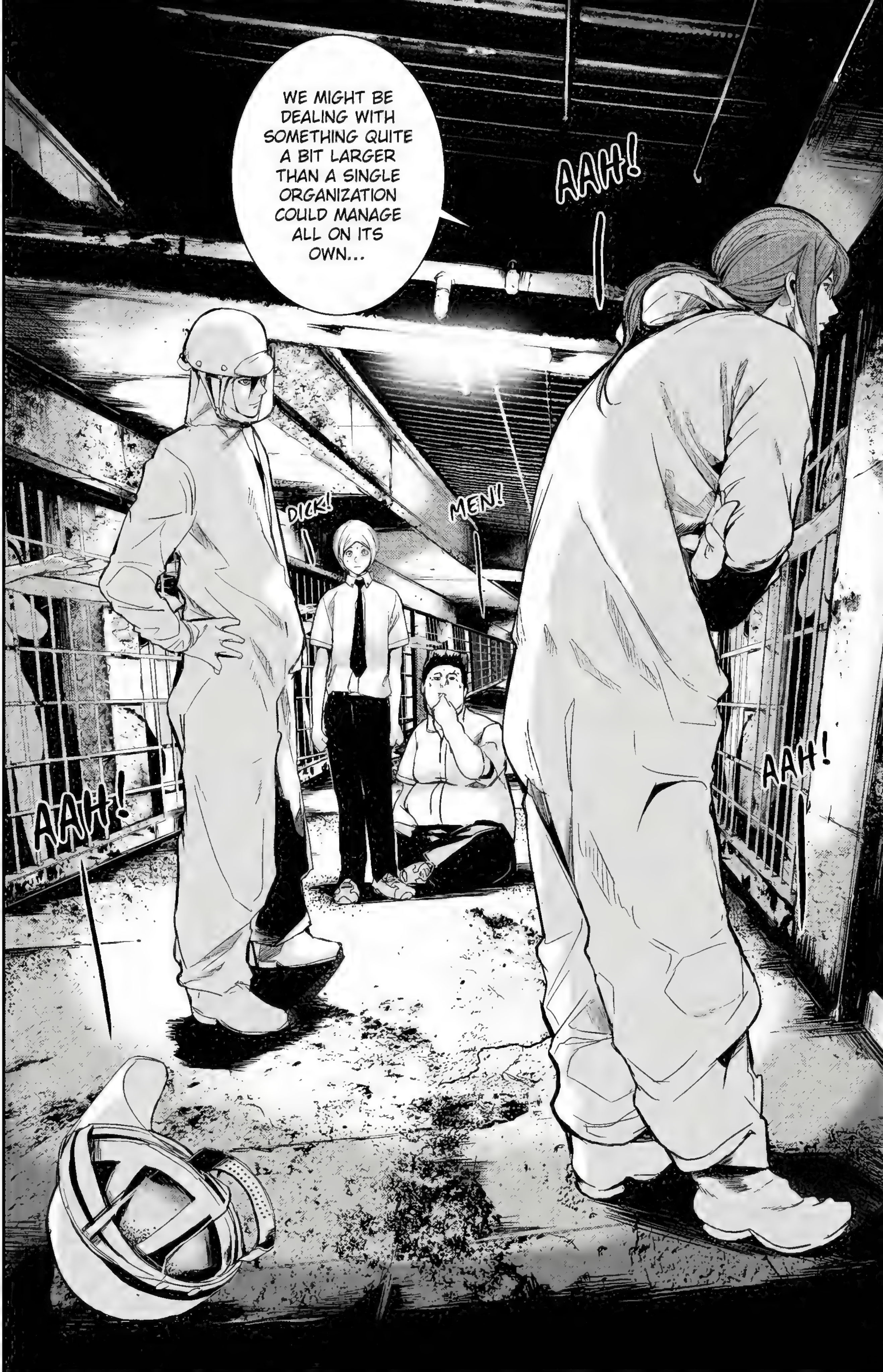

THMP
THMP
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THEY MAKE ALL KINDS OF CRAZY DRUGS.
THAT'S WHY NO ONE DARES STAND UP TO THEM.
THMP
THMP
...THEY?
...RIGHT...
UHH, OF COURSE...
WHO THE HELL ARE THEY, HUH?!
AND WHERE ARE WE, ANYWAY?!
YANK
YOU SON OF A-
?!
SHUT THE FUCK UP, KID!!
WHAP
OKAY, EVERYBODY, CALM DOWN...
PAT

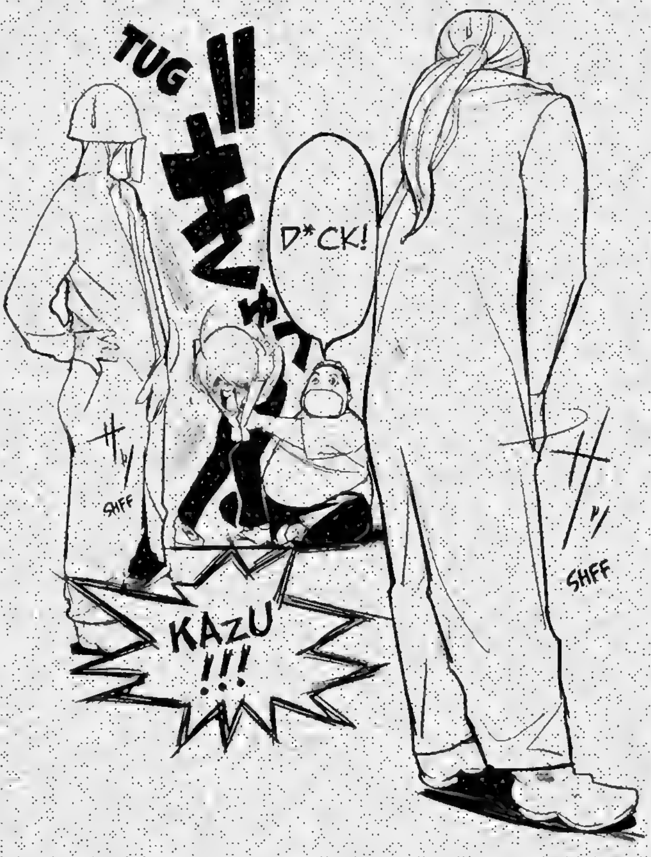

THERE'S NO SENSE IN ASKING *HIM* ANYTHING.
HE'S JUST A GRUNT, AFTER ALL.
PSHHT
WHA...
HOLD STILL, NOW! YOU DON'T WANT A TORN VEIN, DO YOU?
YOU...
YOU CAN'T JUST STICK ME WITH THAT-
UUGH ...
OKAY, ENOUGH. OVER HERE.
YANK
YOU, TOO. STAND UP.
FWAP


YOU TWO GET ALONG, NOW!
FWOOSH
BANG
CLANK
RATTLE
RATTLE
UUGH...
OWW...! WHAT THE FUCK!
WHERE DID *THAT* COME FROM ...?
...HUH?

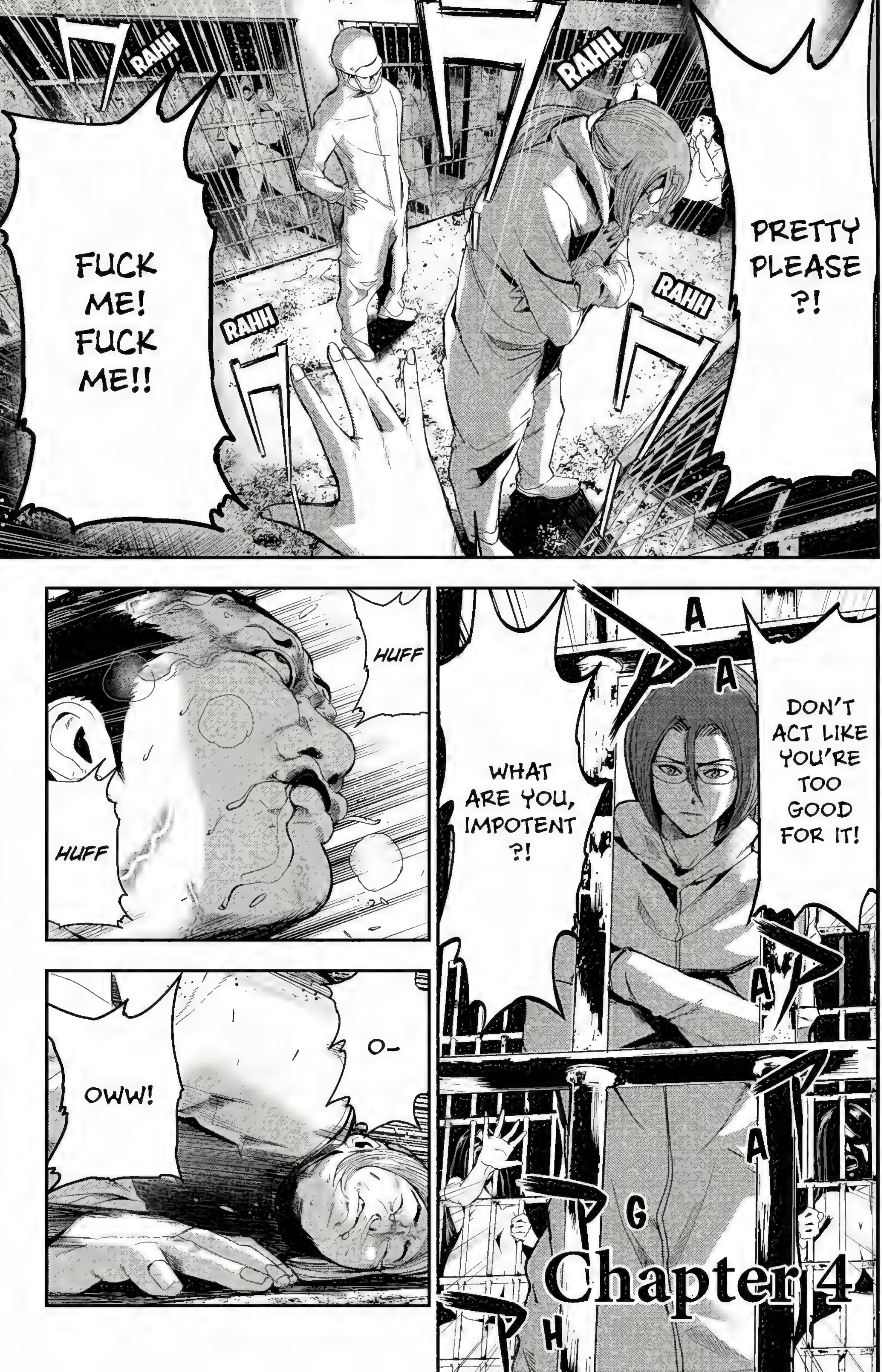

PANT
PANT
WH... WHAT'S GOING ON, KONDO-SAN?
HUFF
HUFF
CUT... CUT IT OUT, YOU OLD PERVERT!!
WOW!
SURE WORKS FAST, DOESN'T IT?
IT HURTS! MY ASS... IT HURTS! AAAGH!!


CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?
SUPER-CALORIC SYRUP MORE EFFECTIVE THAN ANY HIGH-CALORIE LIQUID DIET...
...THAT HAS YOU HOPELESSLY ADDICTED AFTER JUST ONE GULP...
APHRODISIACS THAT STIMULATE YOUR SEX DRIVE SO MUCH YOU LOSE YOUR MIND WITH A SINGLE DOSE...
I'VE NEVER *HEARD* OF THIS STUFF BEFORE.

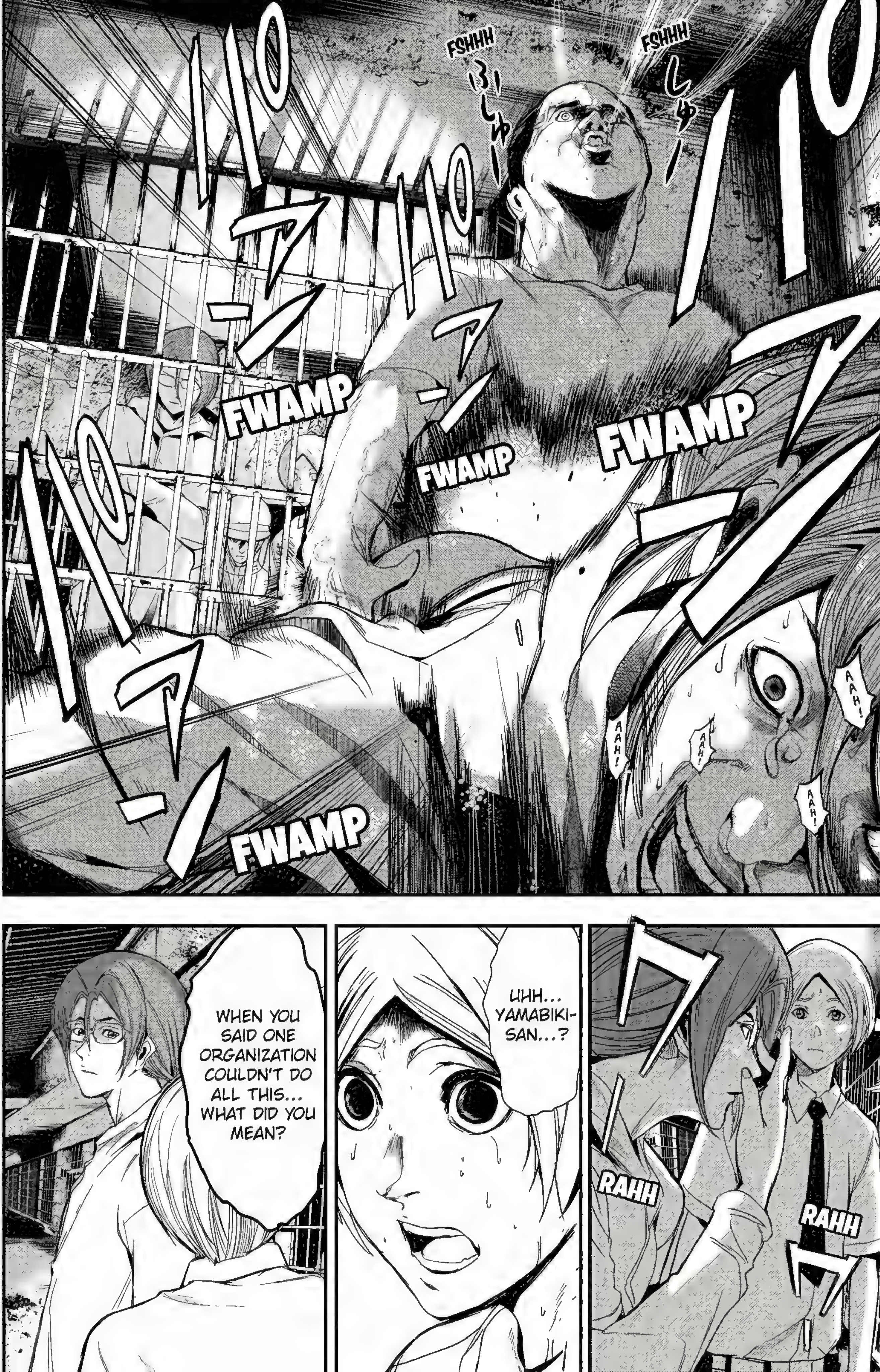

WE MIGHT BE DEALING WITH SOMETHING QUITE A BIT LARGER THAN A SINGLE ORGANIZATION COULD MANAGE ALL ON ITS OWN...
AAH!
MEN!
DICK!
AAH!
AAH!

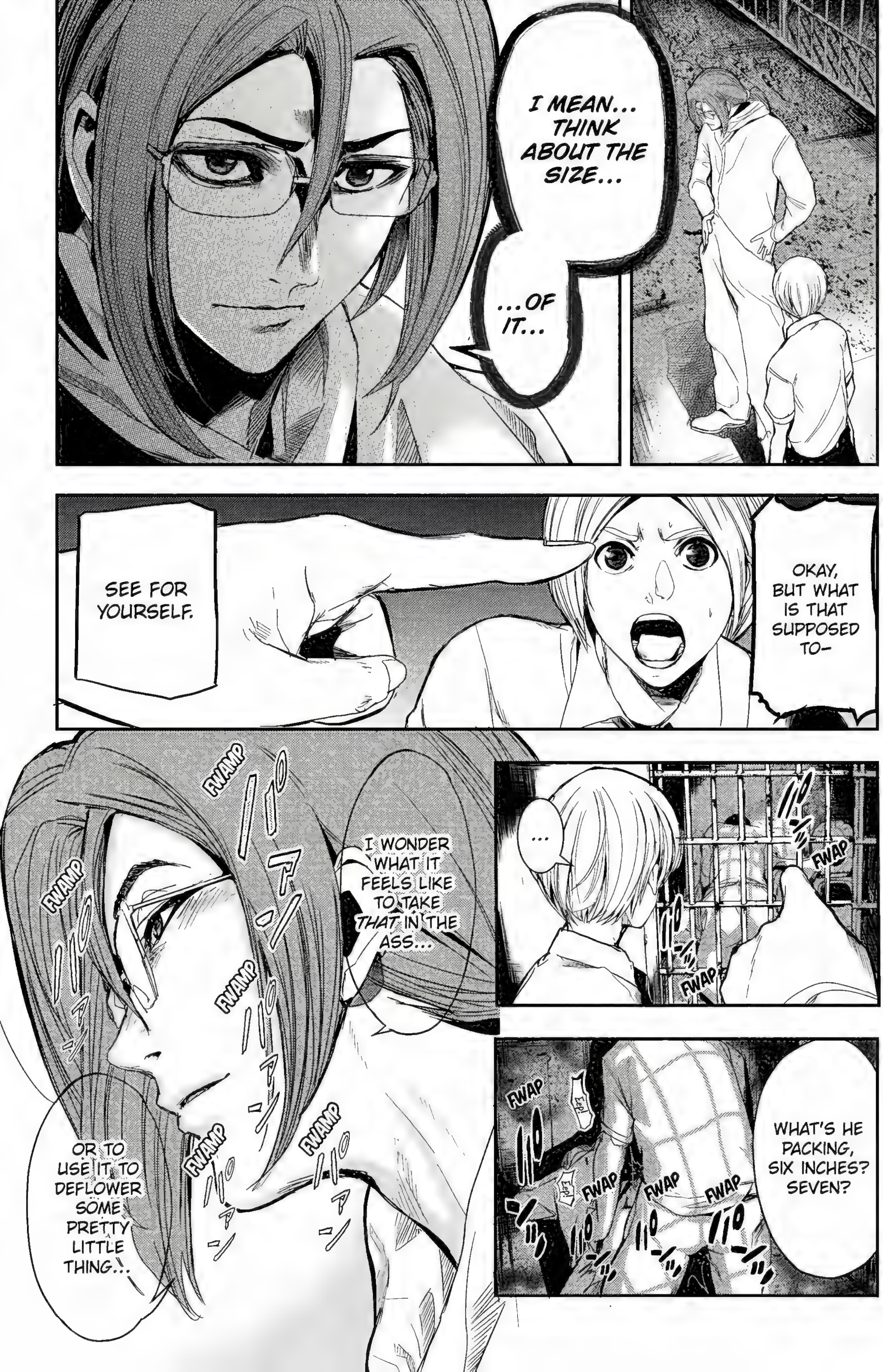

D*CK!
TUG
SHFF
SHFF
KAZU!!!

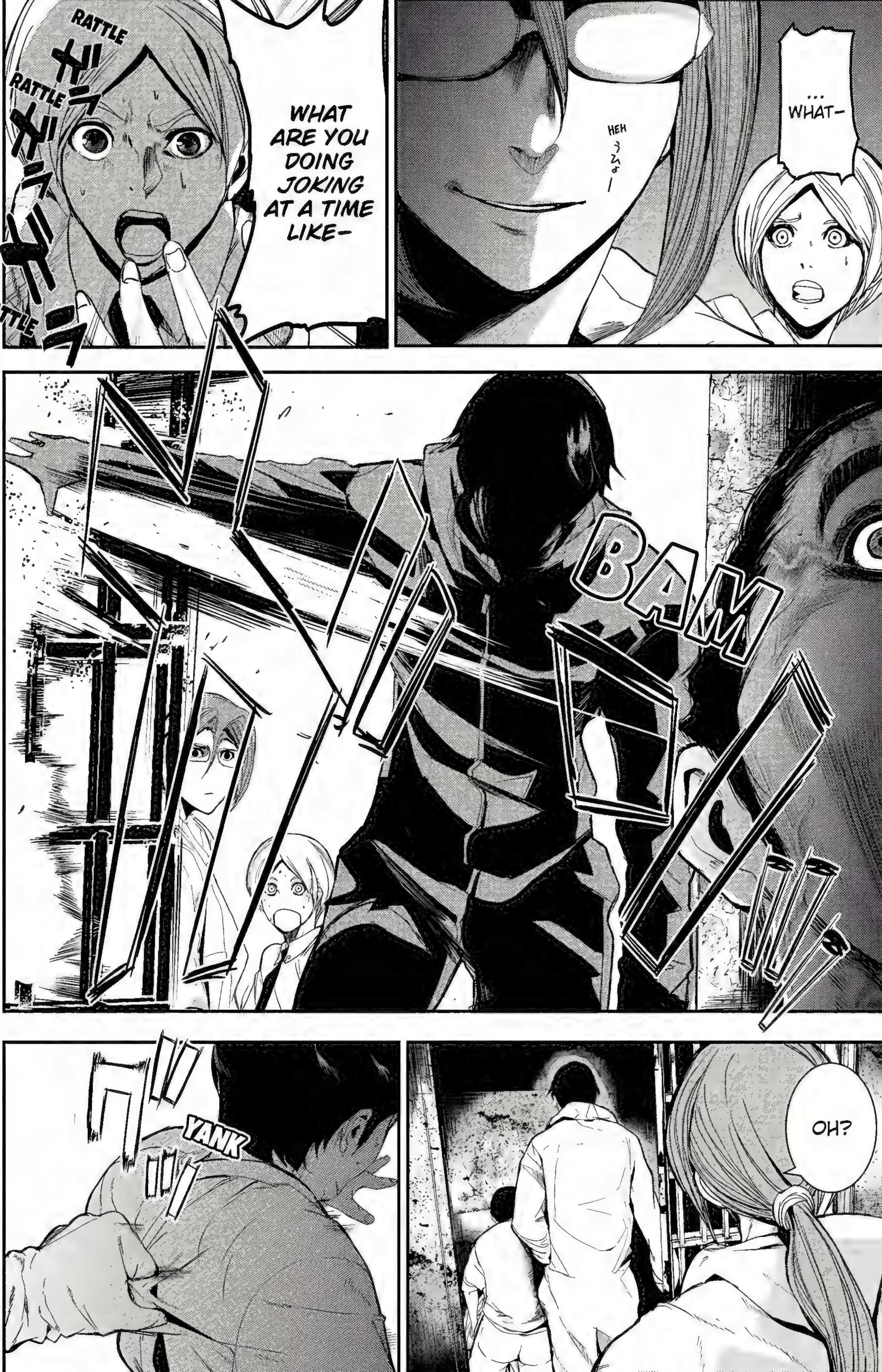
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

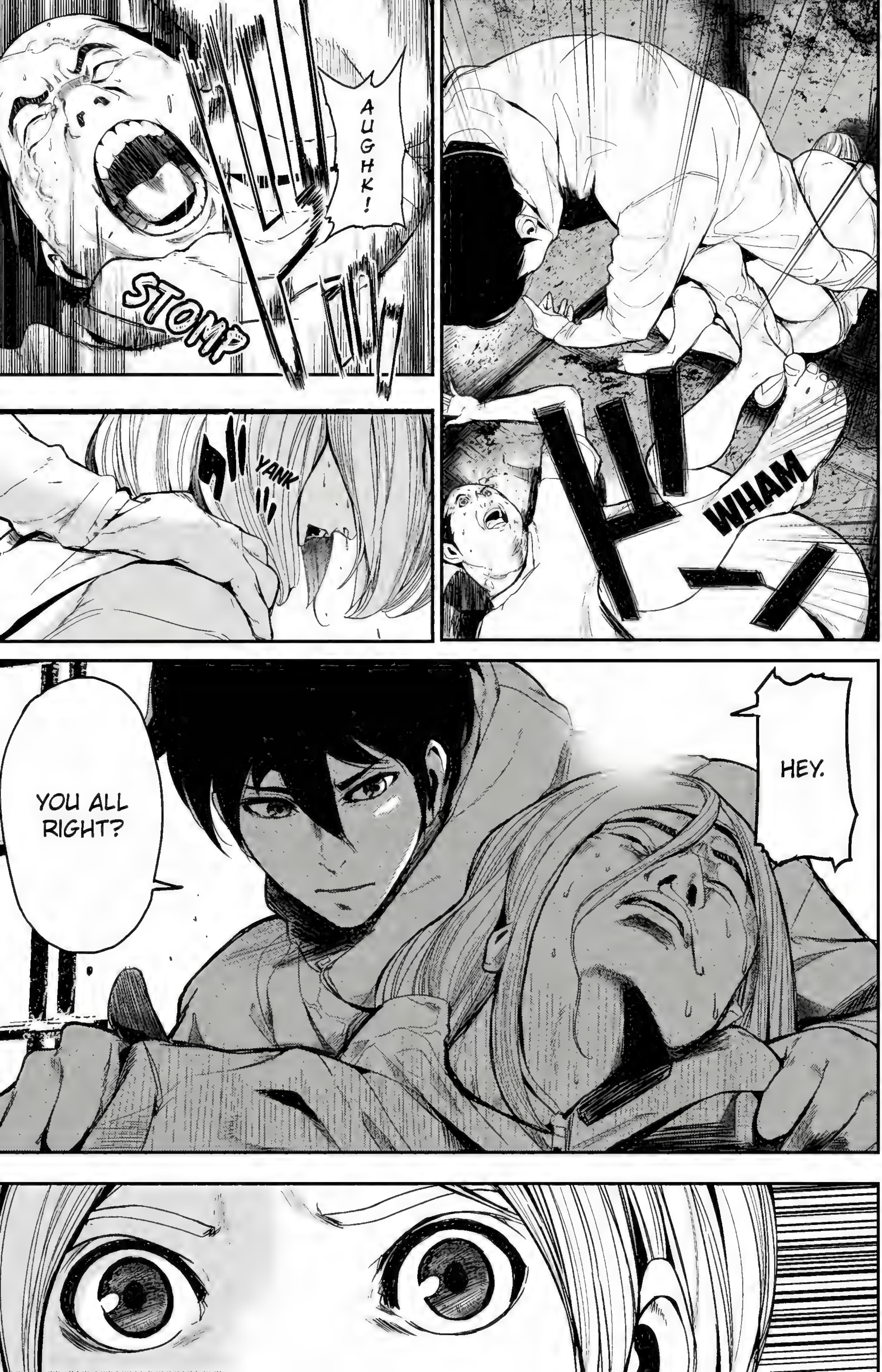

RAHH
RAHH
PRETTY PLEASE ?!
RAHH
FUCK ME! FUCK ME!!
RAHH
A A
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE TOO GOOD FOR IT!
WHAT ARE YOU, IMPOTENT ?!
A
A
G
H
HUFF
HUFF
O-
OWW!

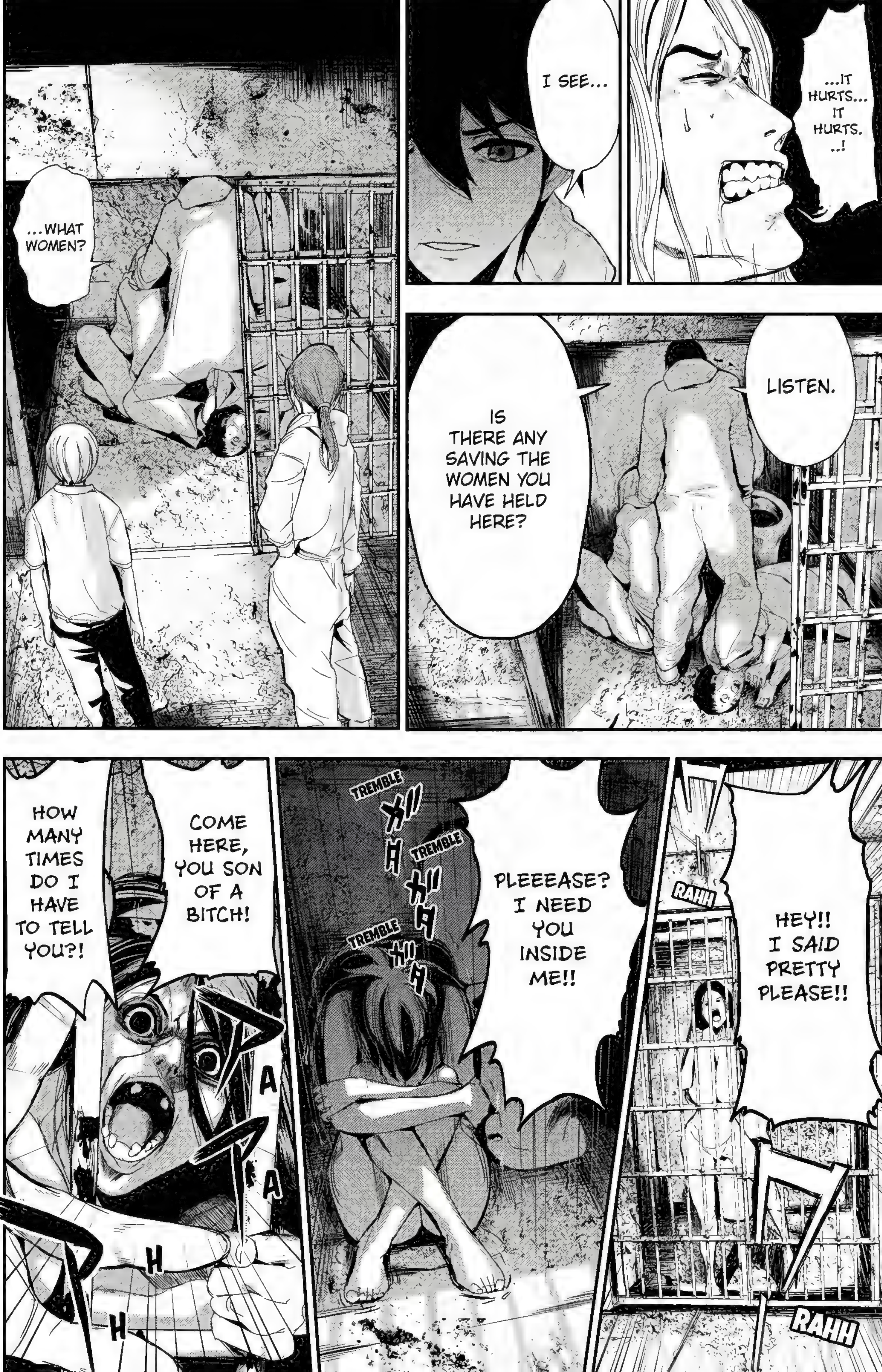
Chapter 4

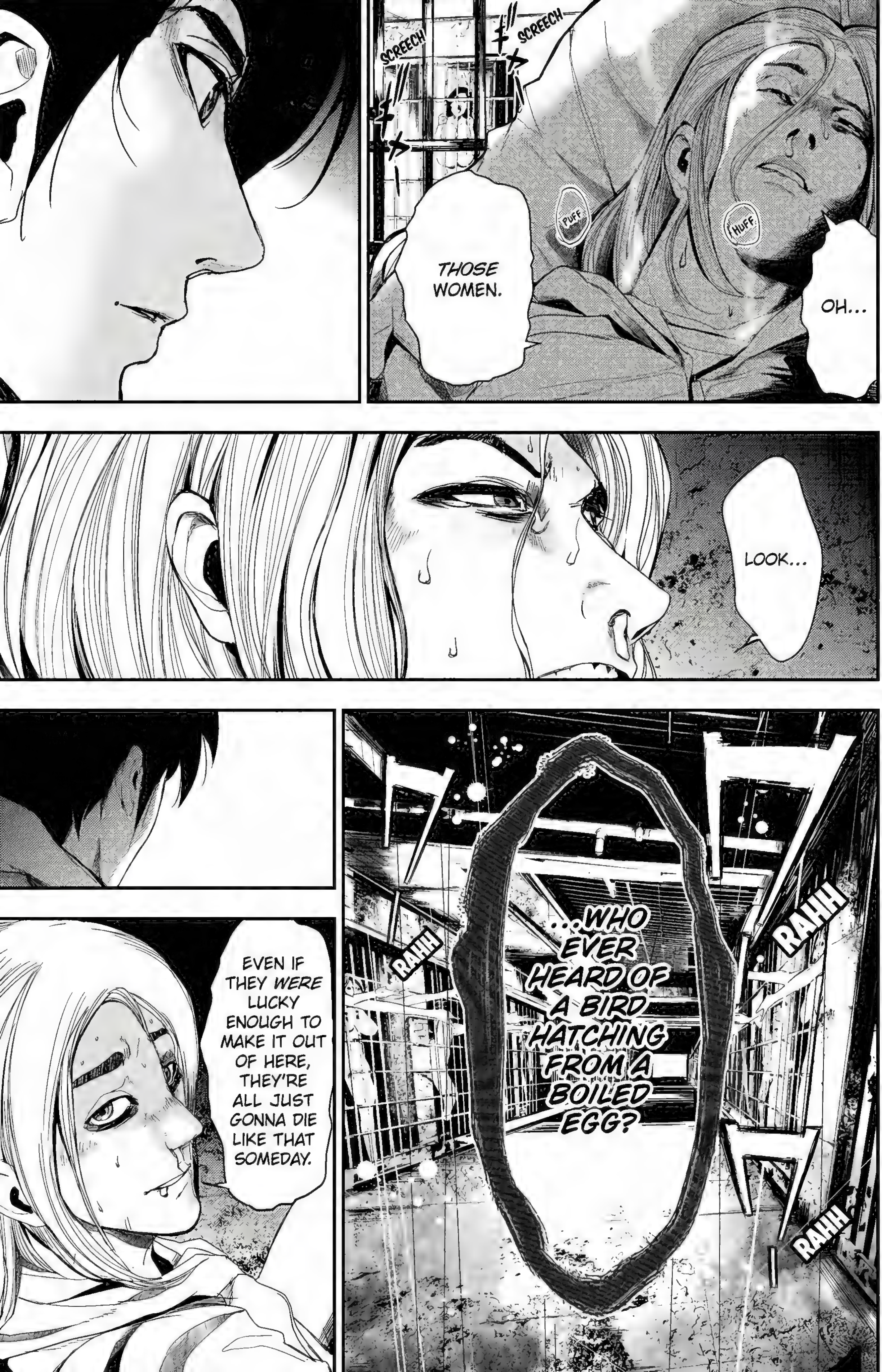

FSHHH しゅー
FSHHH ふしゅー
FWAMP
FWAMP
FWAMP
FWAMP
AAH!
AAH!
AAH!
AAH!
RAHH
RAHH
UHH... YAMABIKI-SAN...?
WHEN YOU SAID ONE ORGANIZATION COULDN'T DO ALL THIS... WHAT DID YOU MEAN?

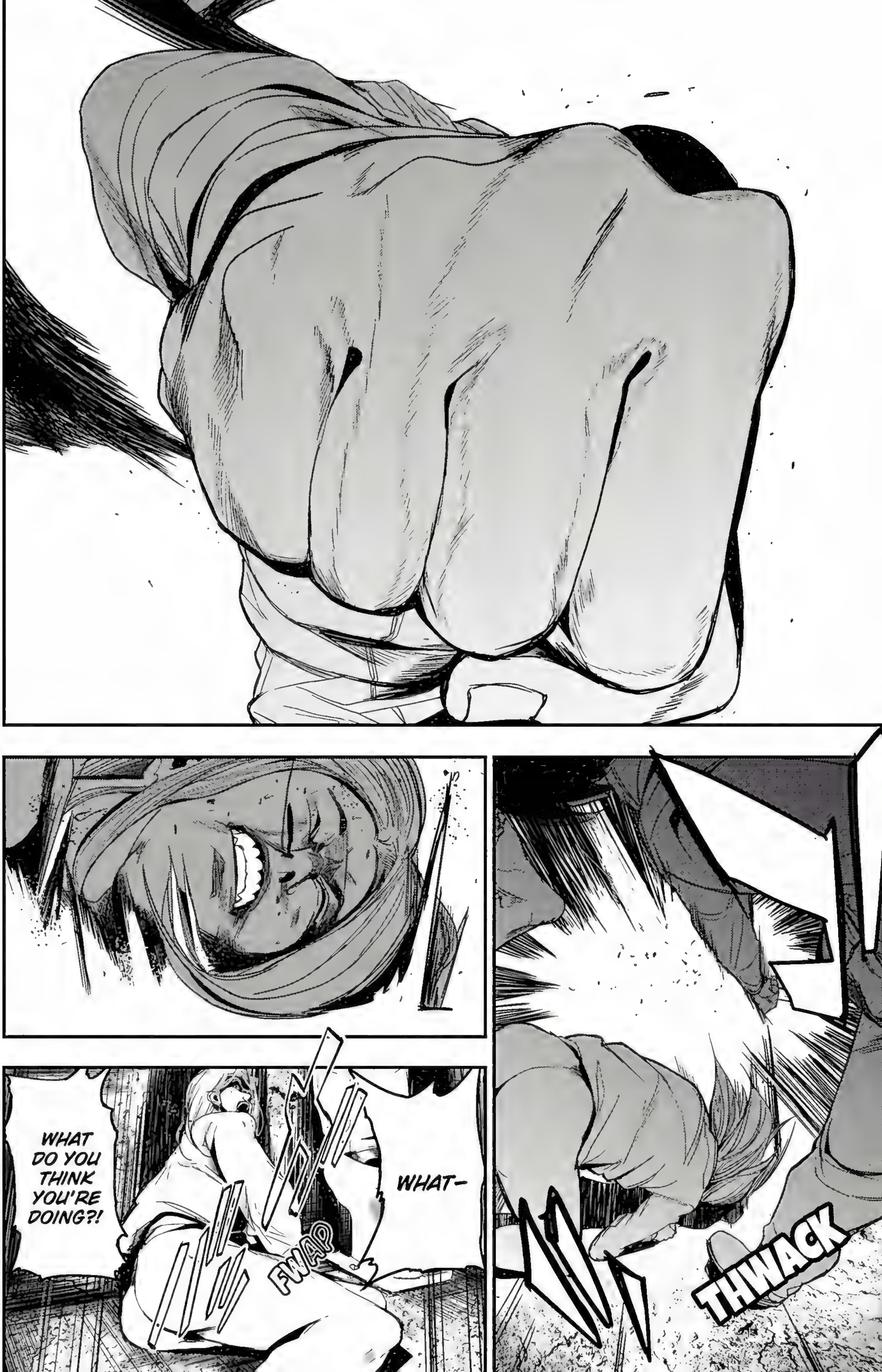

I MEAN... THINK ABOUT THE SIZE...
...OF IT...
OKAY, BUT WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO–
SEE FOR YOURSELF.
...
FWAP
FWAP
WHAT'S HE PACKING, SIX INCHES? SEVEN?
Eep!
Eep!
FWAP
FWAP
FWAP
FWAP
I WONDER WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO TAKE *THAT* IN THE ASS...
FWAMP
FWAMP
FWAMP
FWAMP
FWAMP
OR TO USE IT TO DEFLOWER SOME PRETTY LITTLE THING...

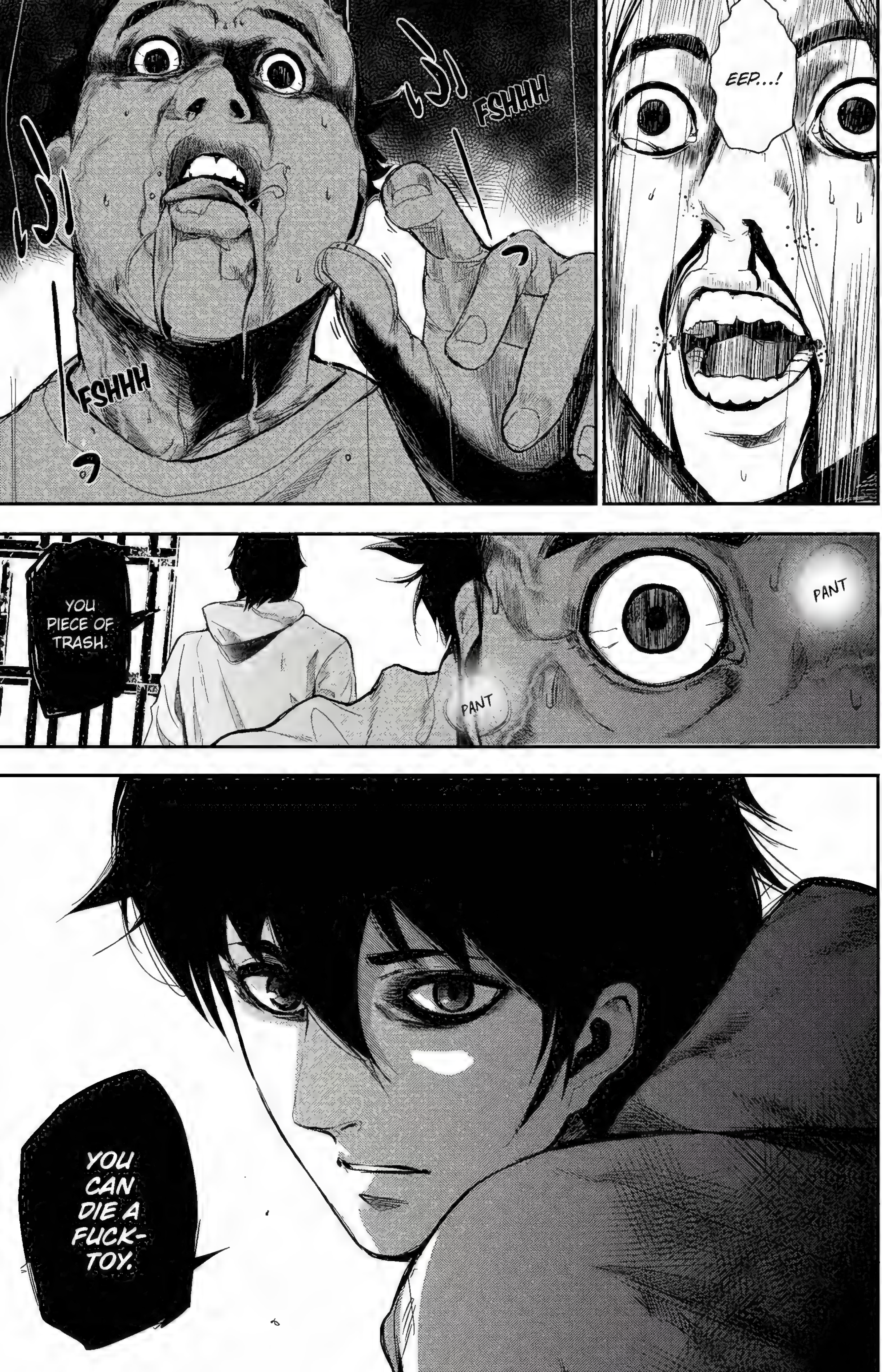

... WHAT-
HEH
うひょー
WHAT ARE YOU DOING JOKING AT A TIME LIKE-
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
BAM
OH?
YANK

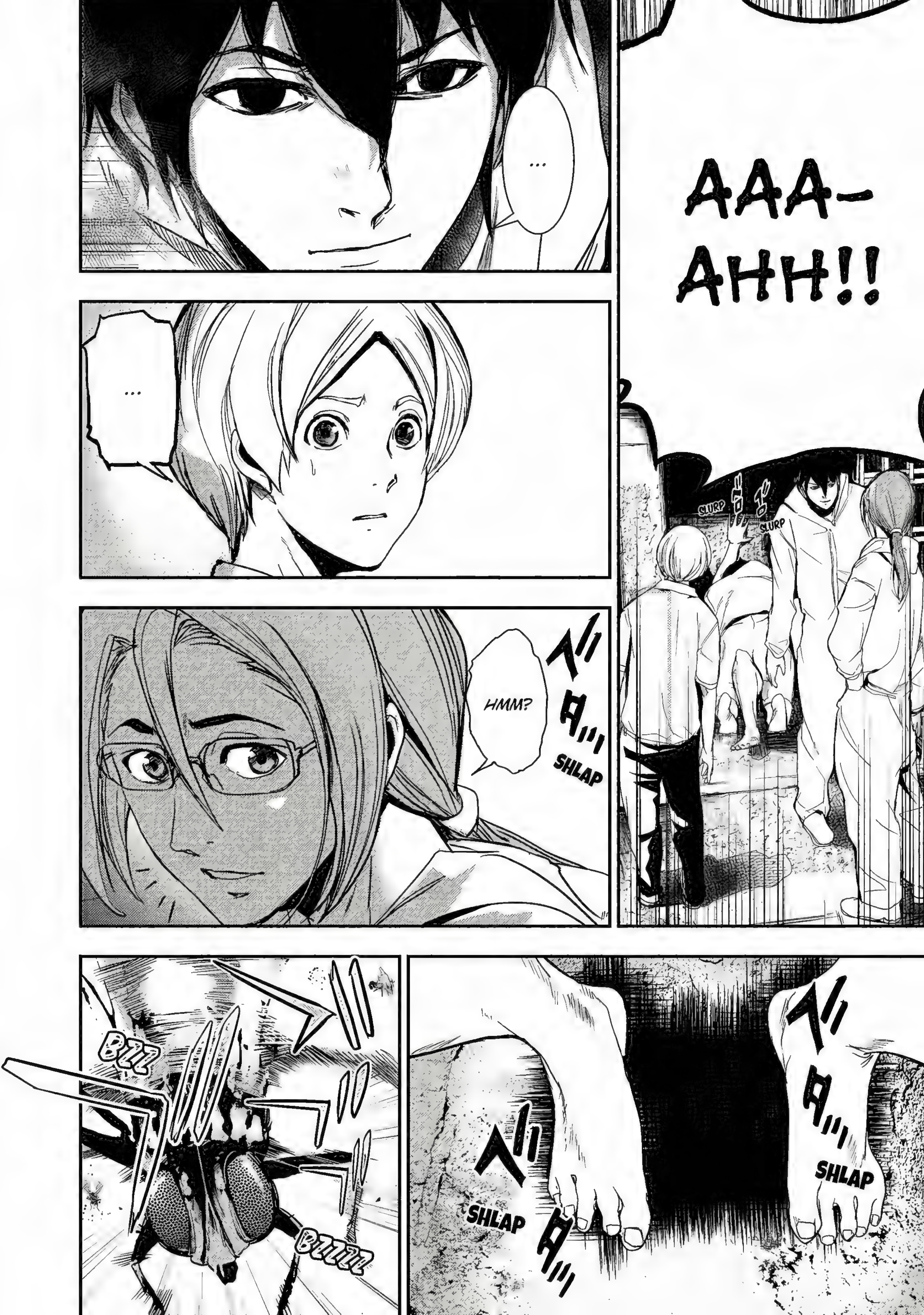

WHAM
AUGHK!
STOMP
YANK
HEY.
YOU ALL RIGHT?

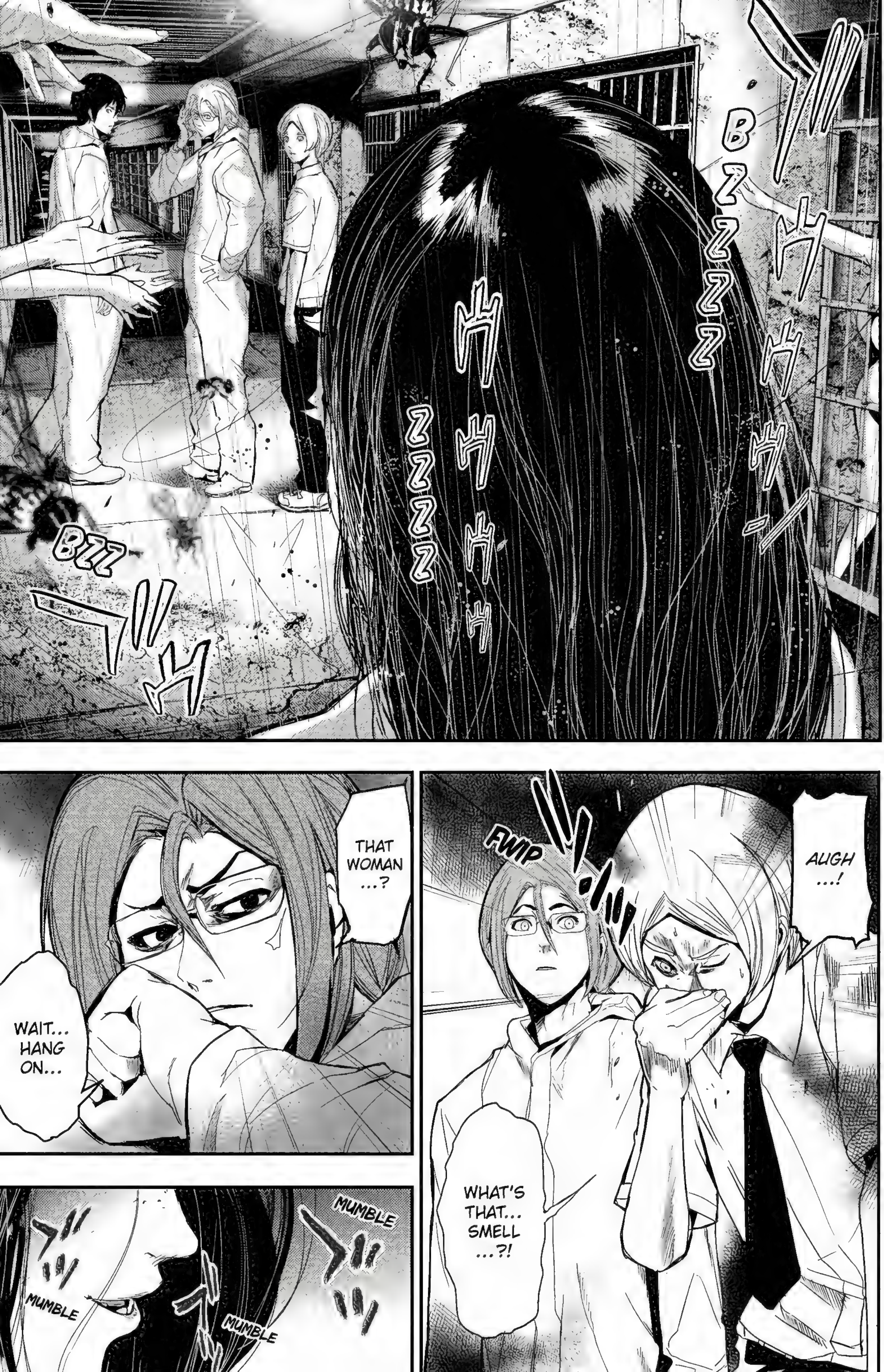

...IT HURTS... IT HURTS. ..!
I SEE...
LISTEN.
IS THERE ANY SAVING THE WOMEN YOU HAVE HELD HERE?
...WHAT WOMEN?
RAHH
HEY!! I SAID PRETTY PLEASE!!
RAHH
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
PLEEEASE? I NEED YOU INSIDE ME!!
COME HERE, YOU SON OF A BITCH!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?!
AAHH

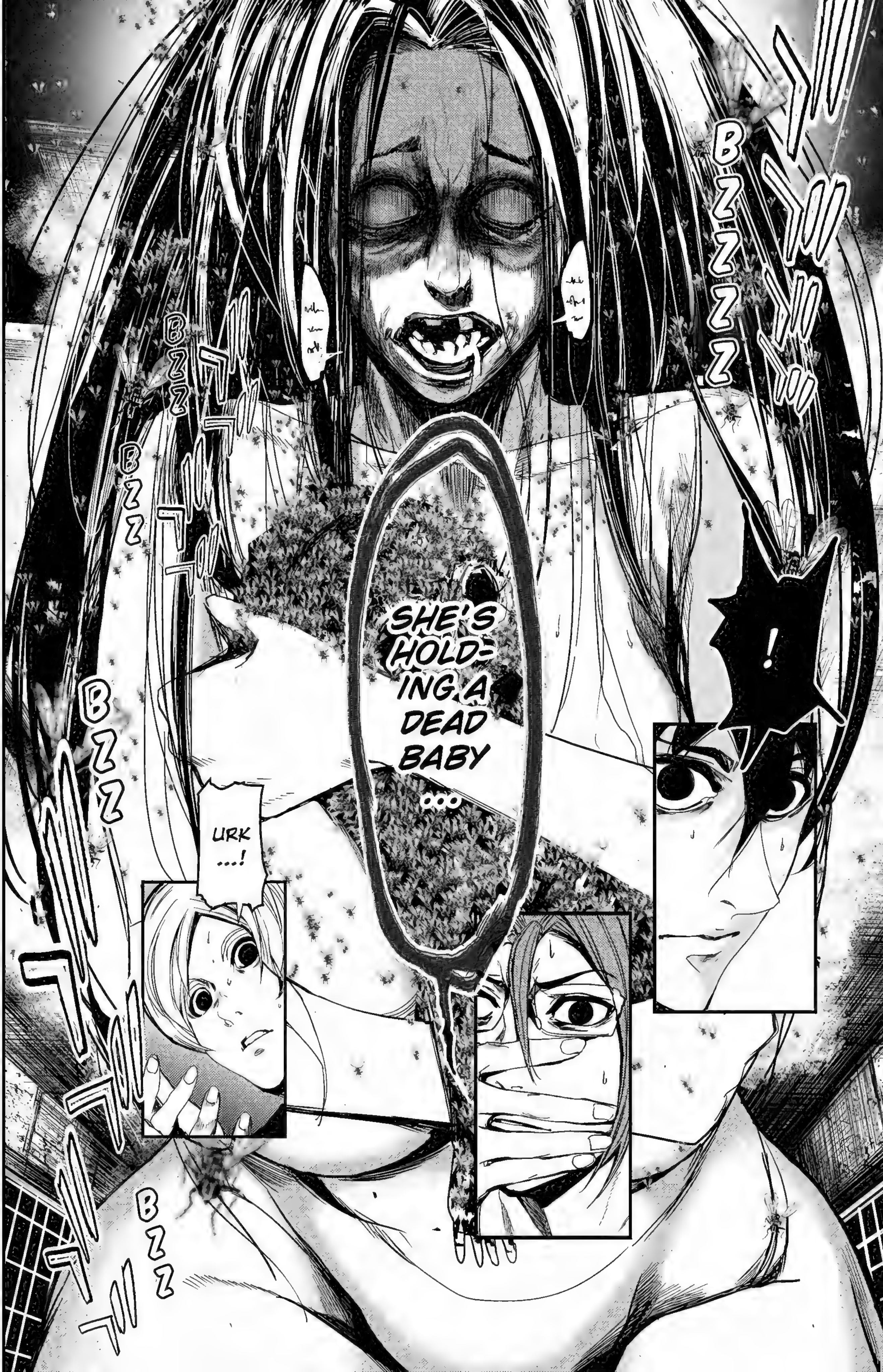

SCREECH
SCREECH
PUFF
HUFF
OH...
THOSE WOMEN.
LOOK...
EVEN IF THEY *WERE* LUCKY ENOUGH TO MAKE IT OUT OF HERE, THEY'RE ALL JUST GONNA DIE LIKE THAT SOMEDAY.
RAHH
RAHH
RAHH
...WHO EVER HEARD OF A BIRD HATCHING FROM A BOILED EGG?

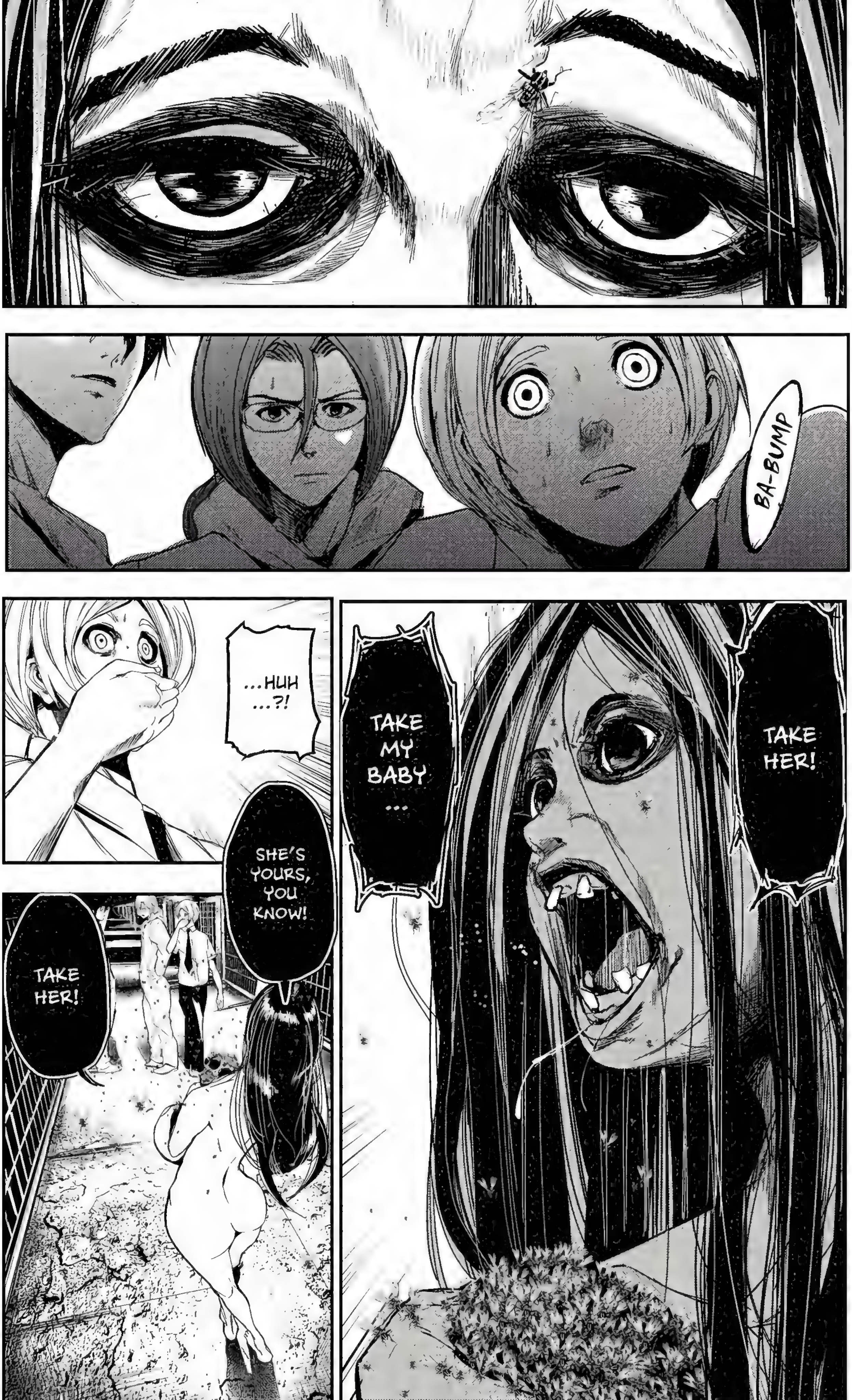

THWACK
WHAT-
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
FWAP

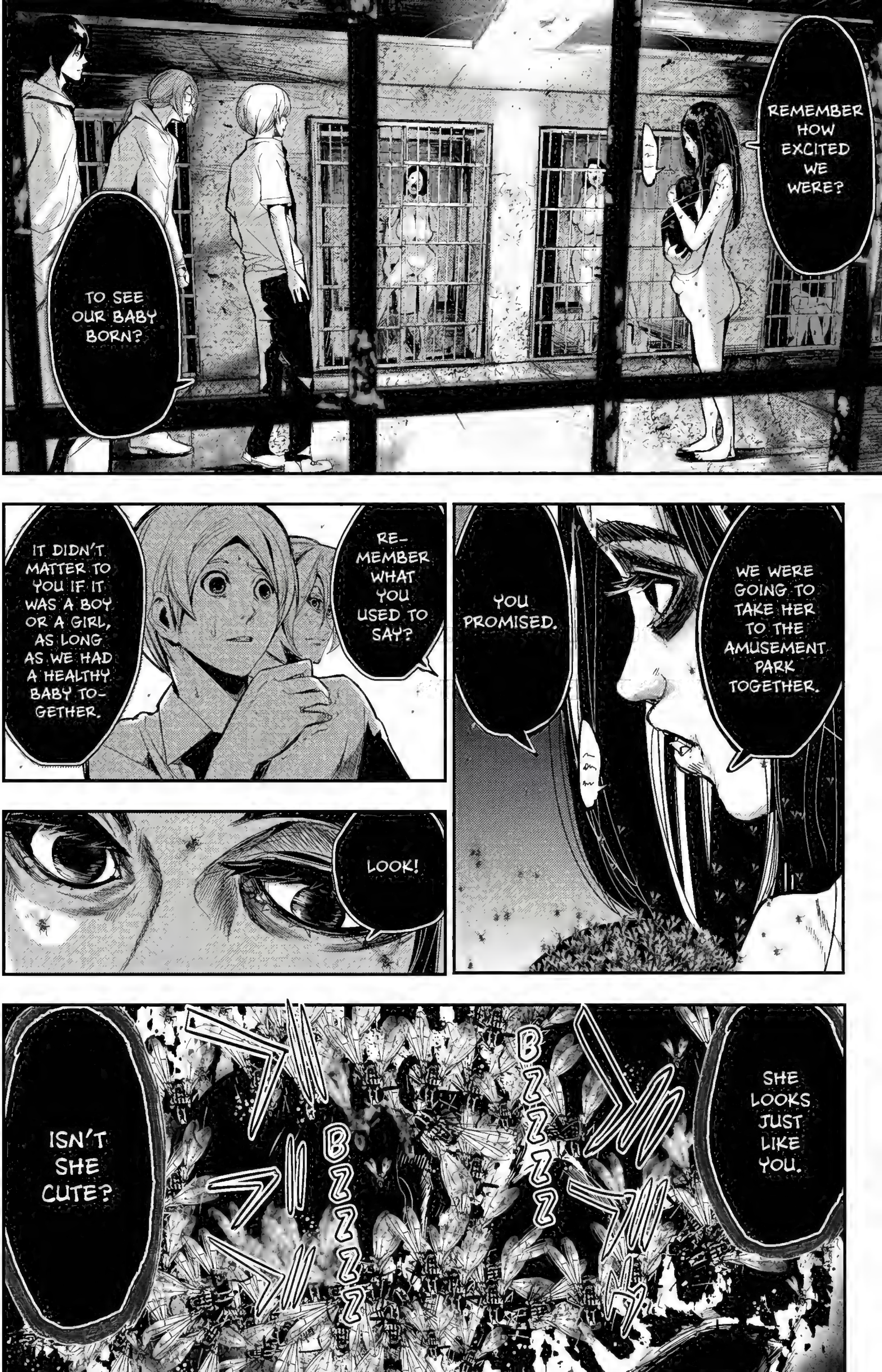

EEP...!
FSHHH
FSHHH
PANT
PANT
YOU PIECE OF TRASH.
YOU CAN DIE A FUCK-TOY.

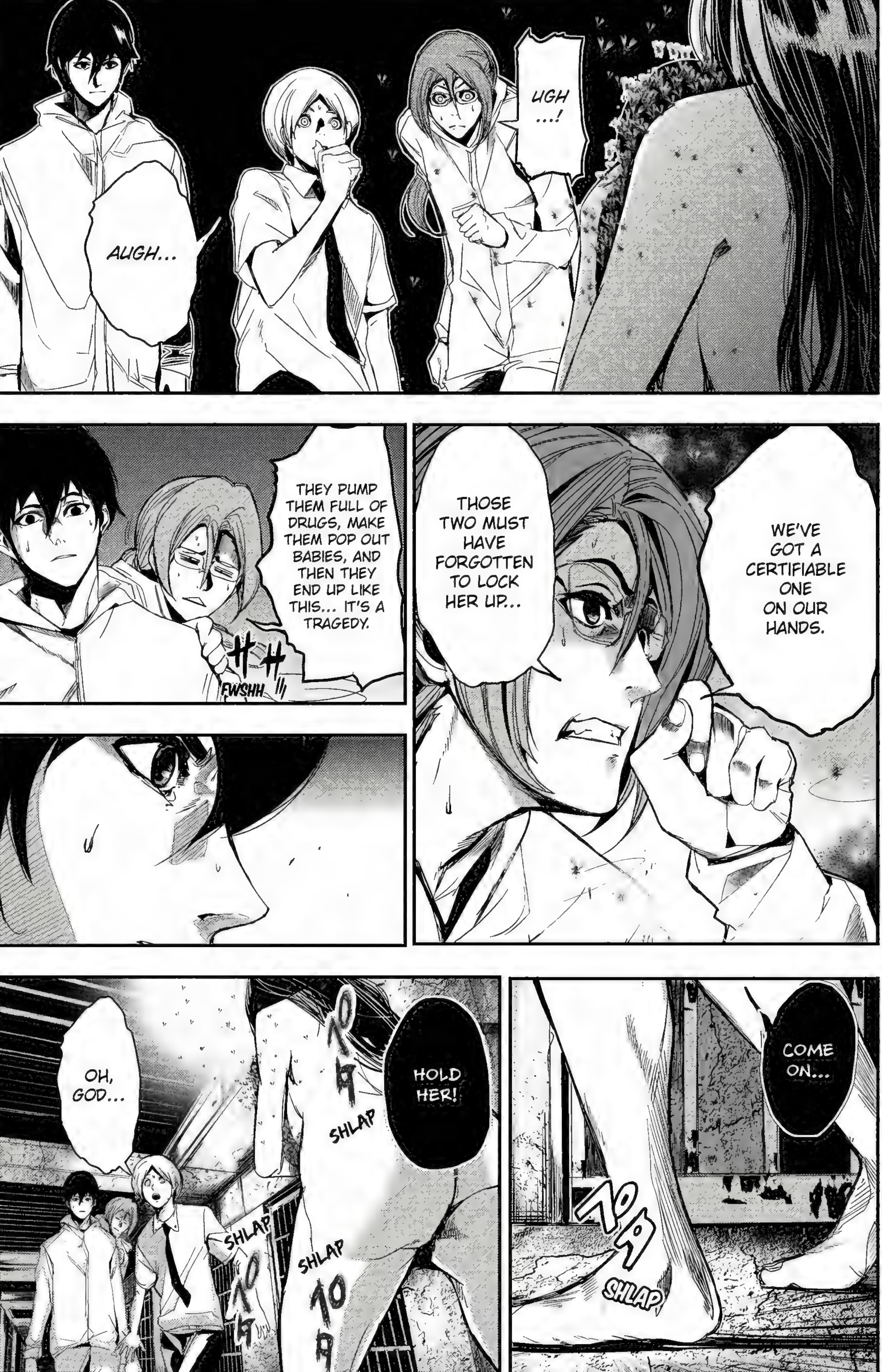

AAA-AHH!!
SLURP
SLURP
...
...
HMM?
ベタ
SHLAP
ベタ
SHLAP
ベタ
SHLAP
BZZ
BZZZZZ

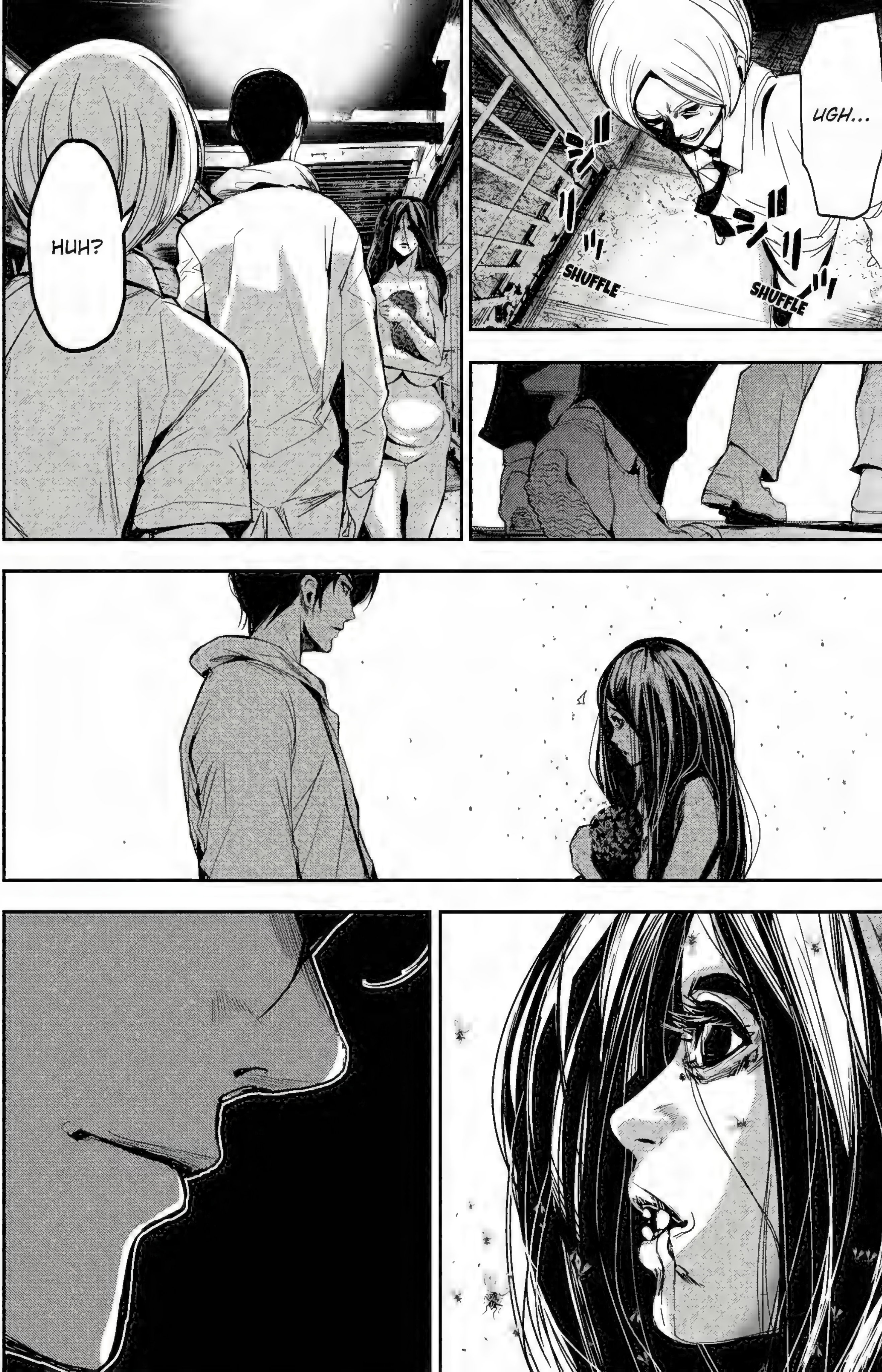

BZZZZZ
ZZZZZ
BZZ
FWIP
AUGH ...!
WHAT'S THAT... SMELL ...?!
THAT WOMAN ...?
WAIT... HANG ON...
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
MUMBLE

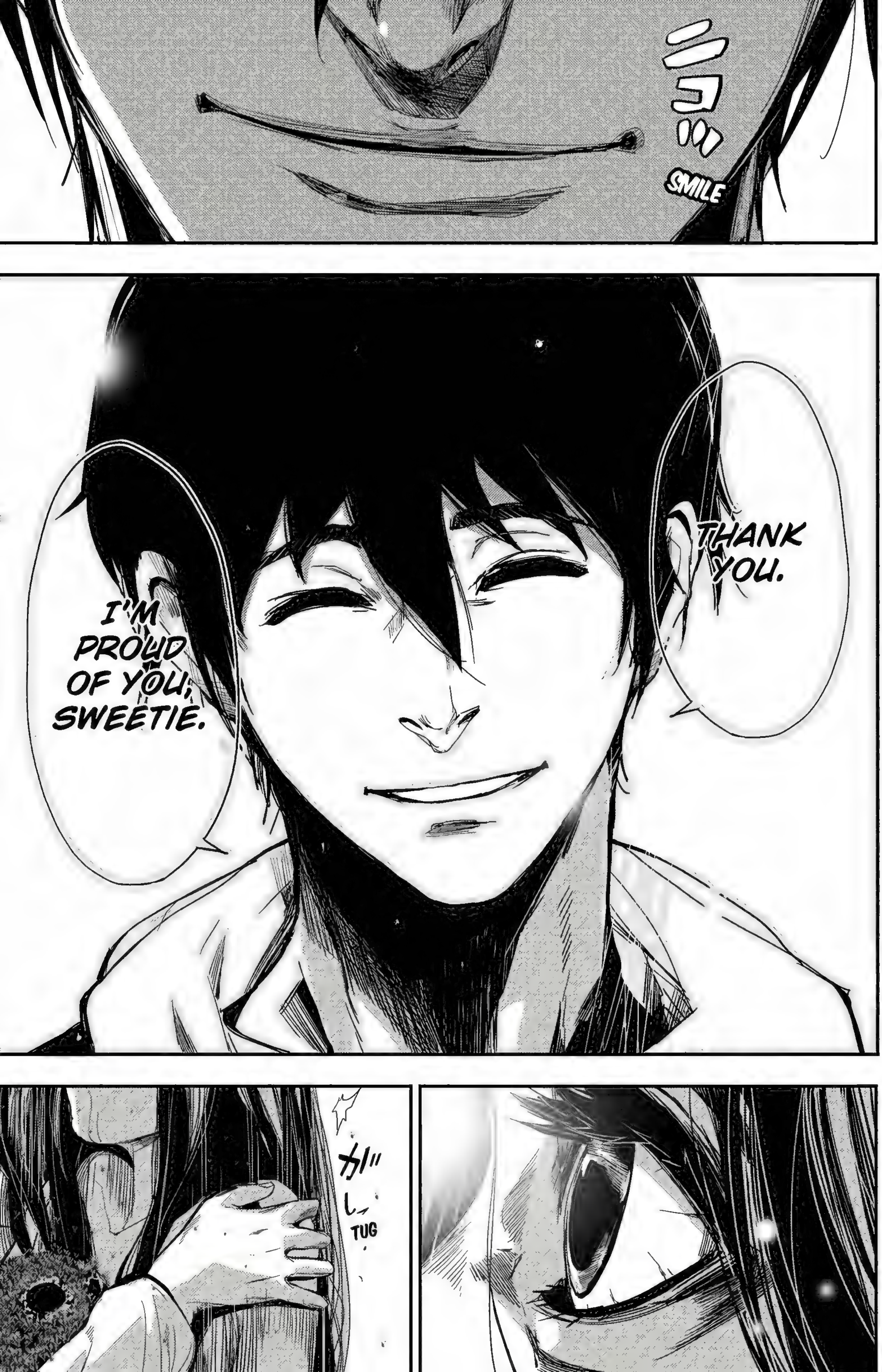

BZZZZZ
BZZZ
BZZZ
!
SHE'S HOLDING A DEAD BABY...
BZZZ
URK ...!
BZZZ

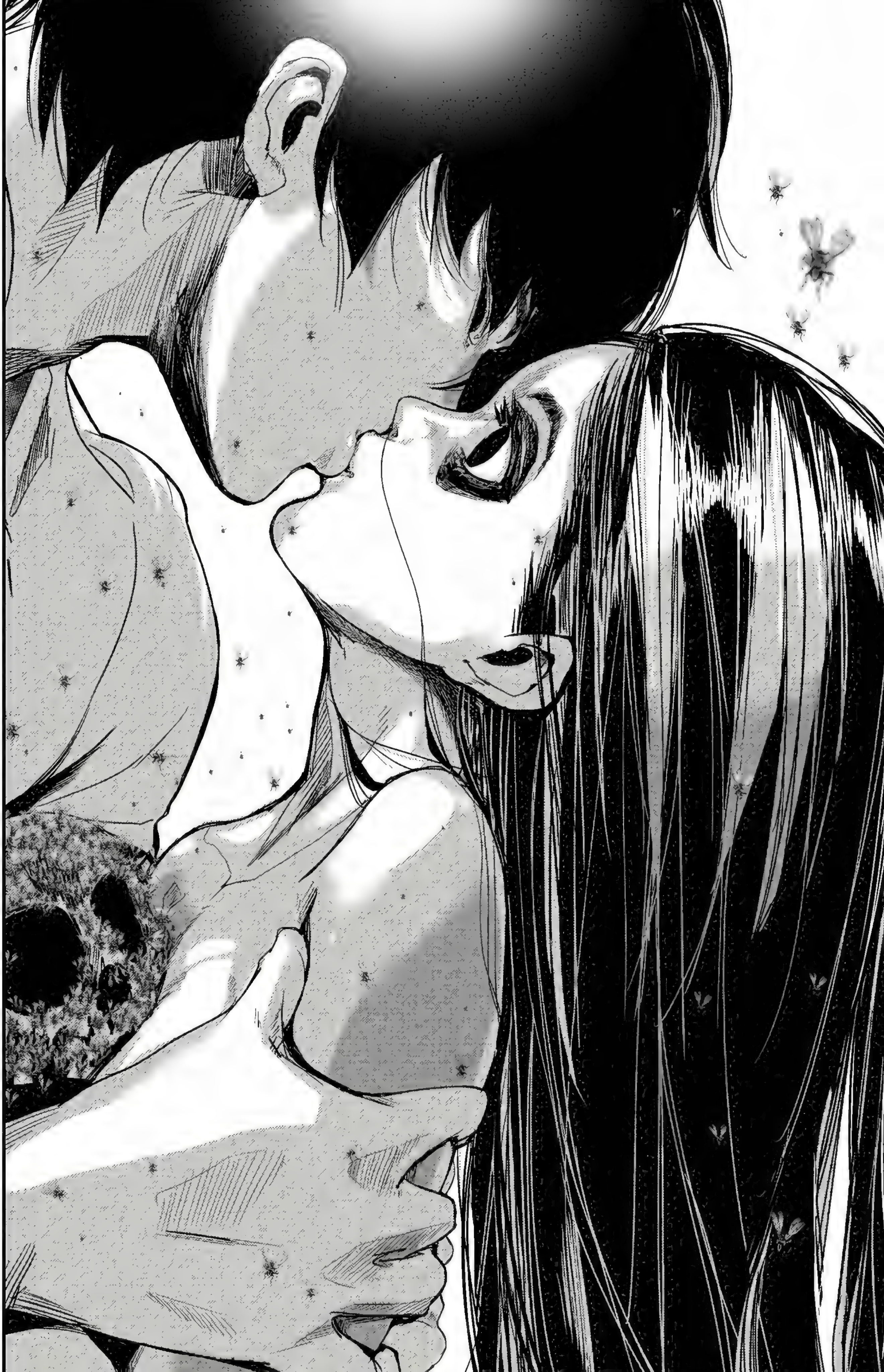

BA-BUMP
TAKE HER!
TAKE MY BABY ...
...HUH ...?!
SHE'S YOURS, YOU KNOW!
TAKE HER!

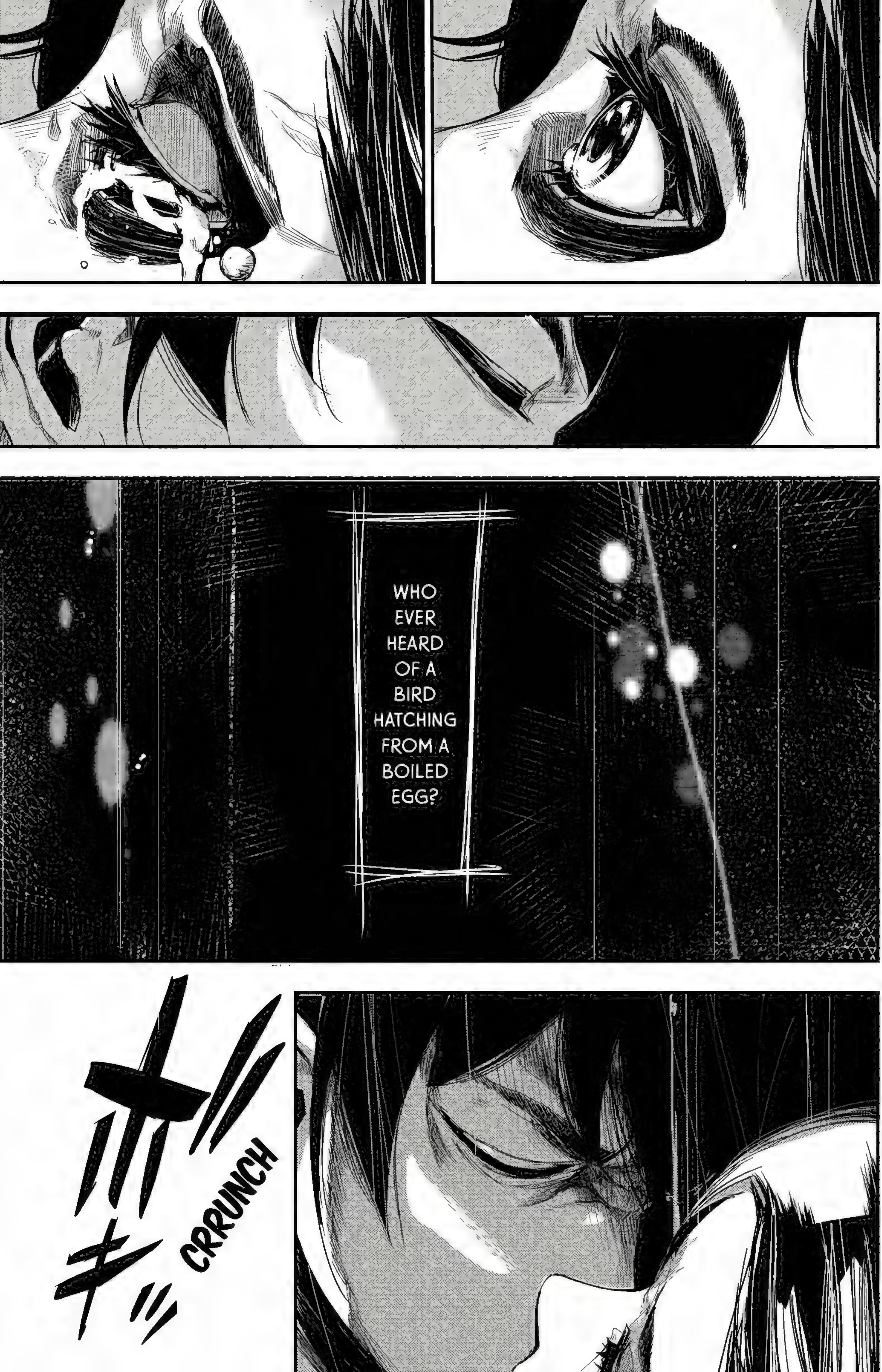

REMEMBER HOW EXCITED WE WERE?
...
TO SEE OUR BABY BORN?
WE WERE GOING TO TAKE HER TO THE AMUSEMENT PARK TOGETHER.
...
YOU PROMISED.
REMEMBER WHAT YOU USED TO SAY?
IT DIDN'T MATTER TO YOU IF IT WAS A BOY OR A GIRL, AS LONG AS WE HAD A HEALTHY BABY TOGETHER.
LOOK!
SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE YOU.
BZZZZ
BZZZZ
ISN'T SHE CUTE?

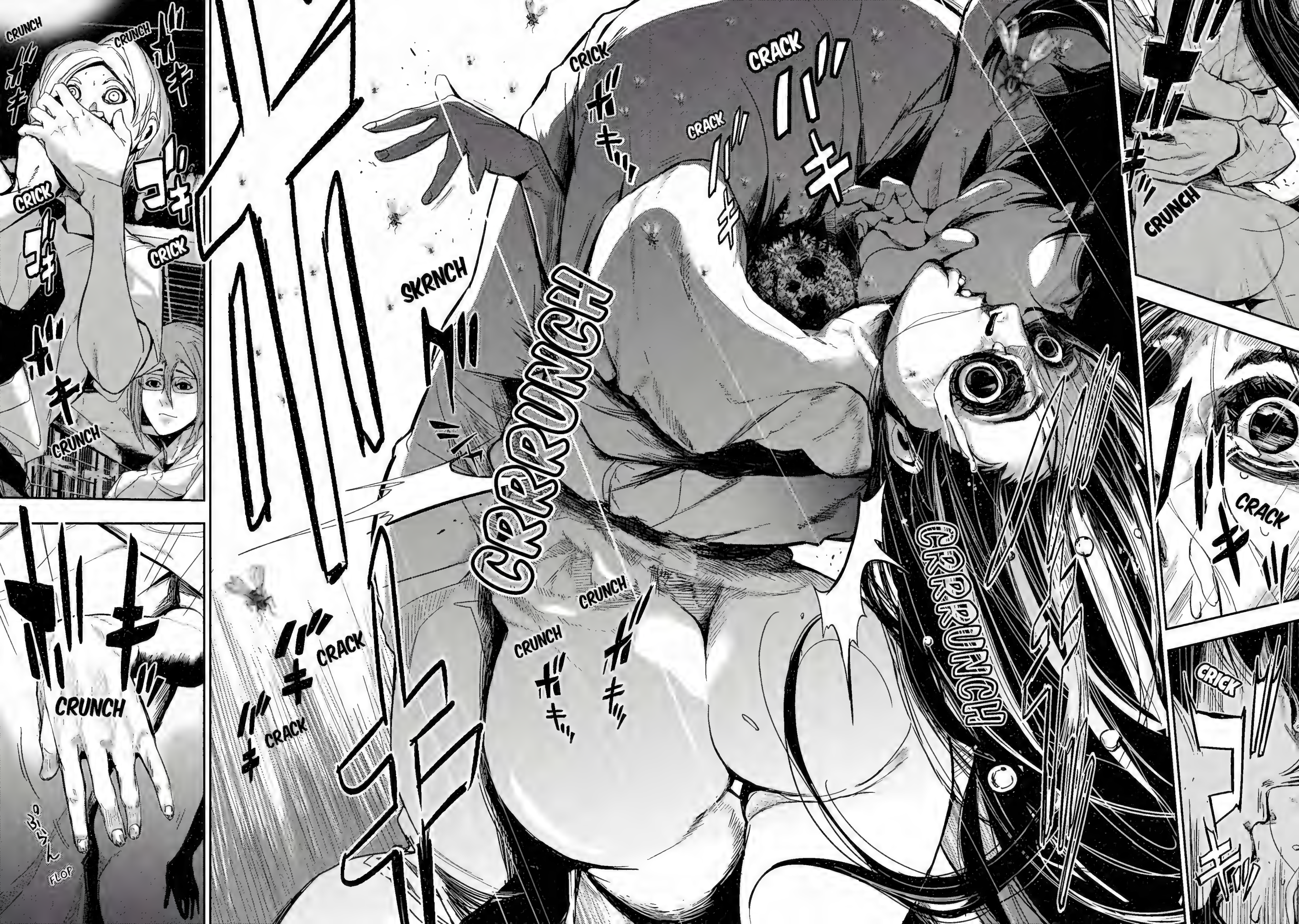

UGH...!
AUGH...
WE'VE GOT A CERTIFIABLE ONE ON OUR HANDS.
THOSE TWO MUST HAVE FORGOTTEN TO LOCK HER UP...
THEY PUMP THEM FULL OF DRUGS, MAKE THEM POP OUT BABIES, AND THEN THEY END UP LIKE THIS... IT'S A TRAGEDY.
FWSHH
COME ON...
SHLAP
HOLD HER!
SHLAP
OH, GOD...
SHLAP
SHLAP

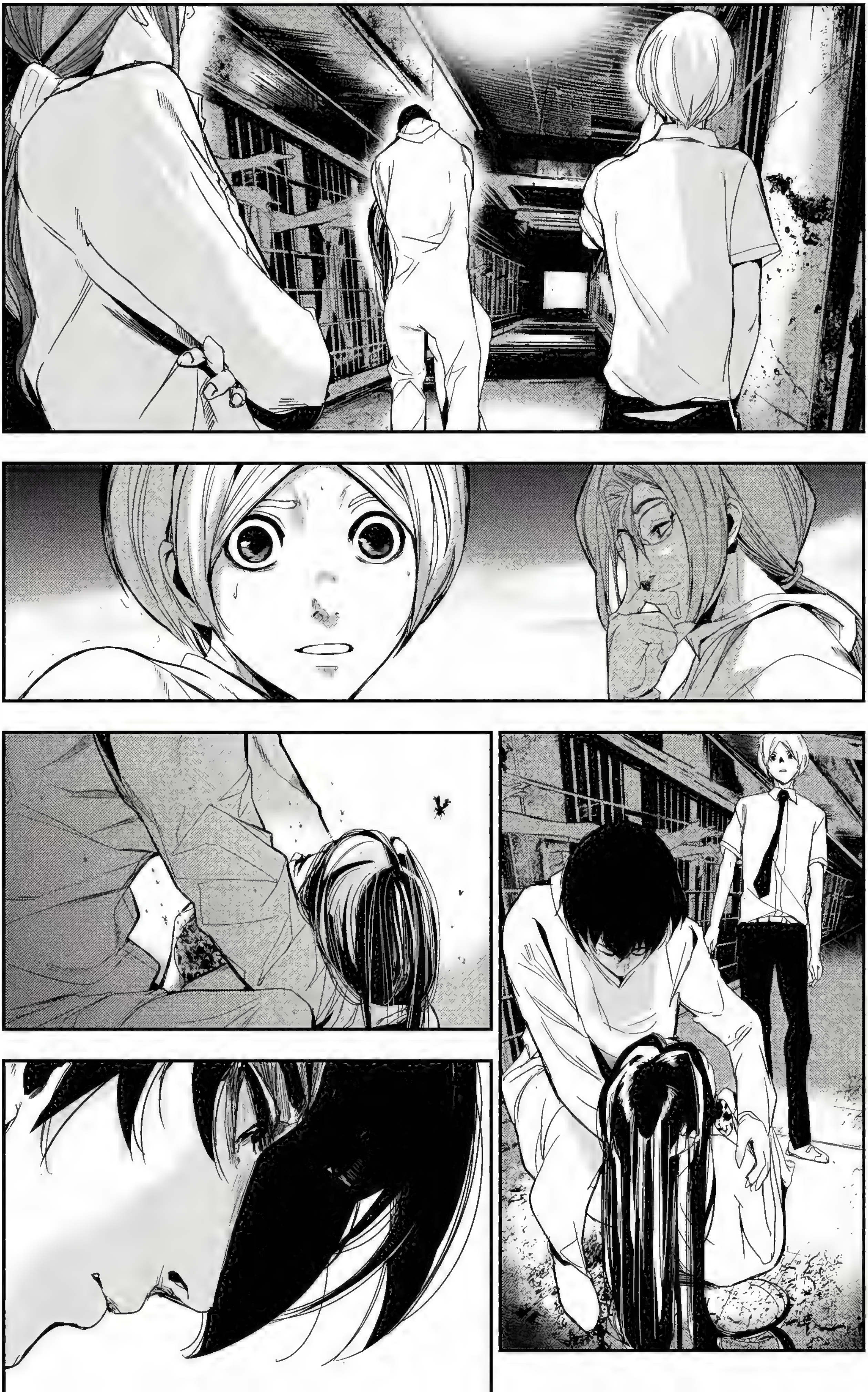

UGH...
SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE
HUH?

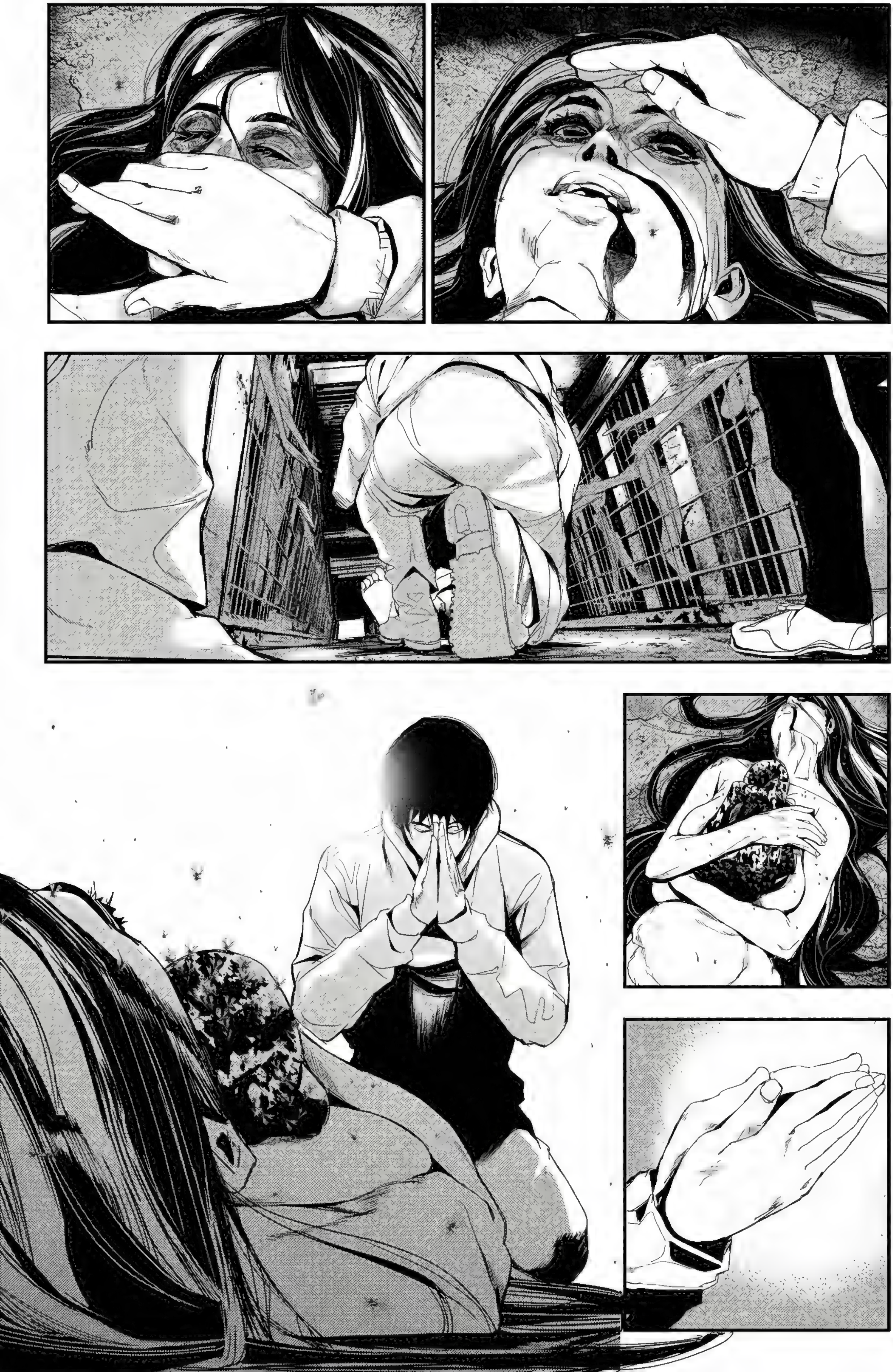

ニコッ
SMILE
THANK YOU.
I'M PROUD OF YOU, SWEETIE.
ガッし
TUG

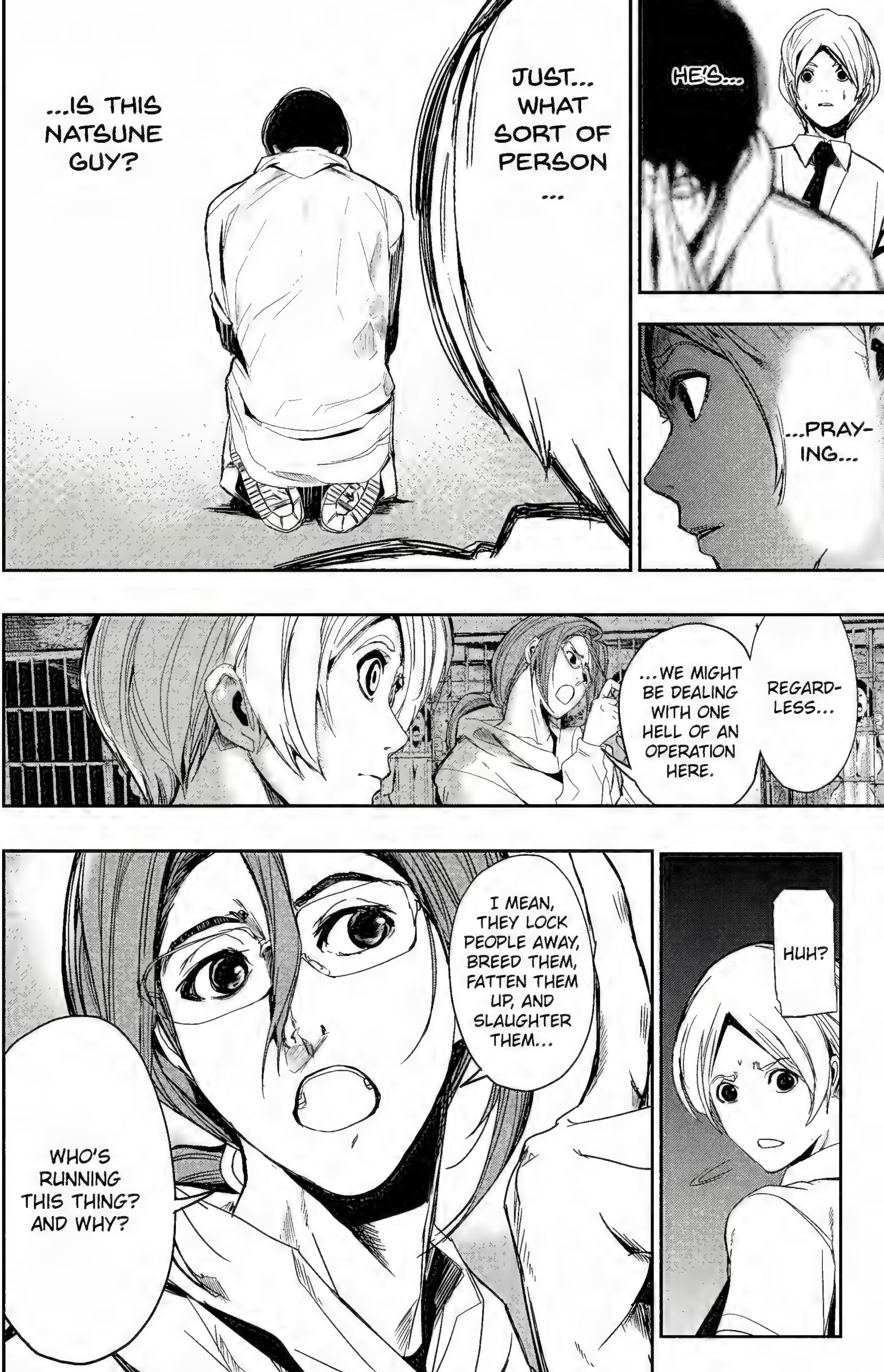


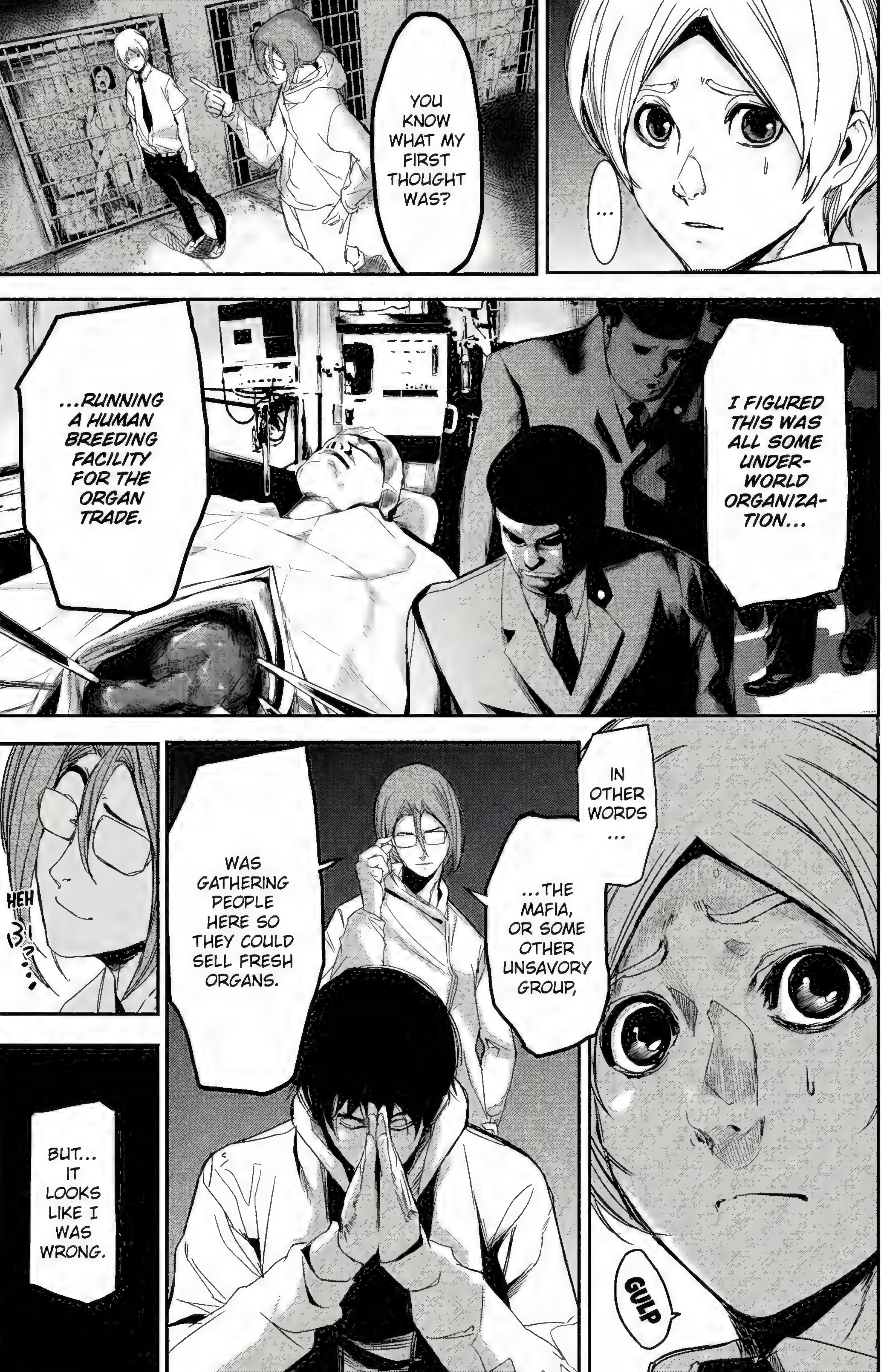

WHO EVER HEARD OF A BIRD HATCHING FROM A BOILED EGG?
CRRUNCH

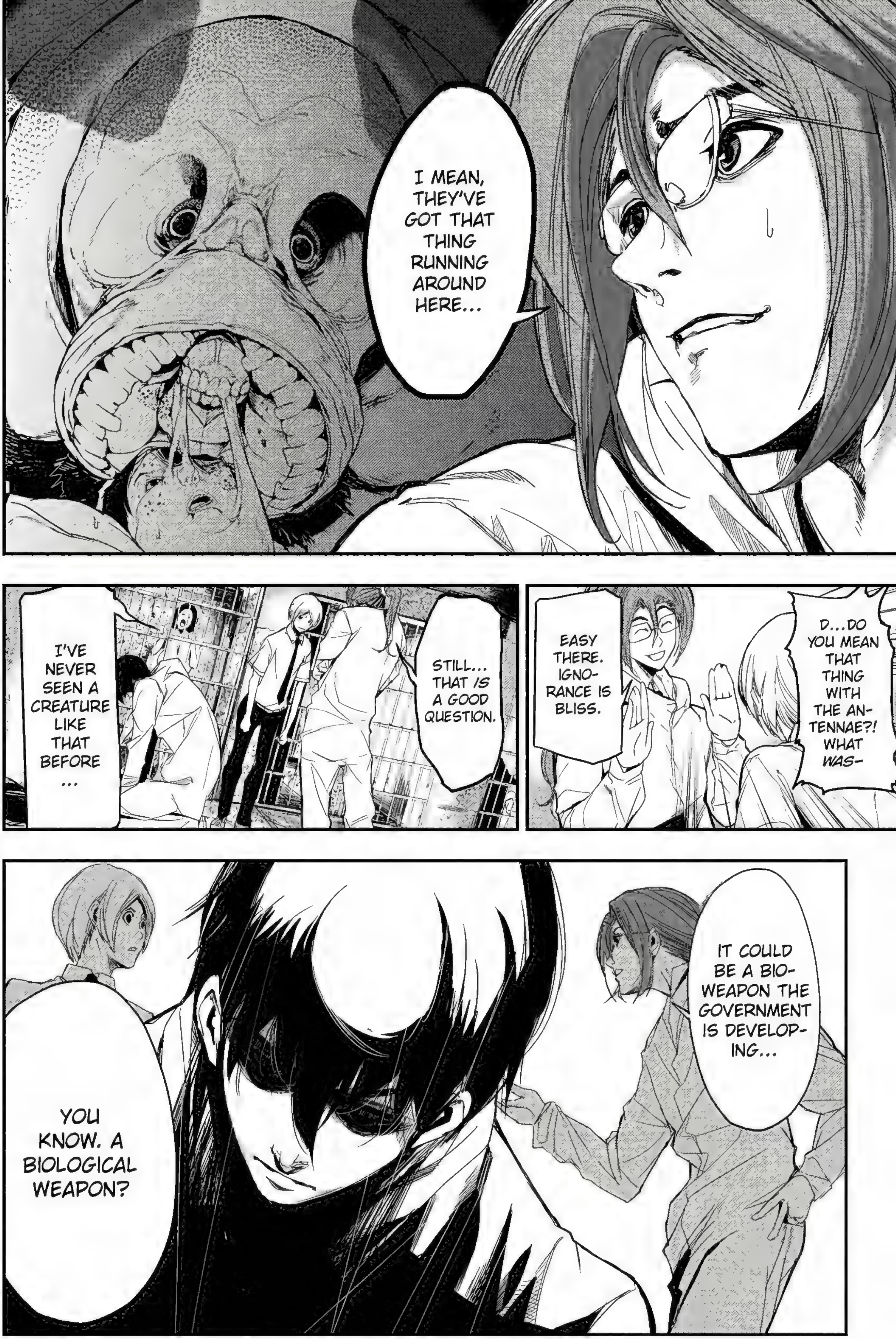

CRUNCH
CRACK
CRICK
CRACK
CRICK
CRACK
SKRNCH
CRRRUNCH
CRRRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRICK
CRICK
CRUNCH
CRACK
CRACK
CRUNCH
ぷらーん
FLOP

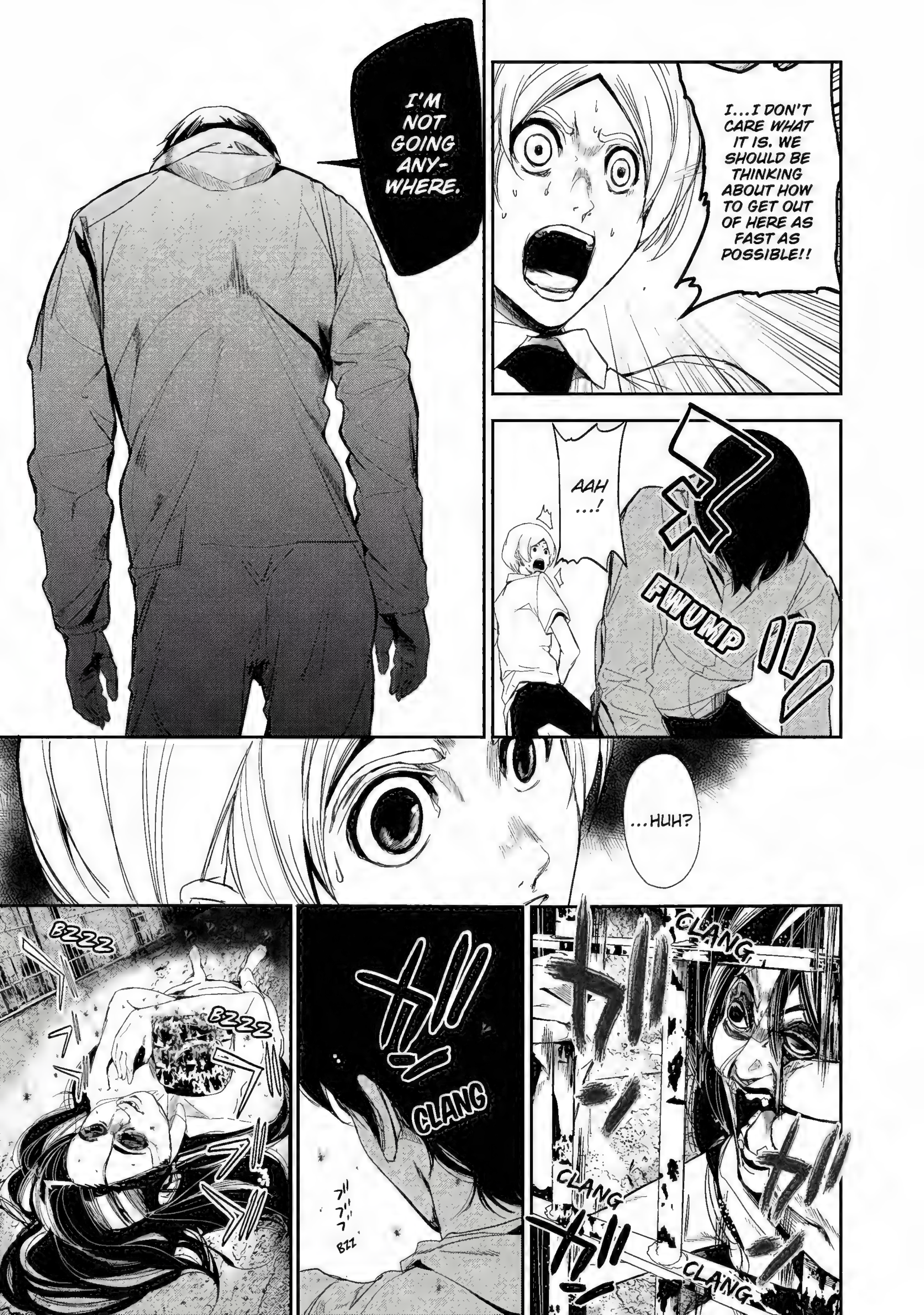


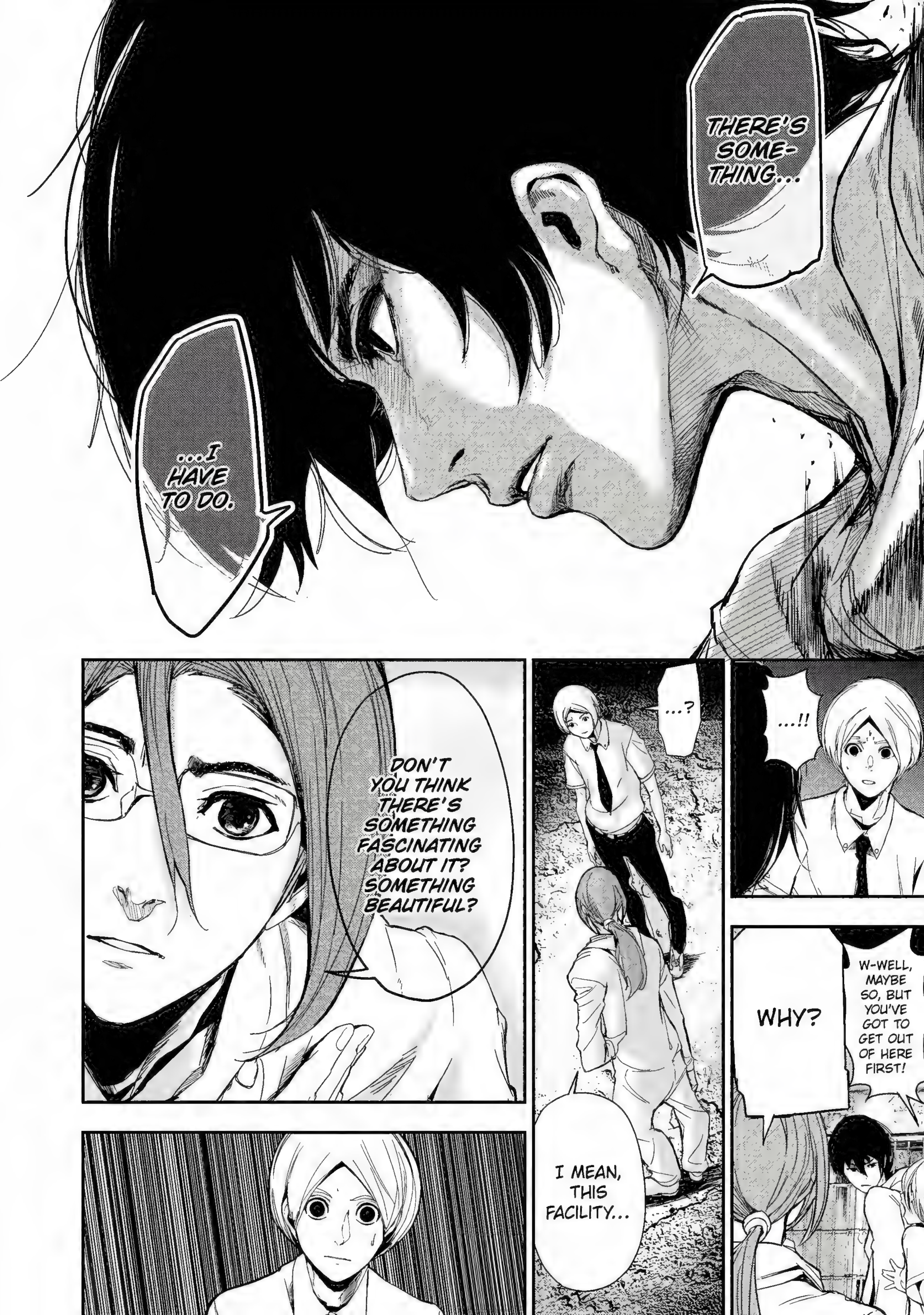


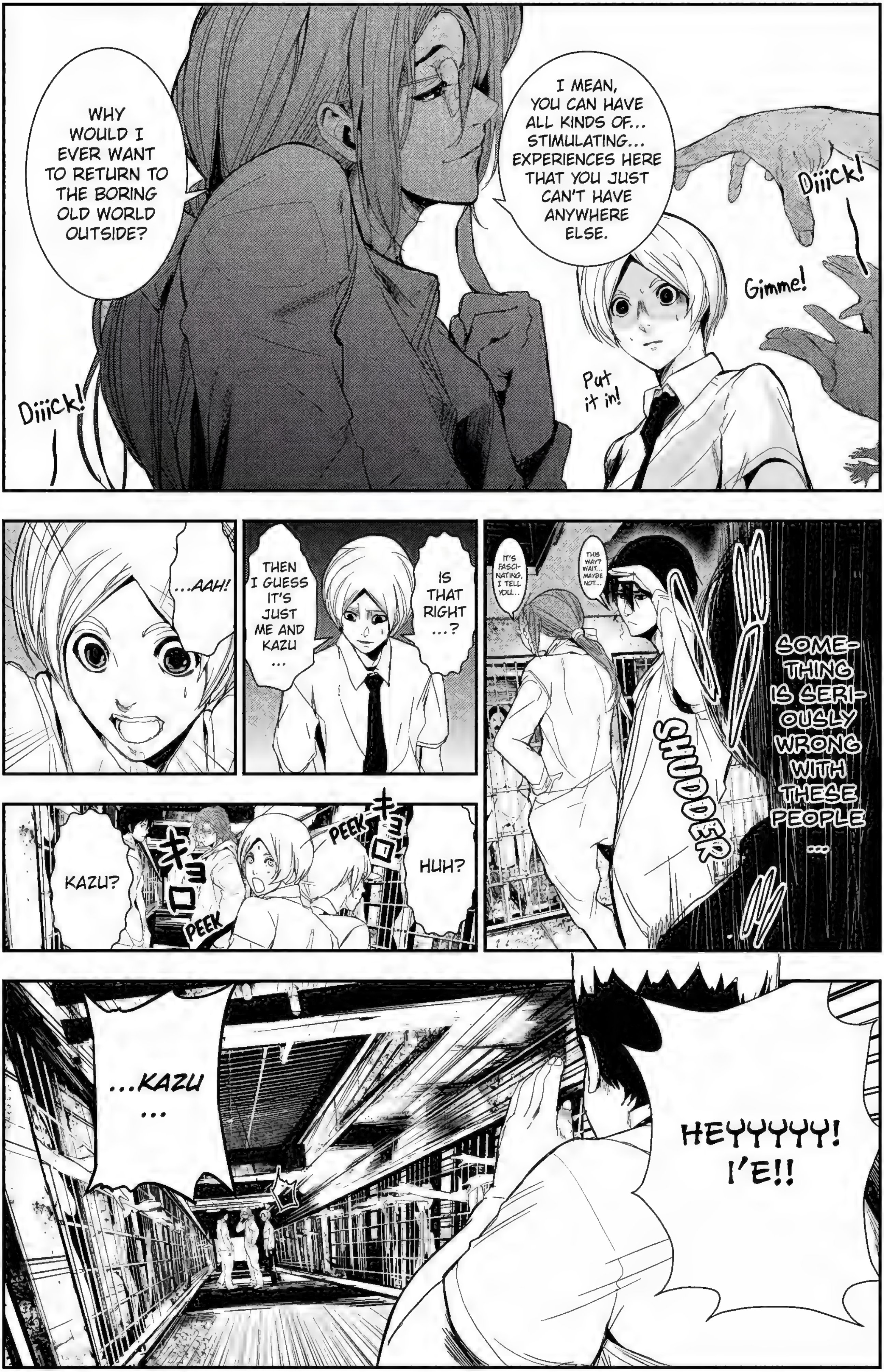

HE'S...
...PRAYING...
JUST... WHAT SORT OF PERSON...
...IS THIS NATSUNE GUY?
REGARDLESS...
...WE MIGHT BE DEALING WITH ONE HELL OF AN OPERATION HERE.
HUH?
I MEAN, THEY LOCK PEOPLE AWAY, BREED THEM, FATTEN THEM UP, AND SLAUGHTER THEM...
WHO'S RUNNING THIS THING? AND WHY?

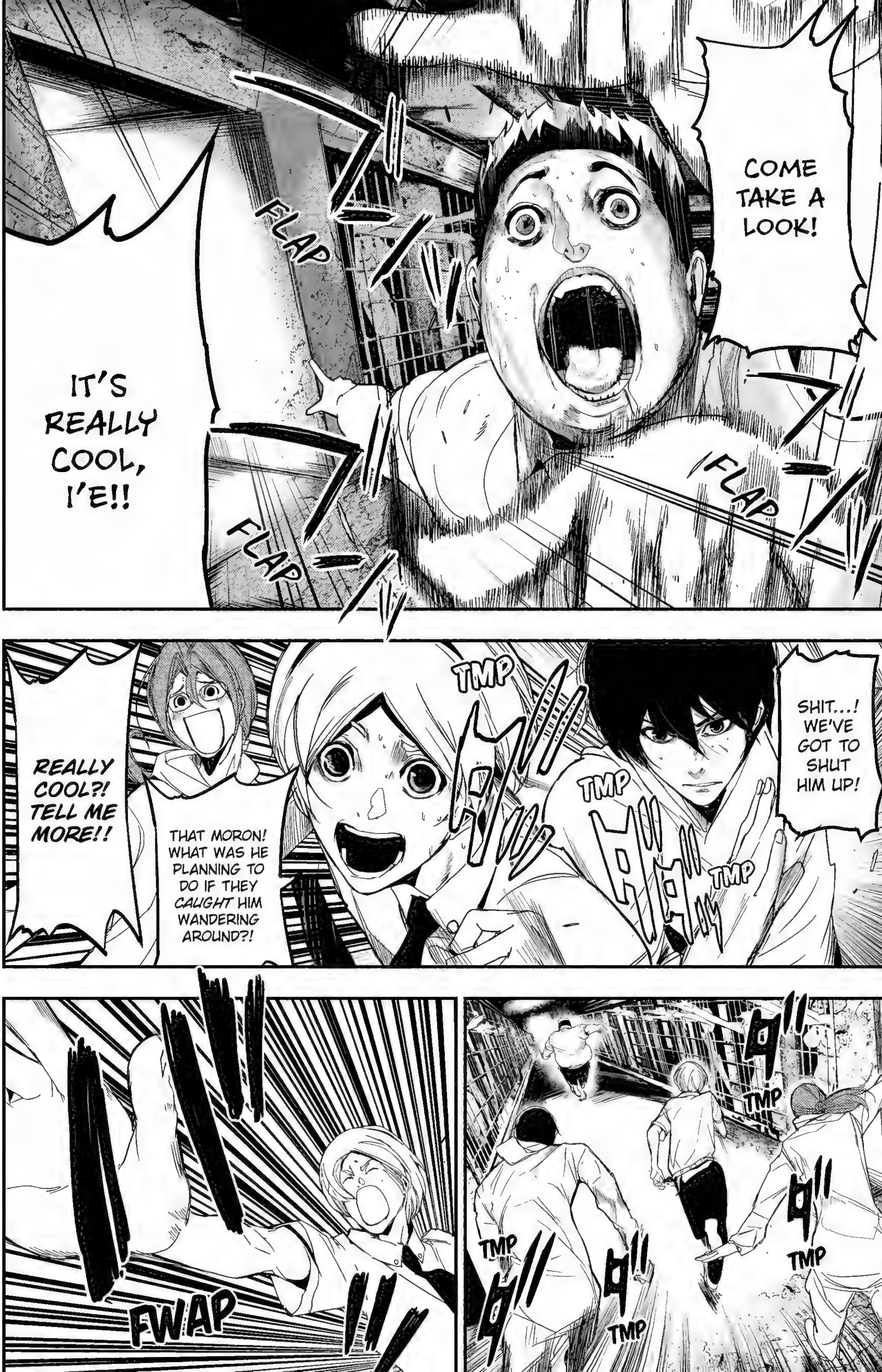

...
YOU KNOW WHAT MY FIRST THOUGHT WAS?
I FIGURED THIS WAS ALL SOME UNDERWORLD ORGANIZATION...
...RUNNING A HUMAN BREEDING FACILITY FOR THE ORGAN TRADE.
IN OTHER WORDS...
...THE MAFIA, OR SOME OTHER UNSAVORY GROUP,
WAS GATHERING PEOPLE HERE SO THEY COULD SELL FRESH ORGANS.
GULP
HEH
BUT... IT LOOKS LIKE I WAS WRONG.

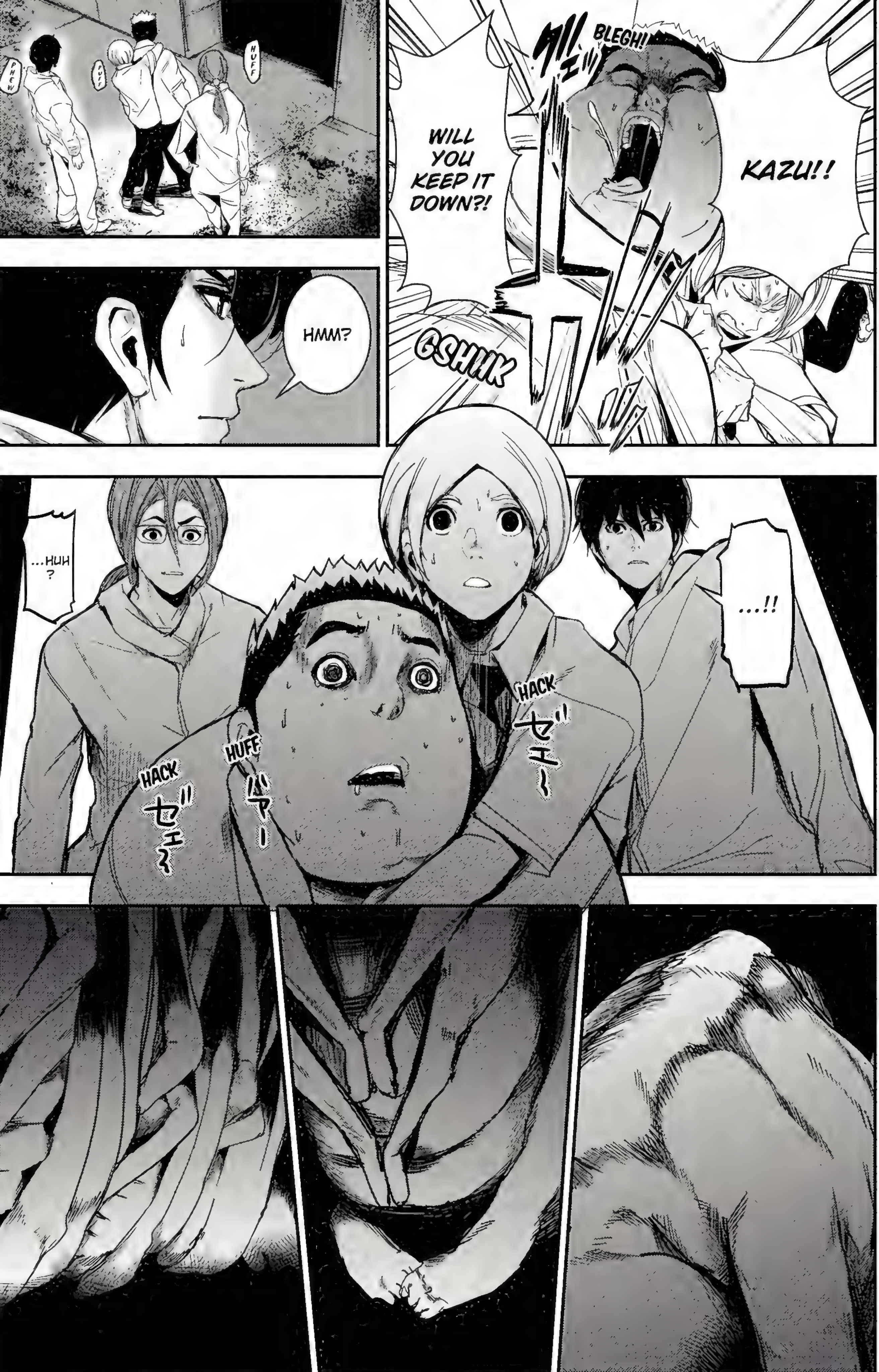

I MEAN, THEY'VE GOT THAT THING RUNNING AROUND HERE…
D…DO YOU MEAN THAT THING WITH THE ANTENNAE?! WHAT *WAS-*
EASY THERE. IGNORANCE IS BLISS.
STILL… THAT *IS* A GOOD QUESTION.
I'VE NEVER SEEN A CREATURE LIKE THAT BEFORE…
IT COULD BE A BIOWEAPON THE GOVERNMENT IS DEVELOPING…
YOU KNOW. A BIOLOGICAL WEAPON?

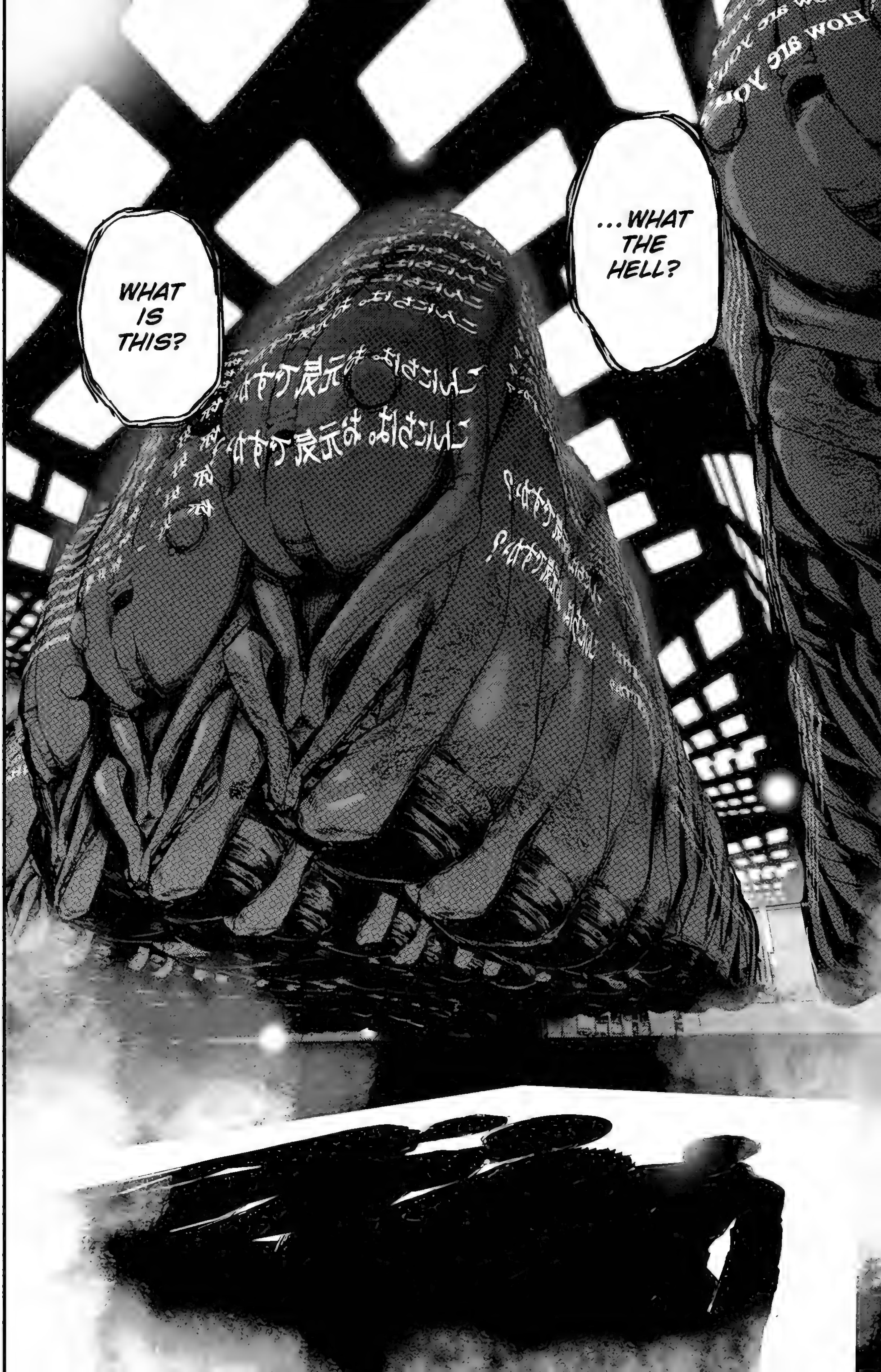

I...I DON'T CARE WHAT IT IS. WE SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT HOW TO GET OUT OF HERE AS FAST AS POSSIBLE!!
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
AAH ...!
FWUMP
...HUH?
CLANG,
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
ブブブ
BZZ
BZZZ
BZZZ

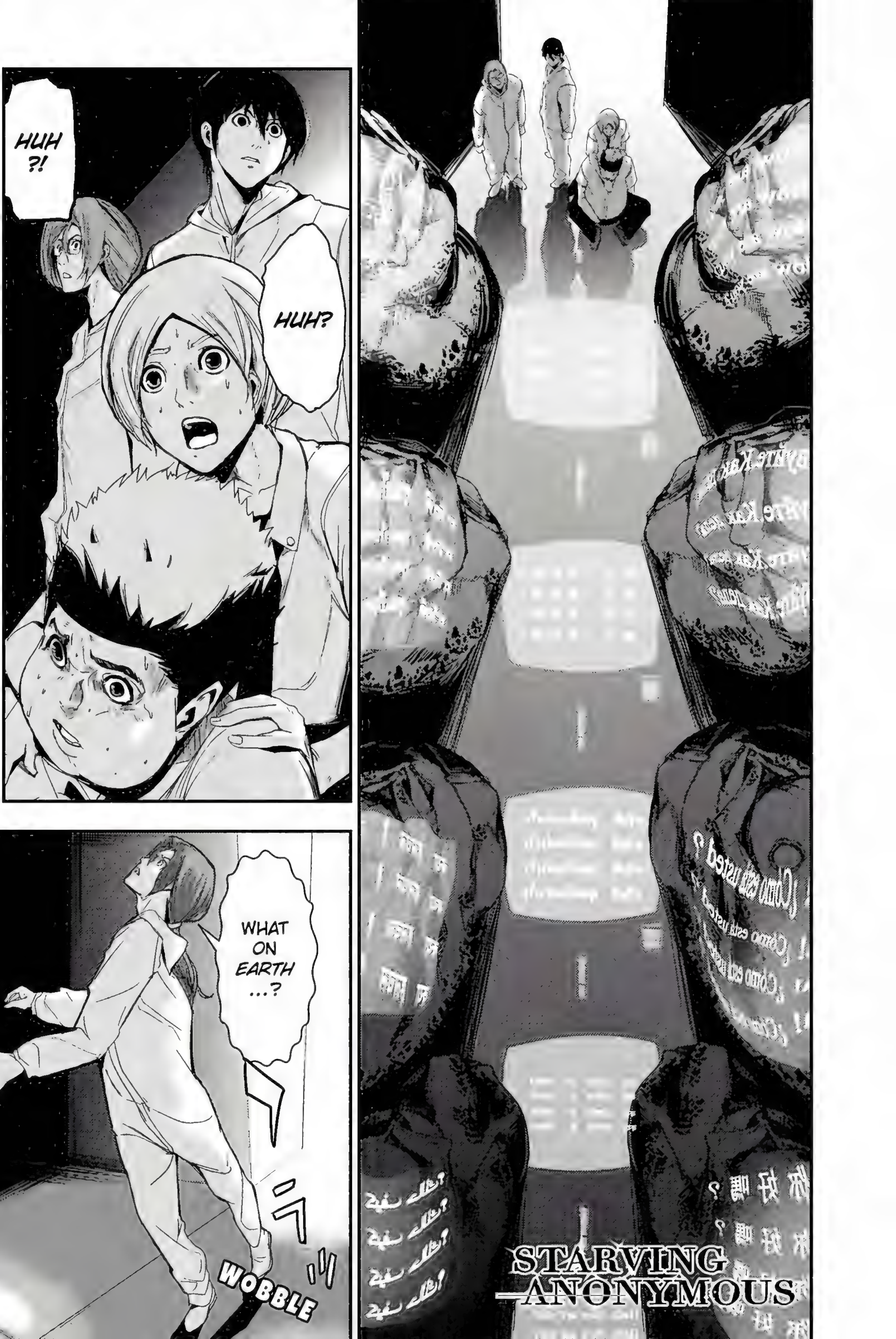

THERE'S SOMETHING...
...I HAVE TO DO.
...!!
...?
I MEAN, THIS FACILITY...
DON'T YOU THINK THERE'S SOMETHING FASCINATING ABOUT IT? SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL?
W-WELL, MAYBE SO, BUT YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE FIRST!
WHY?


WHY WOULD I EVER WANT TO RETURN TO THE BORING OLD WORLD OUTSIDE?
I MEAN, YOU CAN HAVE ALL KINDS OF... STIMULATING... EXPERIENCES HERE THAT YOU JUST CAN'T HAVE ANYWHERE ELSE.
Diiick!
Gimme!
Put it in!
Diiick!
...AAH!
THEN I GUESS IT'S JUST ME AND KAZU...
IS THAT RIGHT...?
KAZU?
キョロ PEEK
キョロ PEEK
HUH?
IT'S FASCINATING, I TELL YOU...
THIS WAY? WAIT... MAYBE NOT...
SHUDDER
SOMETHING IS SERIOUSLY WRONG WITH THESE PEOPLE...
...KAZU...
HEYYYYY! I'E!!

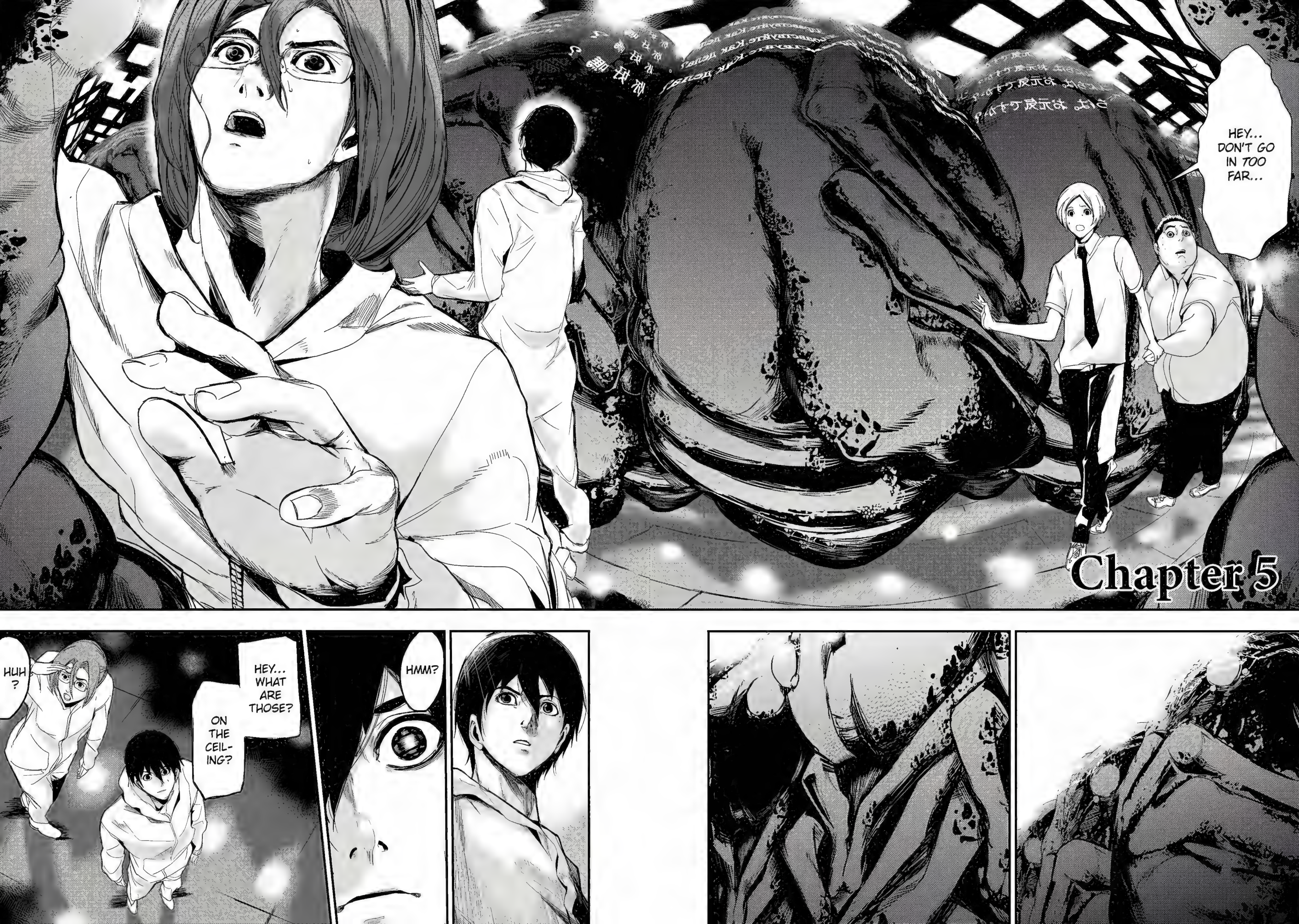

COME TAKE A LOOK!
IT'S REALLY COOL, I'E!!
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
SHIT...! WE'VE GOT TO SHUT HIM UP!
TMP
TMP
TMP
THAT MORON! WHAT WAS HE PLANNING TO DO IF THEY *CAUGHT* HIM WANDERING AROUND?!
REALLY COOL?! TELL ME MORE!!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
FWAP

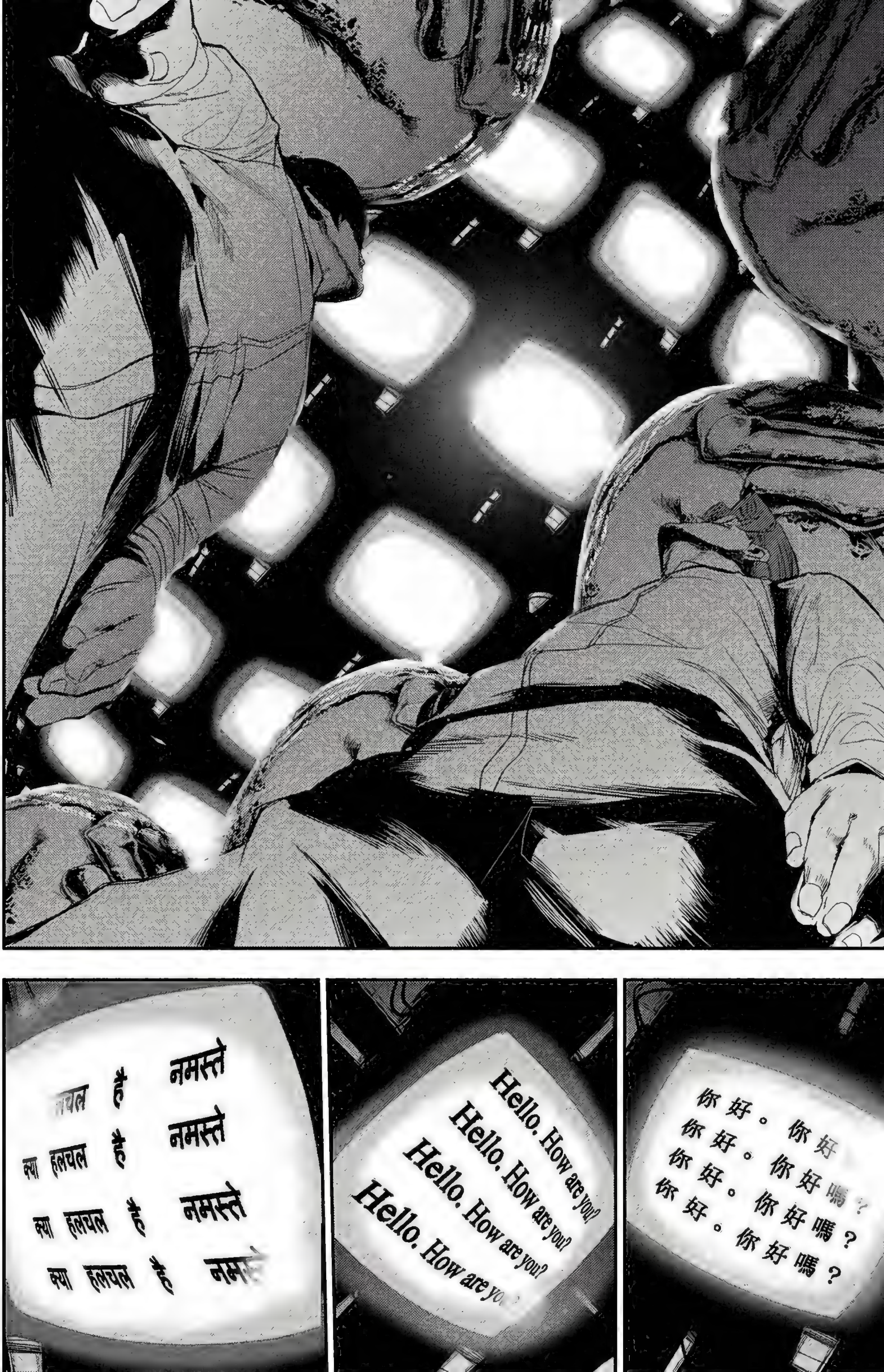

BLEGH!
グエッ
KAZU!!
WILL YOU KEEP IT DOWN?!
GSHUK
HUFF
PUFF
PHEW
HMM?
...!!
HACK
ゼェ~
HUFF
ハァー
HACK
ゼェ~
...HUH?

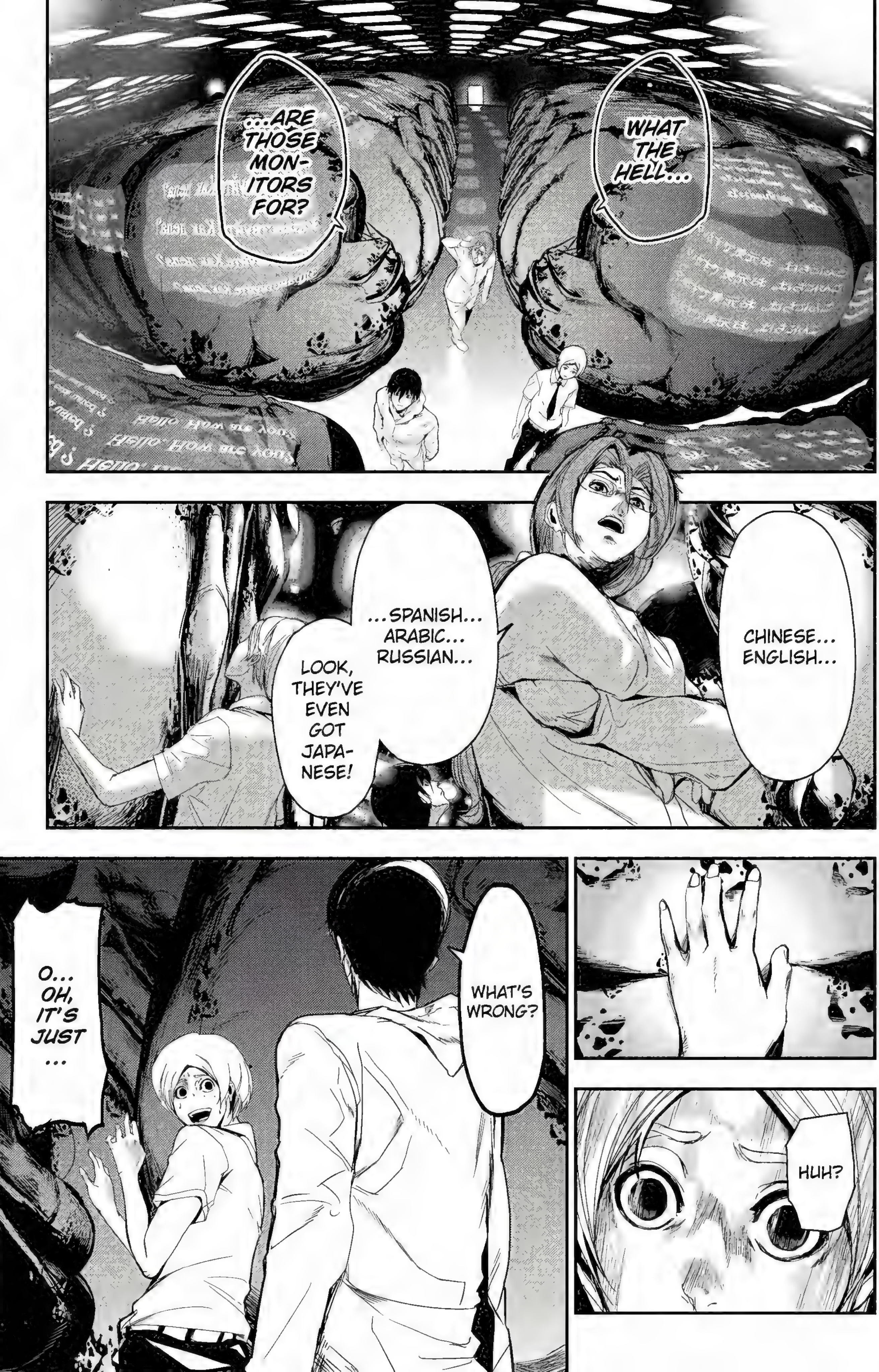

...WHAT THE HELL?
WHAT IS THIS?

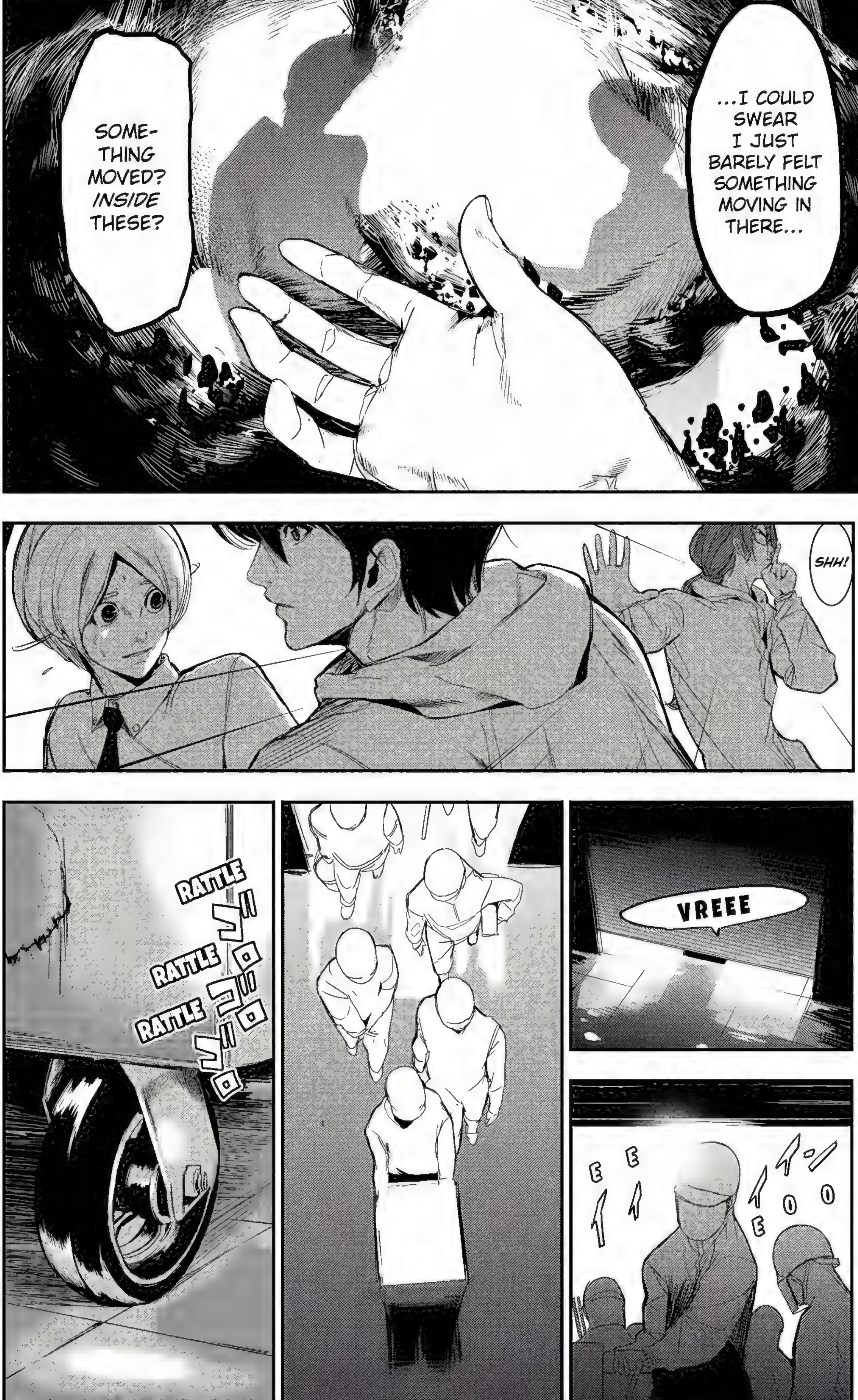

STARVING ANONYMOUS
HUH ?!
HUH?
WHAT ON EARTH ...?
WOBBLE

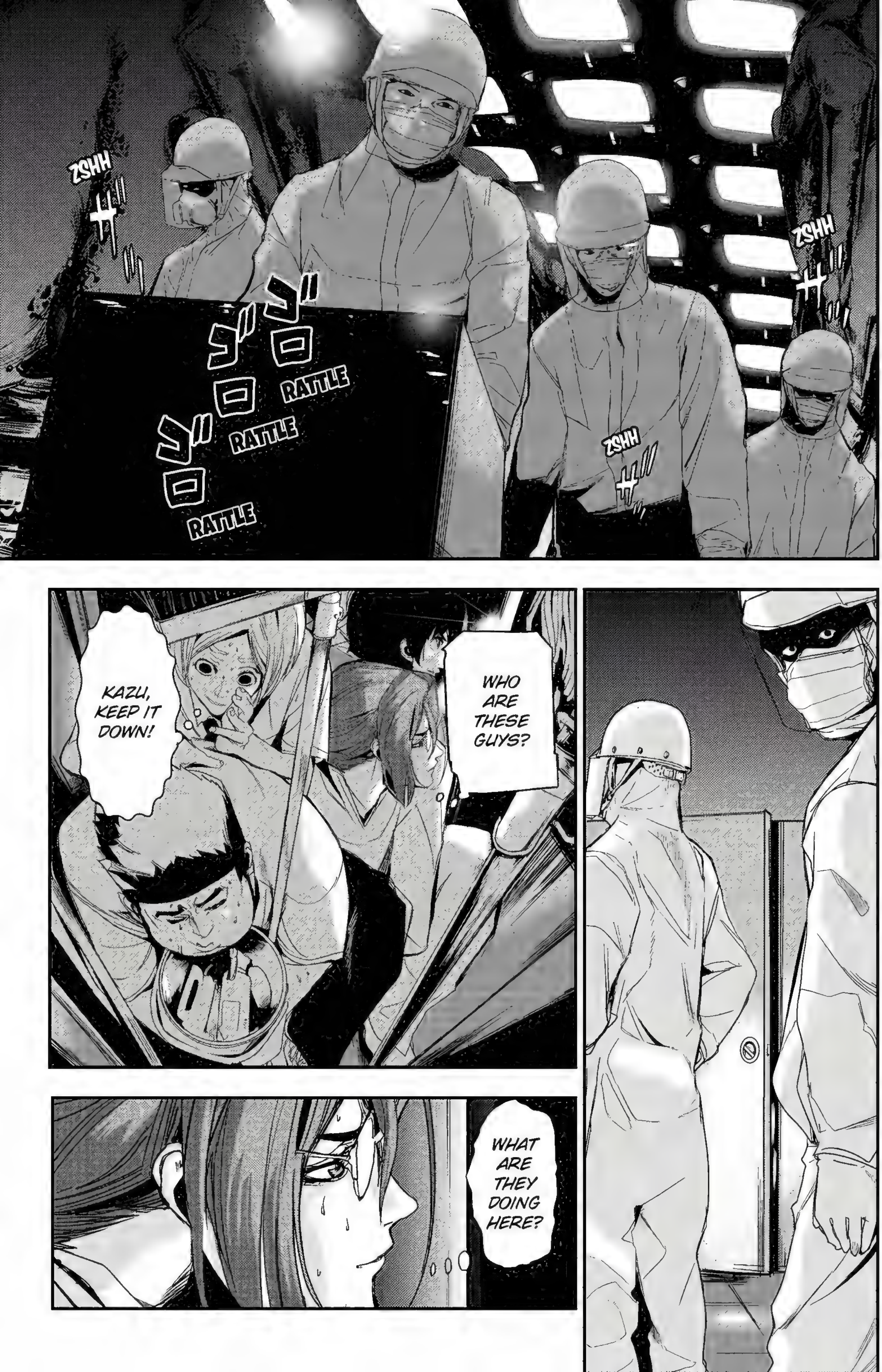
Chapter 5

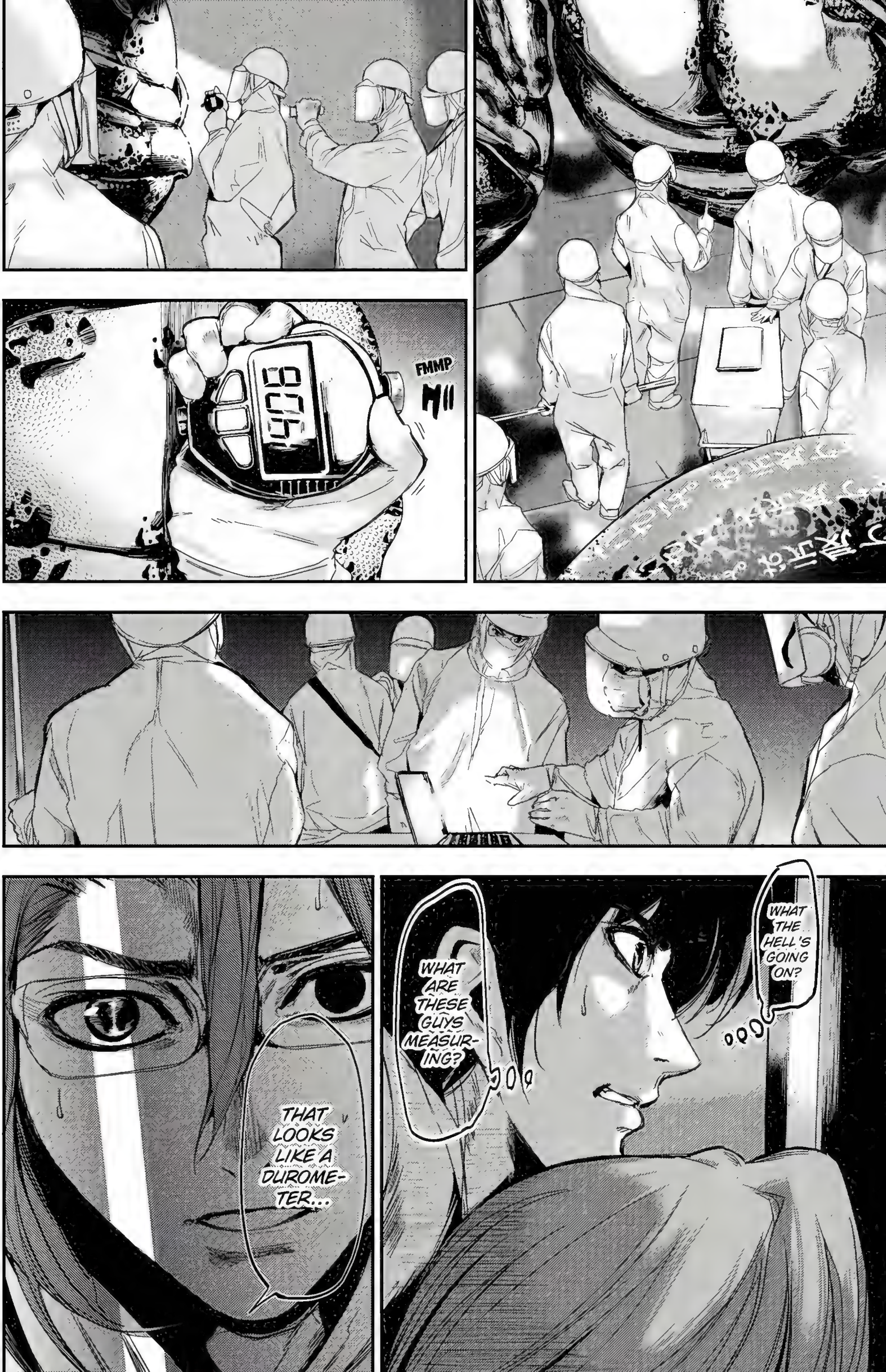

HEY... DON'T GO IN *TOO* FAR...
HMM?
HEY... WHAT ARE THOSE?
ON THE CEILING?
HUH?

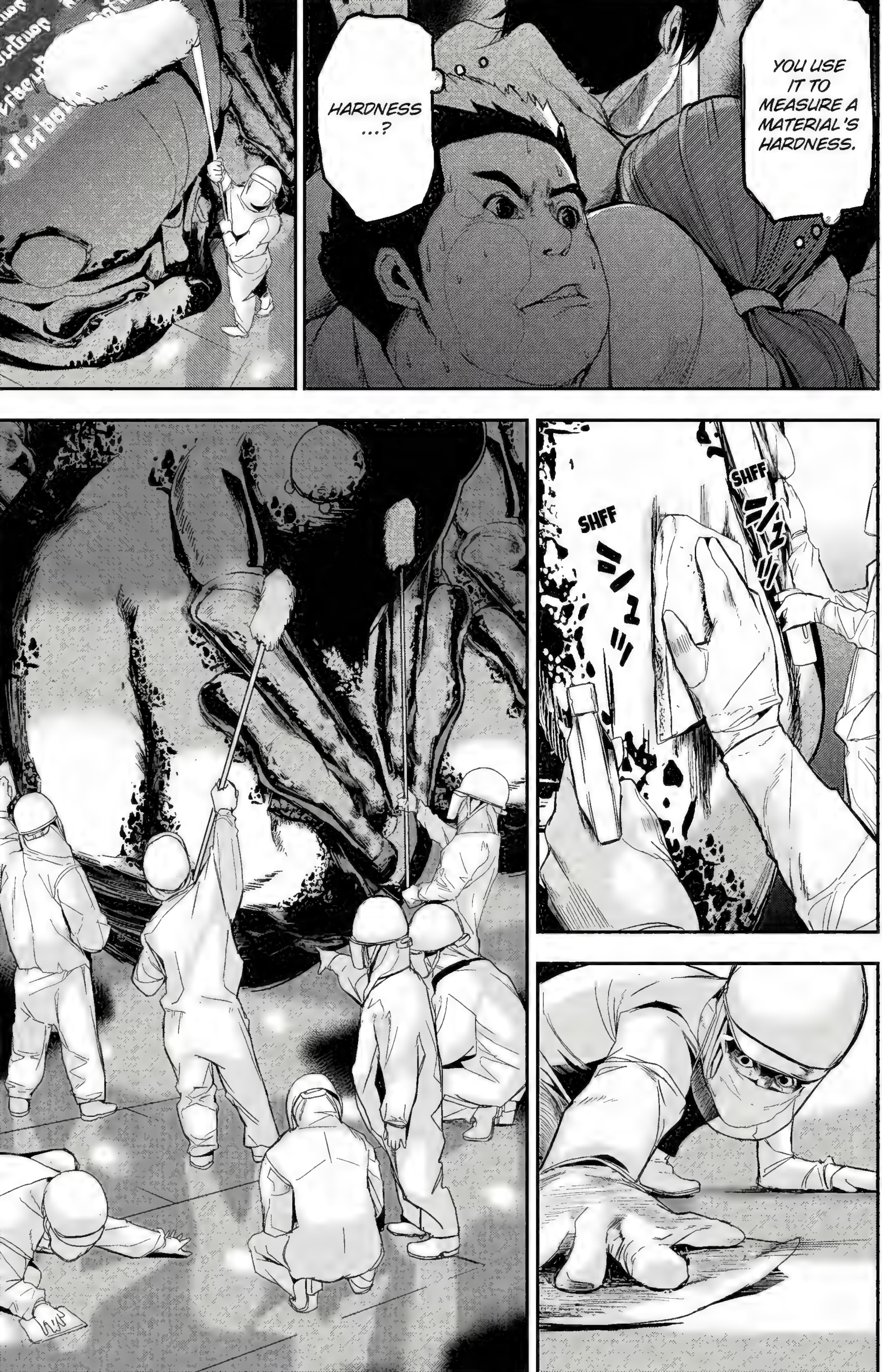

你好。你好
你好。你好嗎？
你好。你好嗎？
你好。你好嗎？
Hello. How are you?
Hello. How are you?
Hello. How are you?
Hello. How are yo
चल है नमस्ते
क्या हलचल है नमस्ते
क्या हलचल है नमस्ते
क्या हलचल है नमस

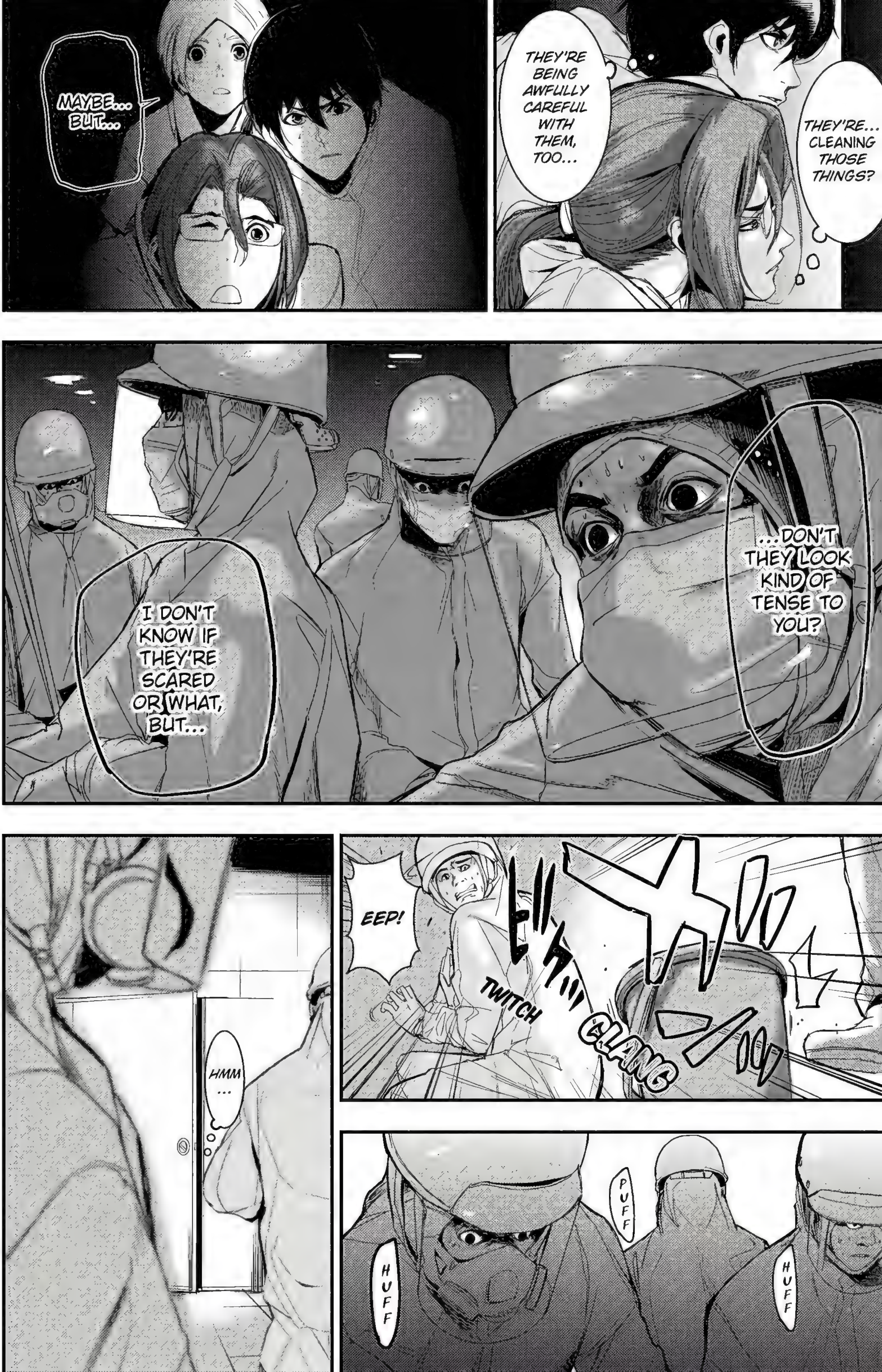

WHAT THE HELL...
...ARE THOSE MONITORS FOR?
CHINESE... ENGLISH...
...SPANISH... ARABIC... RUSSIAN...
LOOK, THEY'VE EVEN GOT JAPANESE!
HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG?
O... OH, IT'S JUST ...

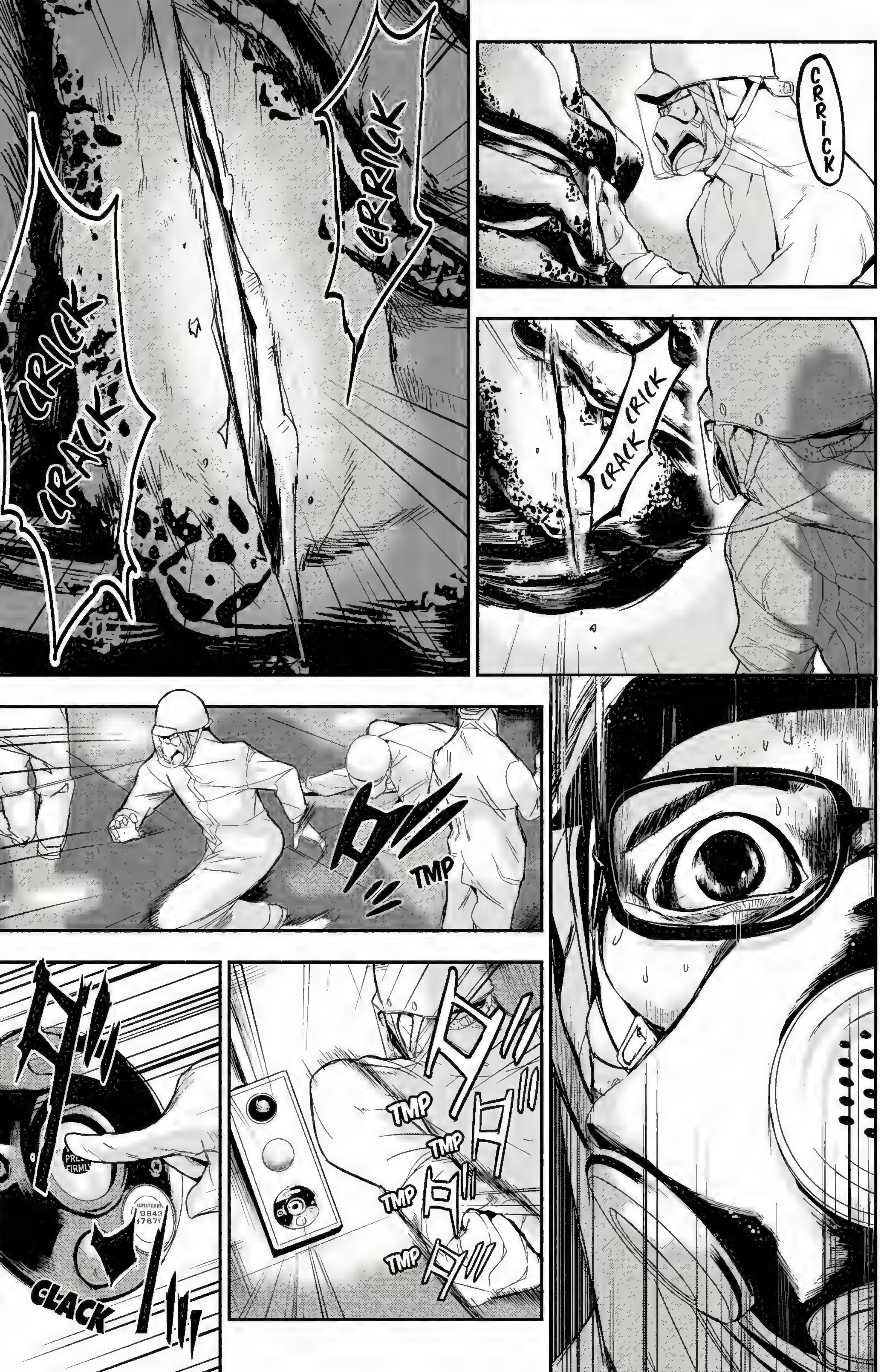

...I COULD SWEAR I JUST BARELY FELT SOMETHING MOVING IN THERE...
SOME-THING MOVED? *INSIDE* THESE?
SHH!
VREEE
EEEOOO
RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE
ゴロ ゴロ ゴロ

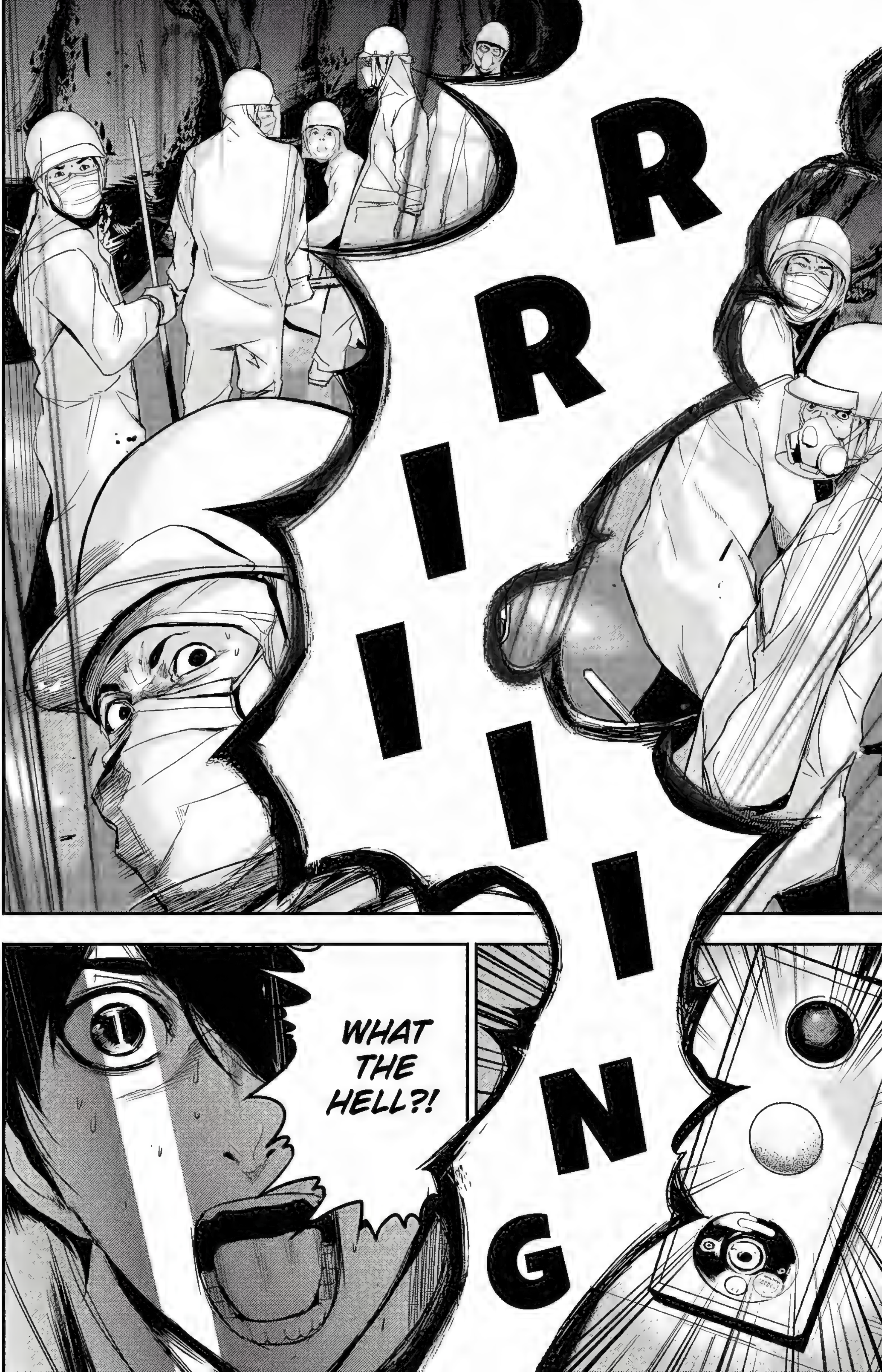

ザッ
ZSHH
ザッ
ZSHH
ゴロ
RATTLE
ゴロ
RATTLE
ゴロ
RATTLE
ザッ
ZSHH
WHO ARE THESE GUYS?
KAZU, KEEP IT DOWN!
WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE?

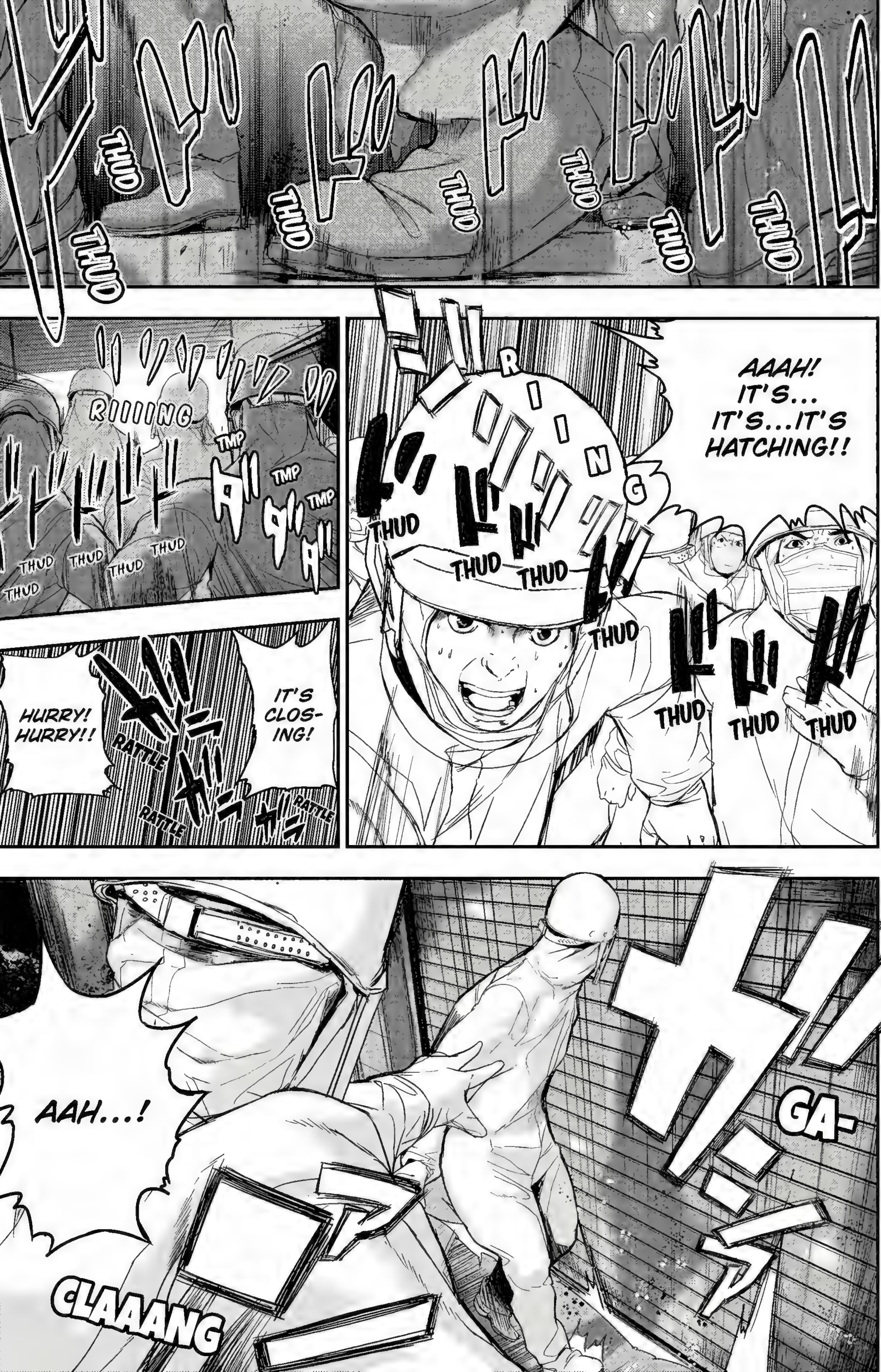

FMMP
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
WHAT ARE THESE GUYS MEASURING?
THAT LOOKS LIKE A DUROMETER...

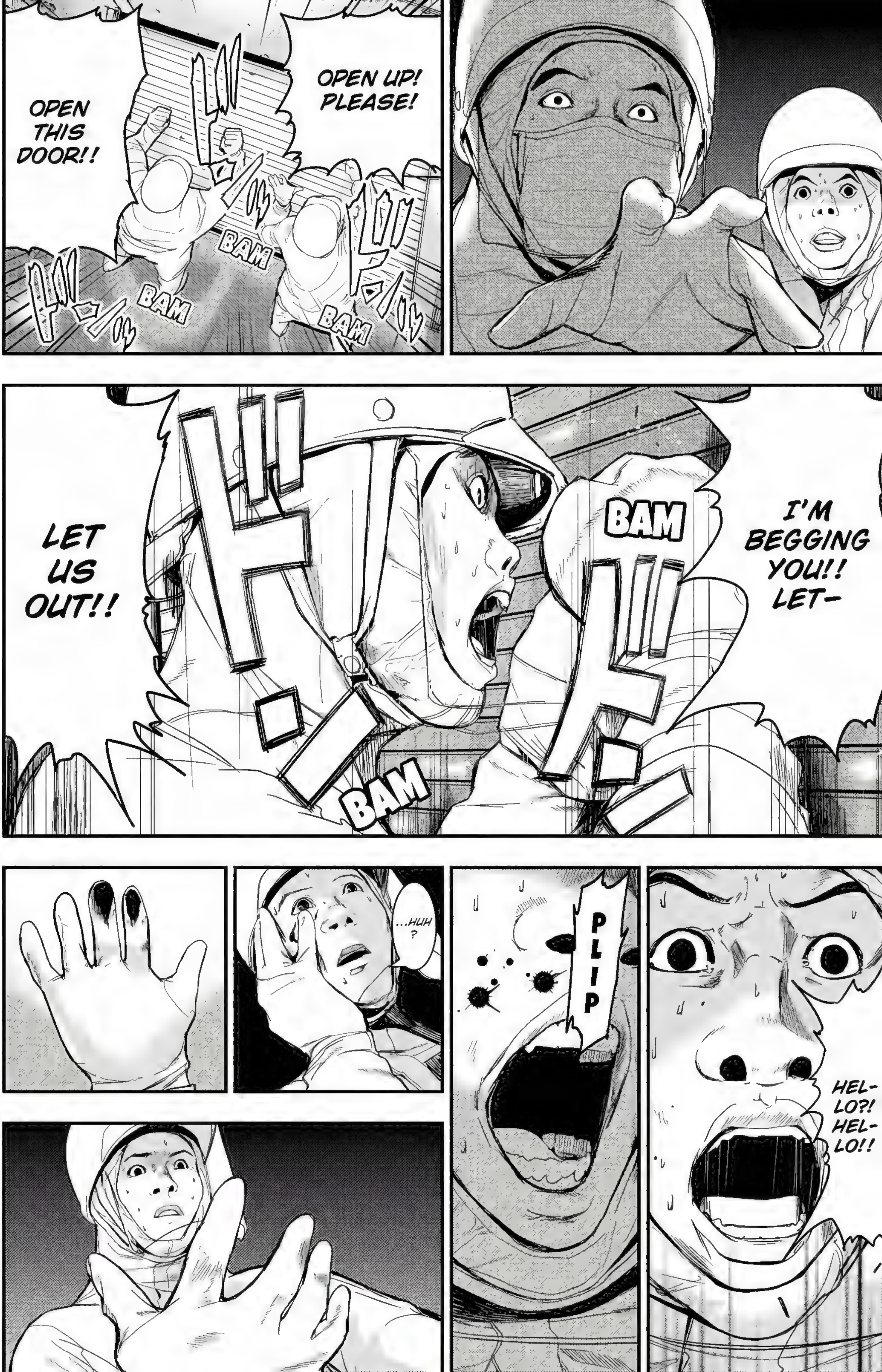

YOU USE IT TO MEASURE A MATERIAL'S HARDNESS.
HARDNESS ...?
SHFF
シュッ
SHFF
シュッ

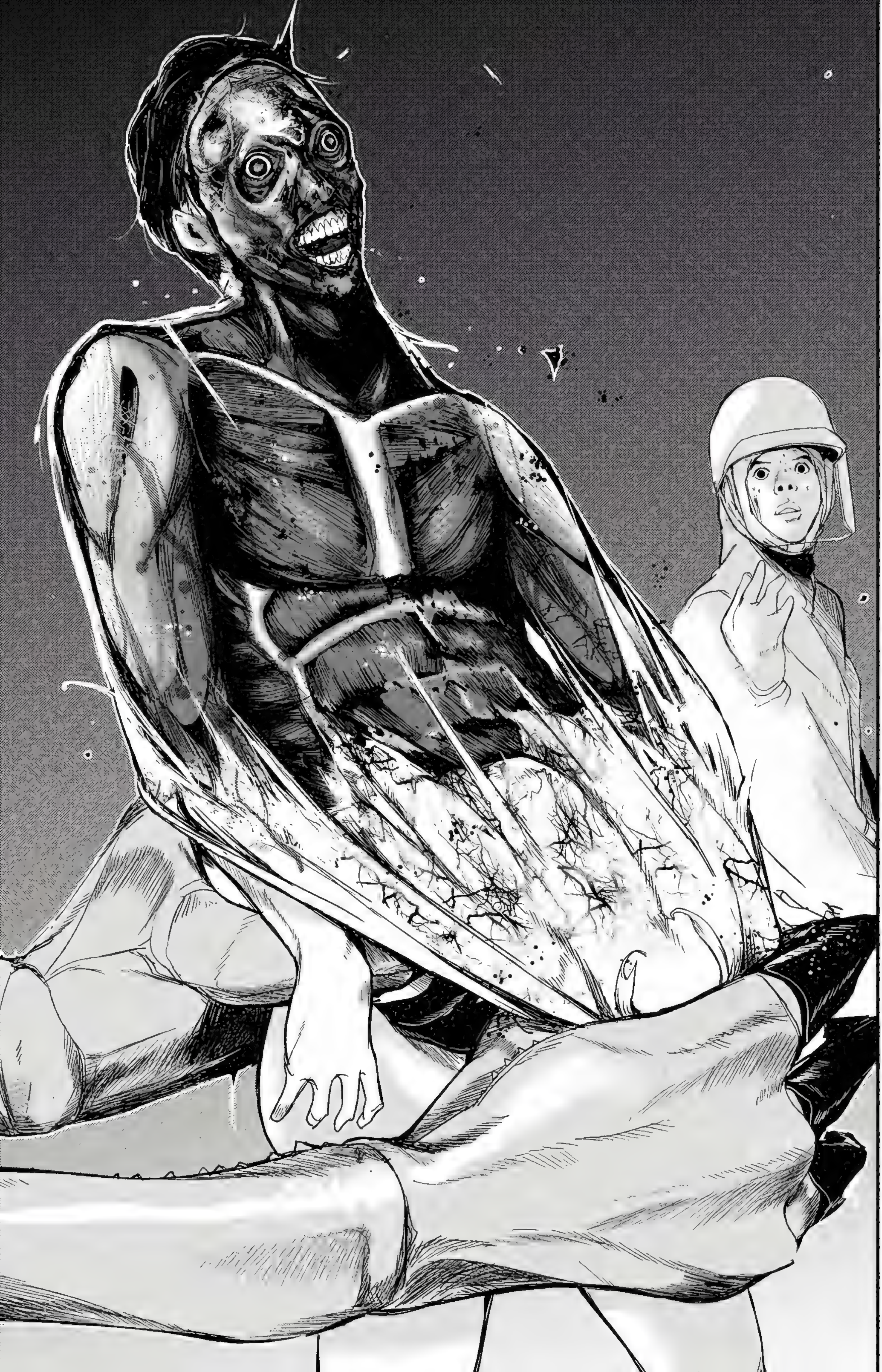

THEY'RE... CLEANING THOSE THINGS?
THEY'RE BEING AWFULLY CAREFUL WITH THEM, TOO...
MAYBE... BUT...
...DON'T THEY LOOK KIND OF TENSE TO YOU?
I DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE SCARED OR WHAT, BUT...
CLANG
TWITCH
EEP!
PUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HMM...

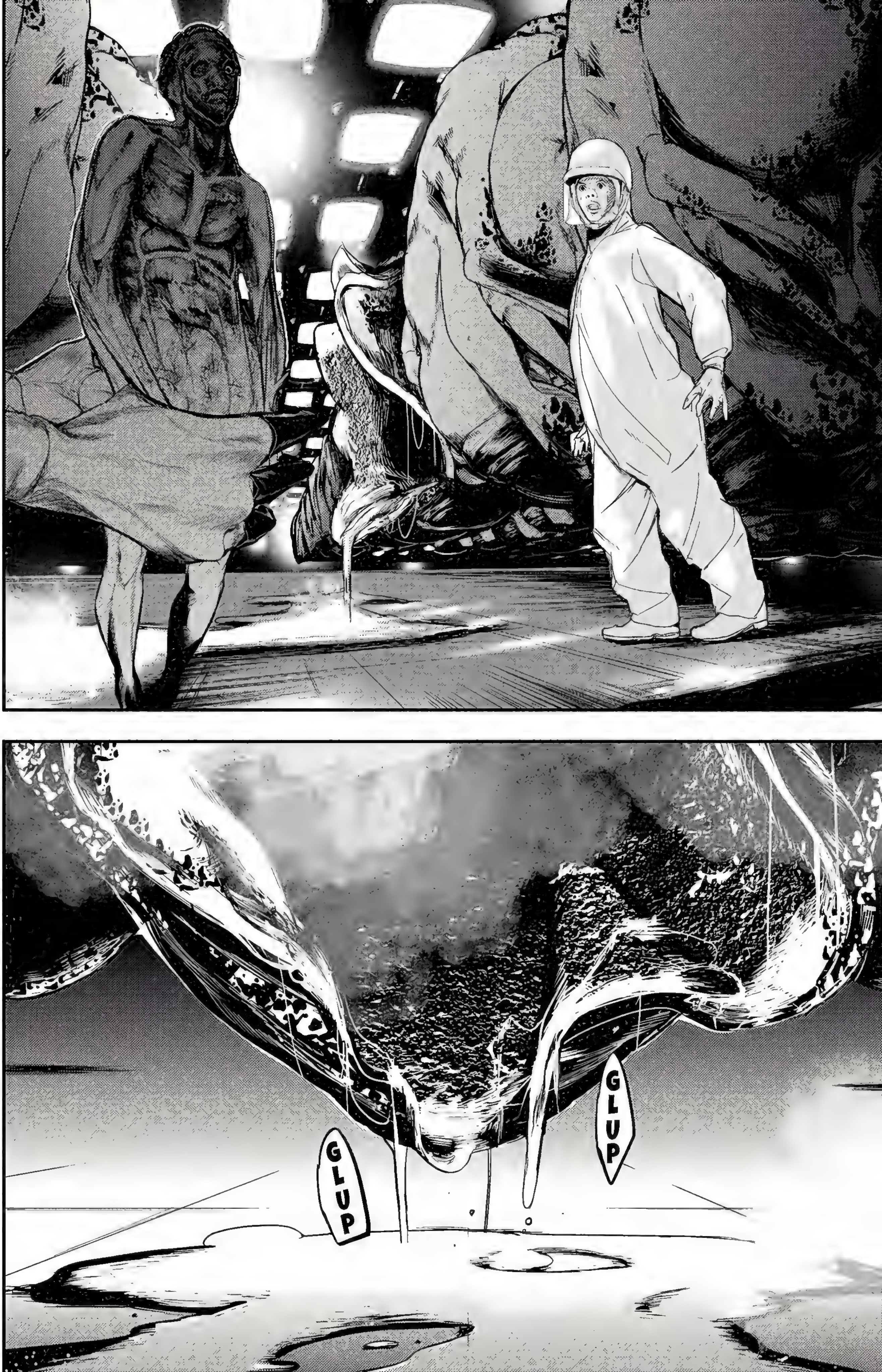

CRRICK
CRICK CRICK CRACK
CRRICK
CRRICK
CRACK
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
FIRMLY
CLACK

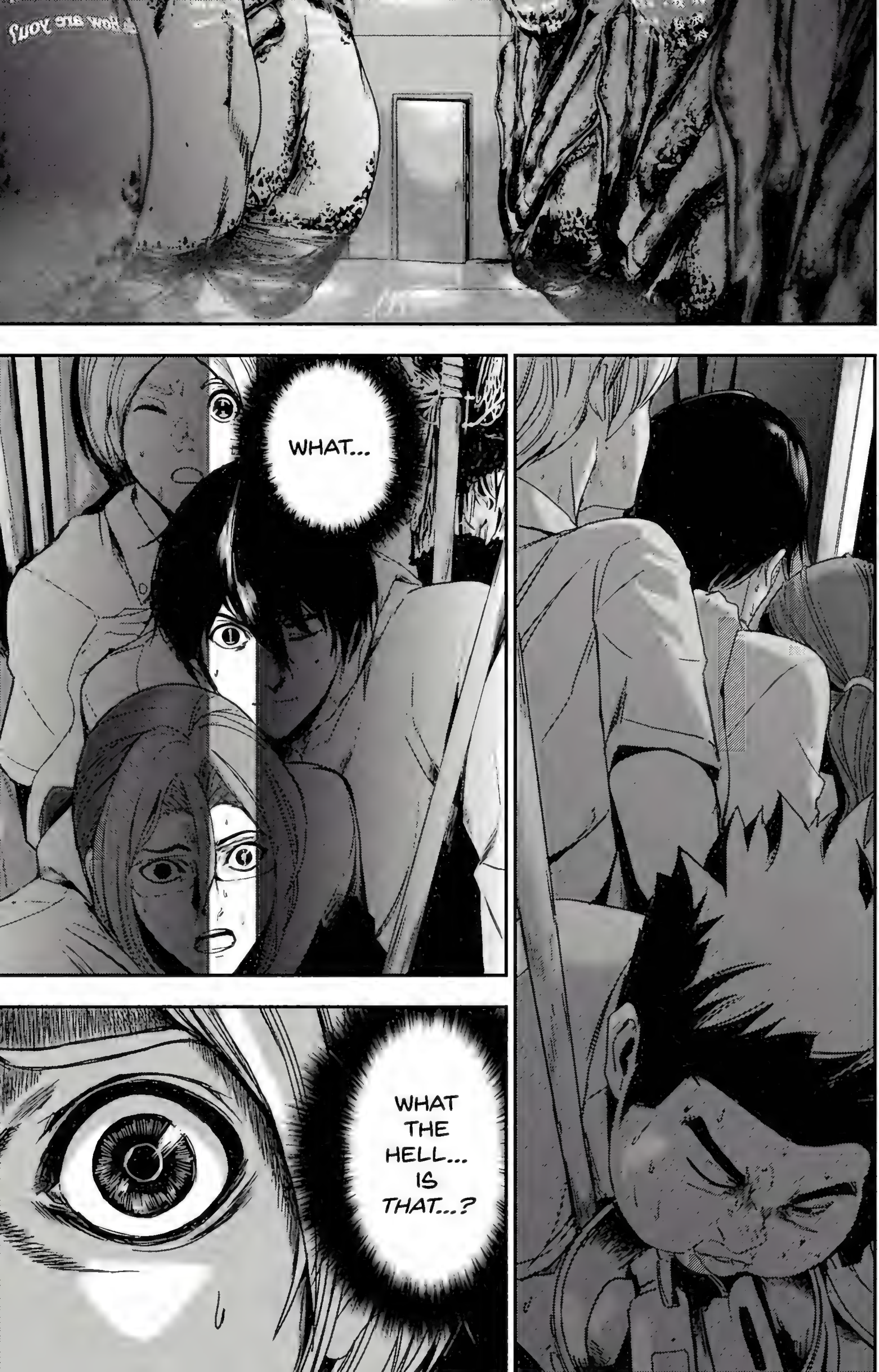

RRIIIIING
WHAT THE HELL?!

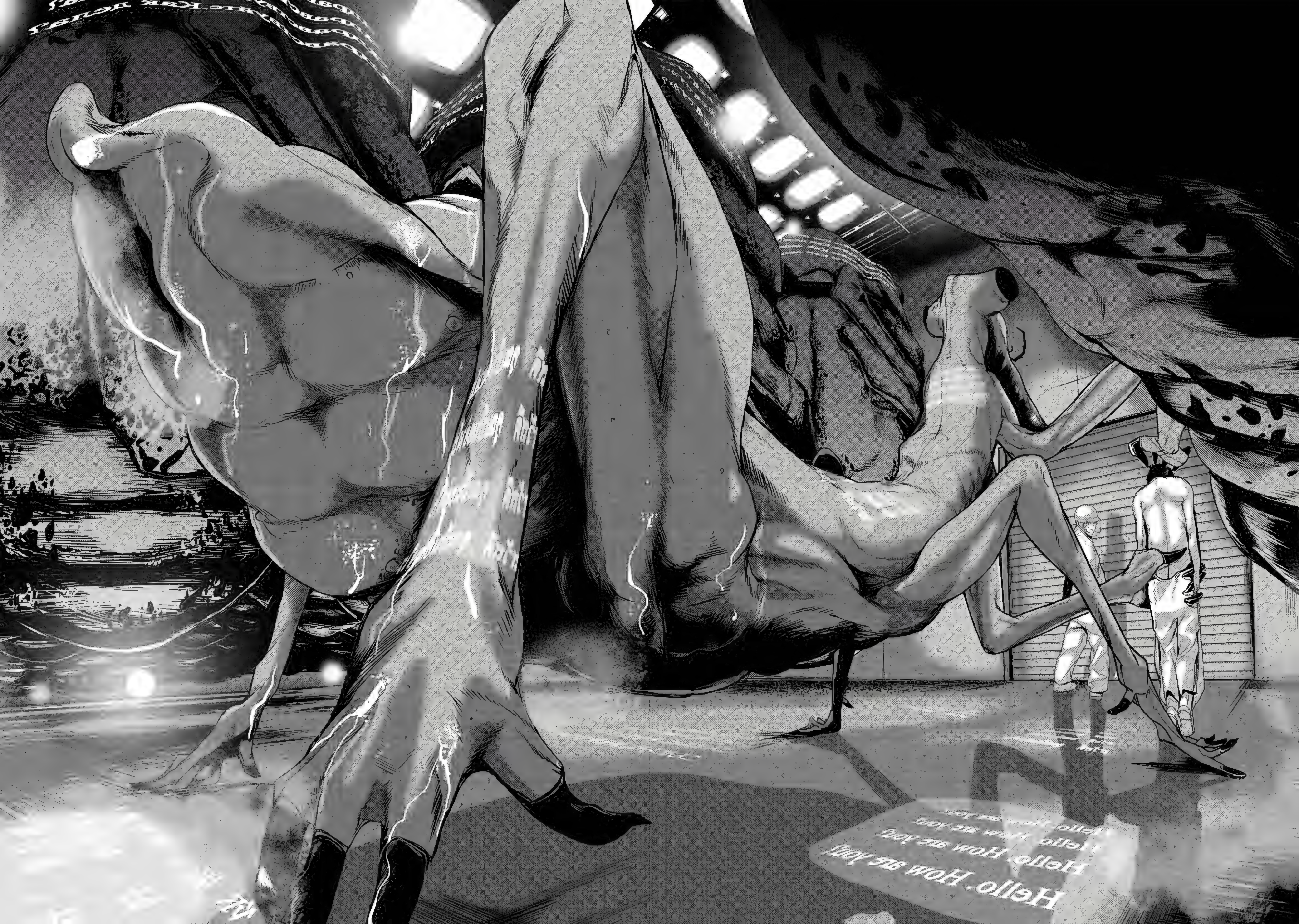

THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD
AAAH! IT'S... IT'S...IT'S HATCHING!!
RIIIING
THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD
RIIIING
TMP TMP TMP
THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD
IT'S CLOSING!
HURRY! HURRY!!
RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE
GA-
AAH...!
CLAAANG

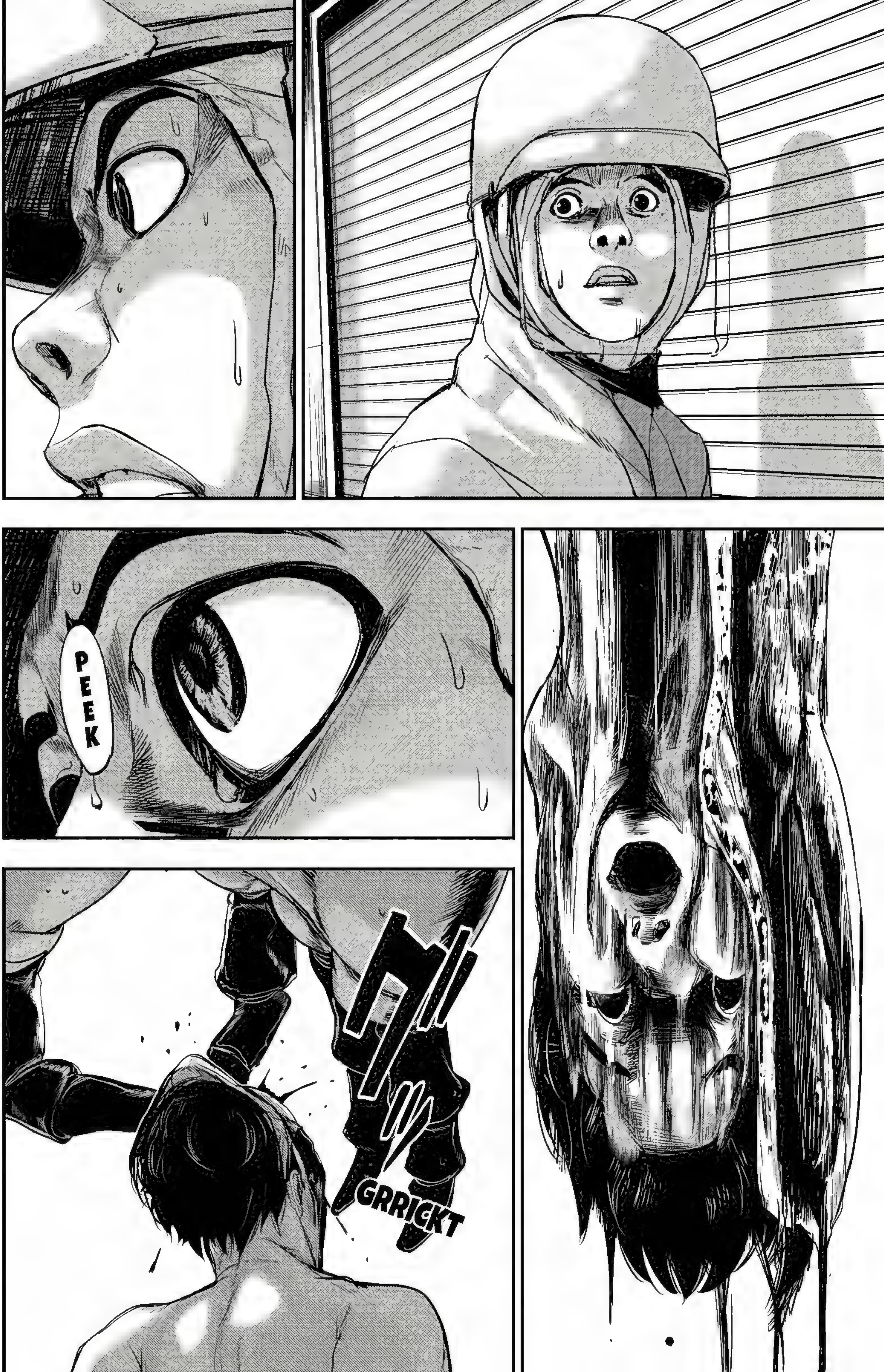

OPEN UP! PLEASE!
OPEN THIS DOOR!!
BAM
BAM
BAM
I'M BEGGING YOU!! LET-
BAM
LET US OUT!!
BAM
HELLO?! HELLO!!
PLIP
...HUH?

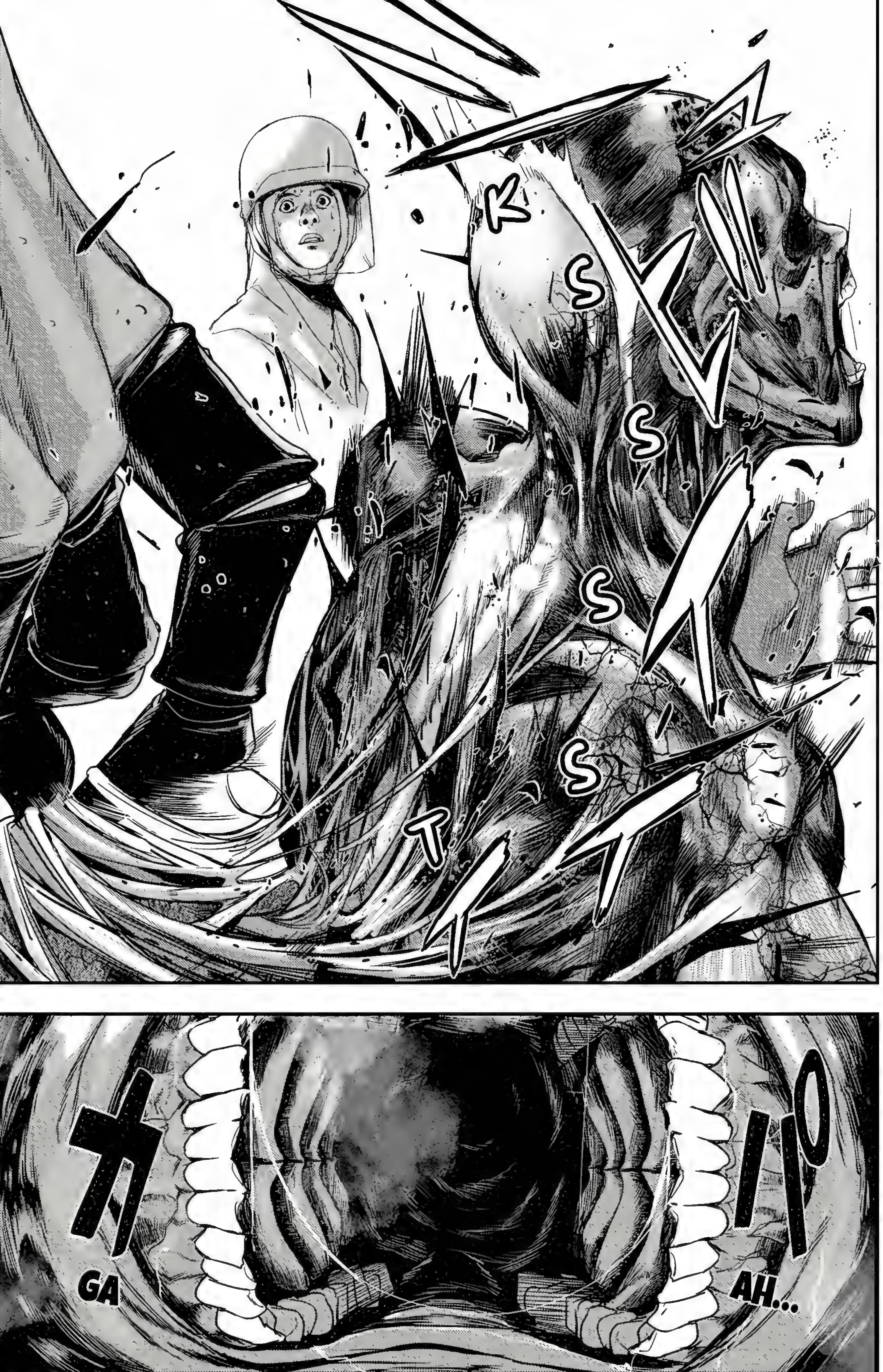


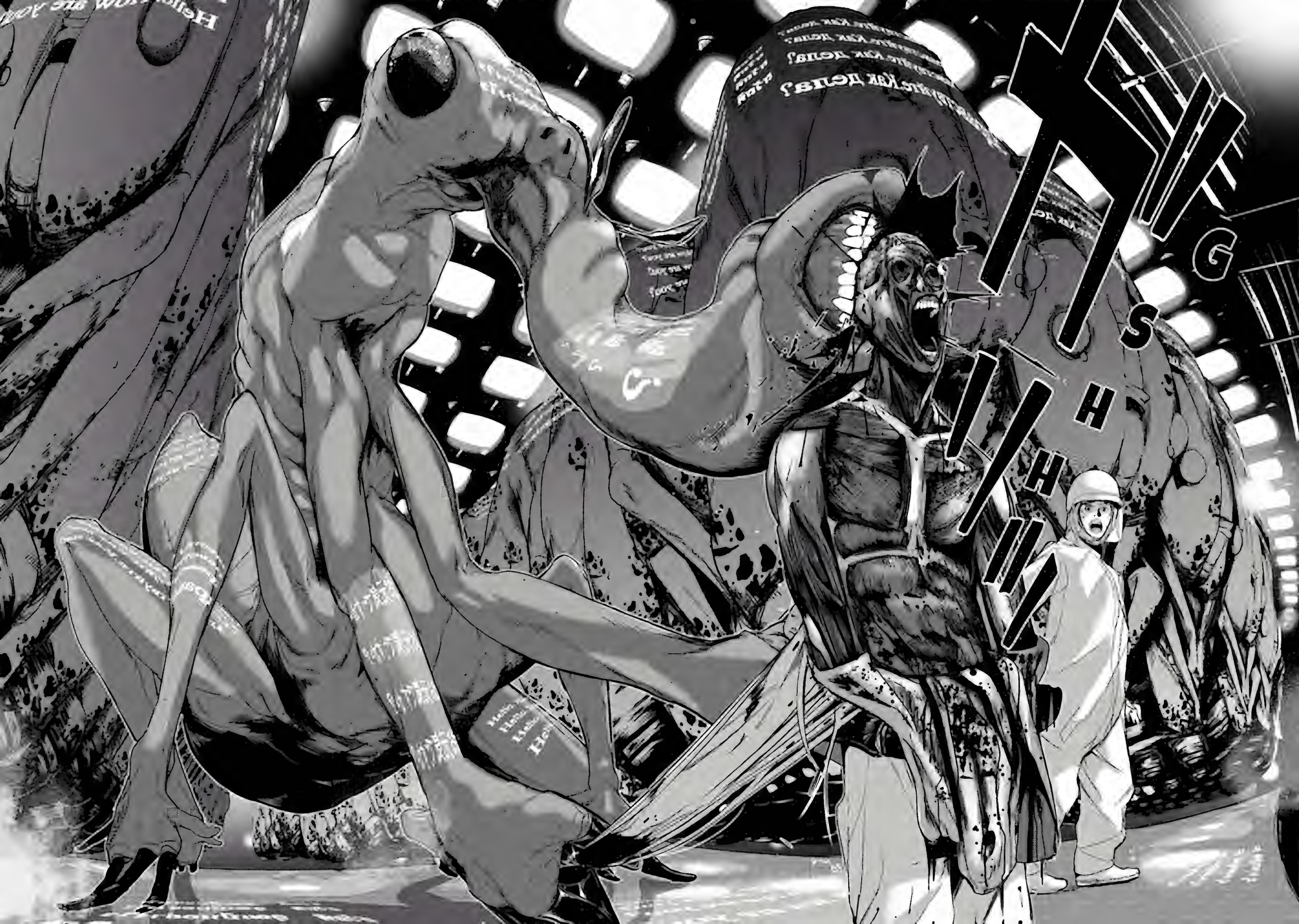

GLUP
GLUP

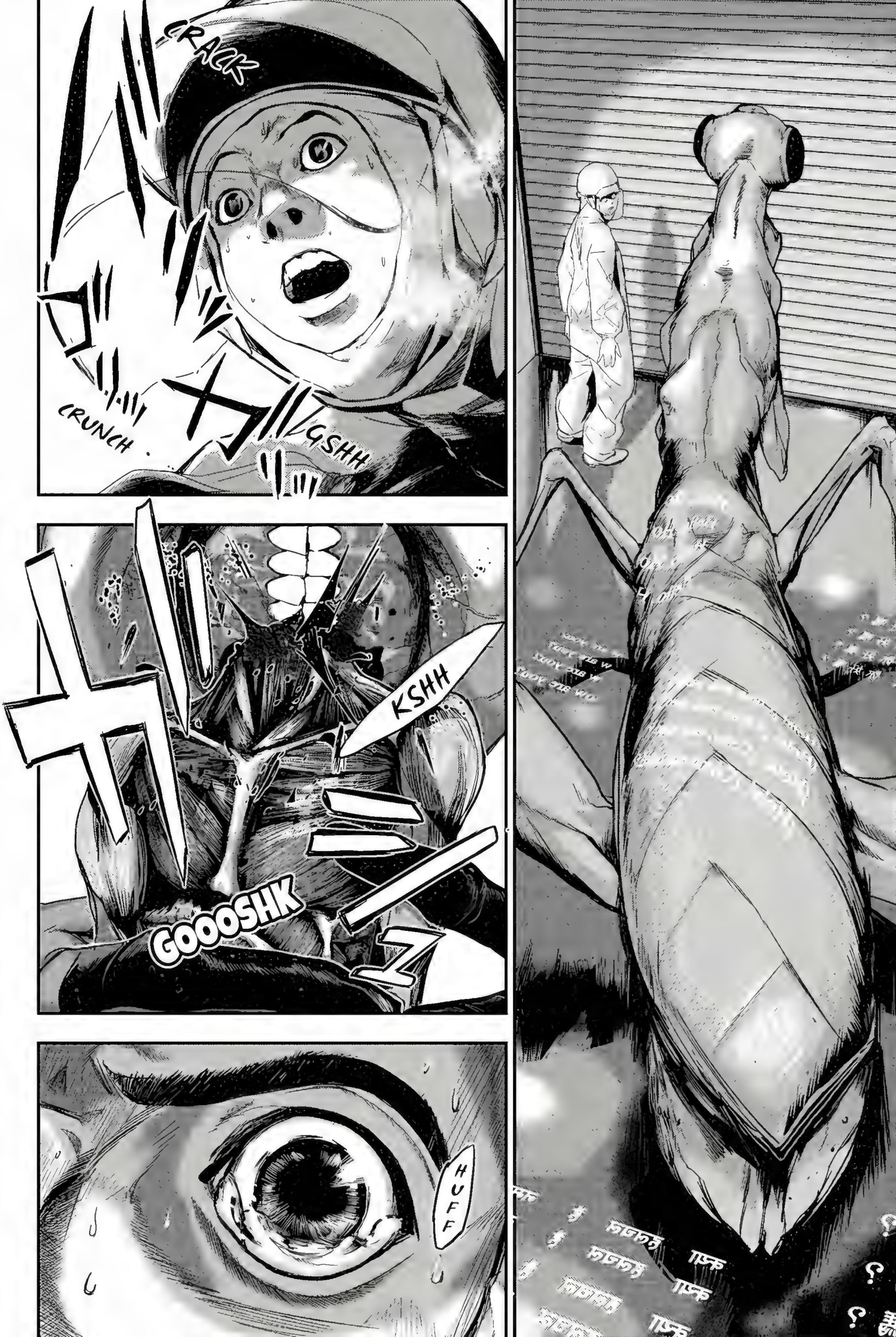

How are you?
WHAT...
WHAT THE HELL... IS *THAT*...?

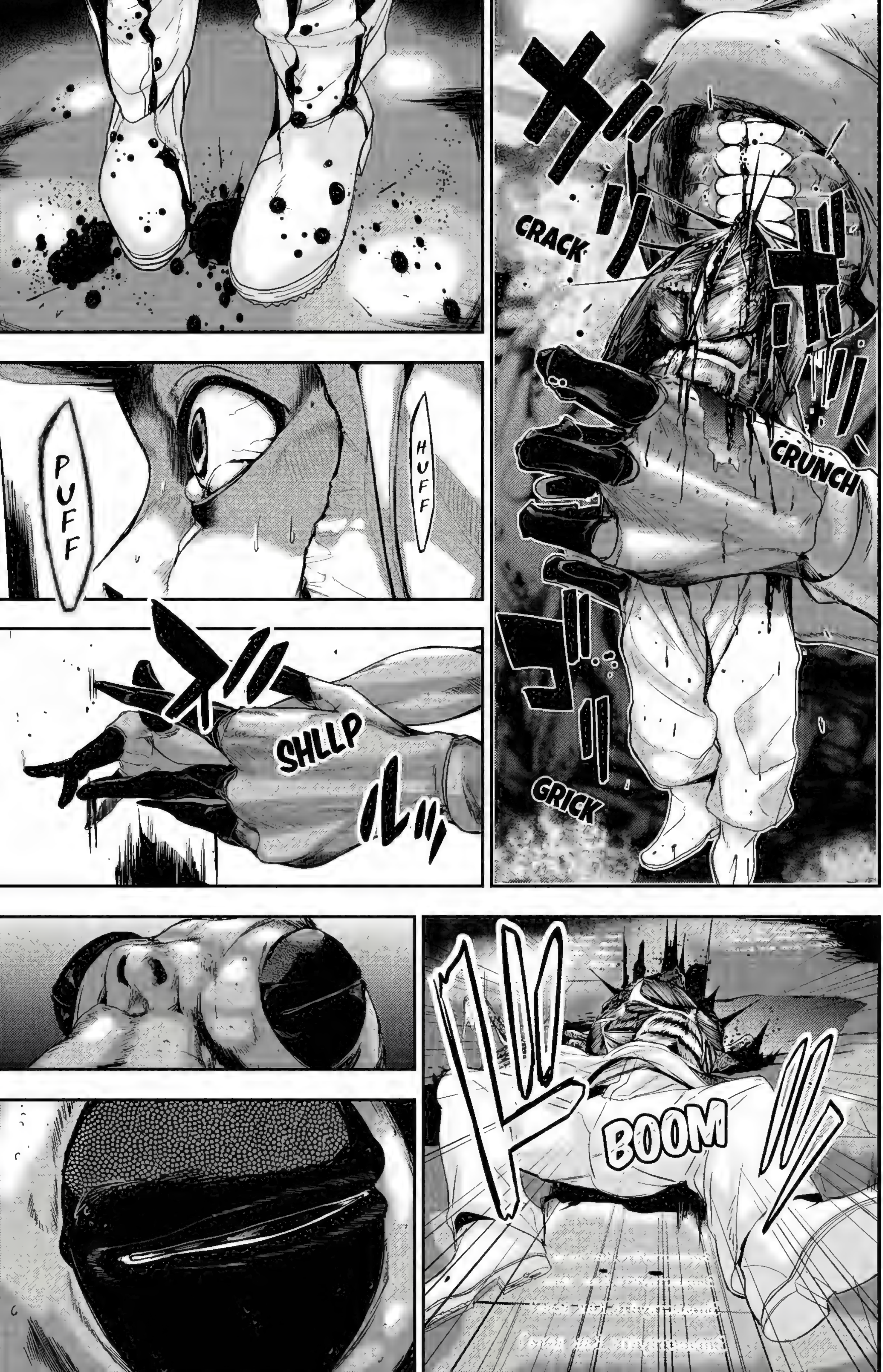

Здравствуйте. Как дела?
Hello. How are you?
Hello. How are you?
Hello. How are you?
Hello. How are you?


PEEK
GRRICKT

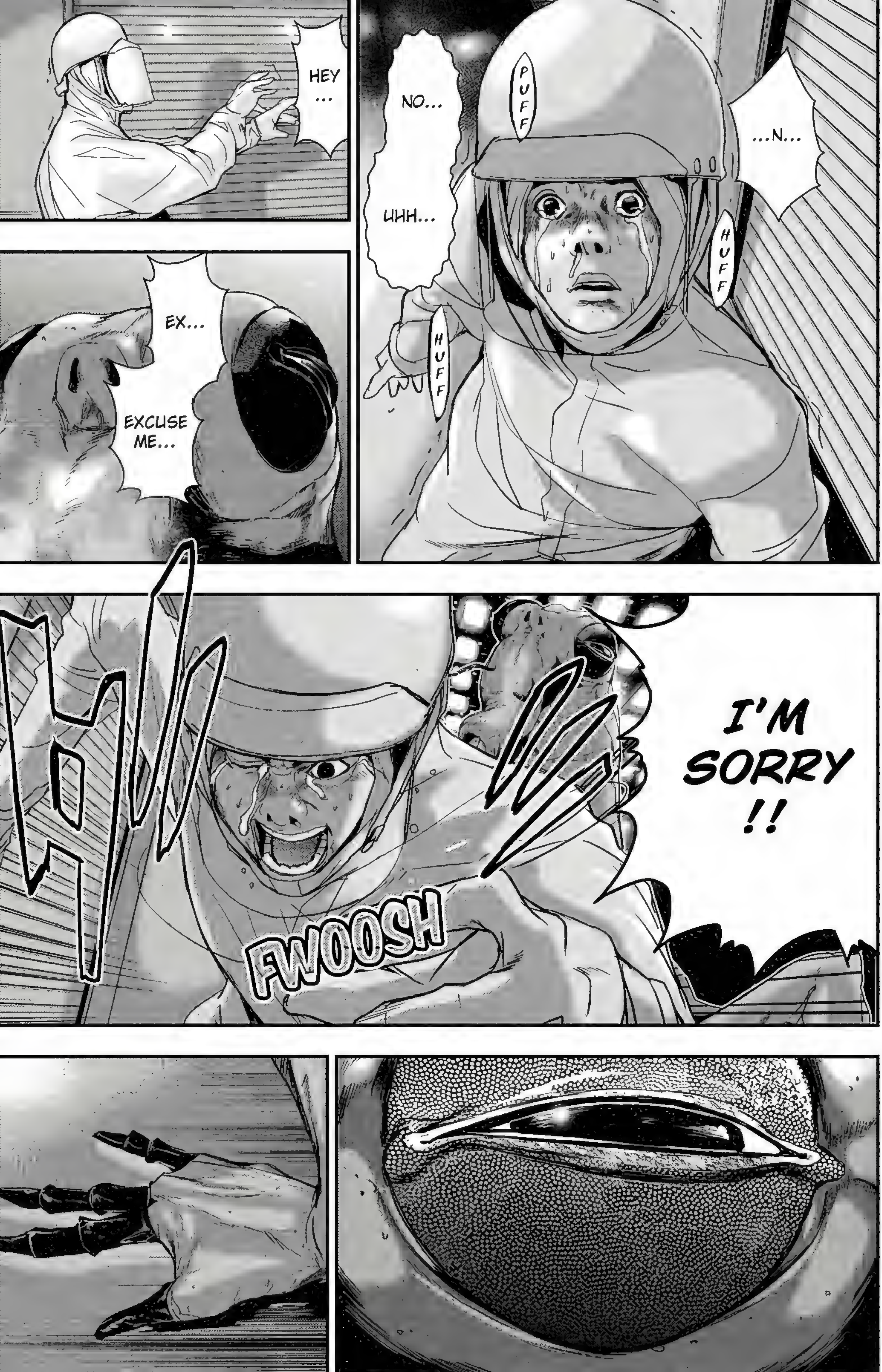

KSSSST
ガ
GA
パ
AH...

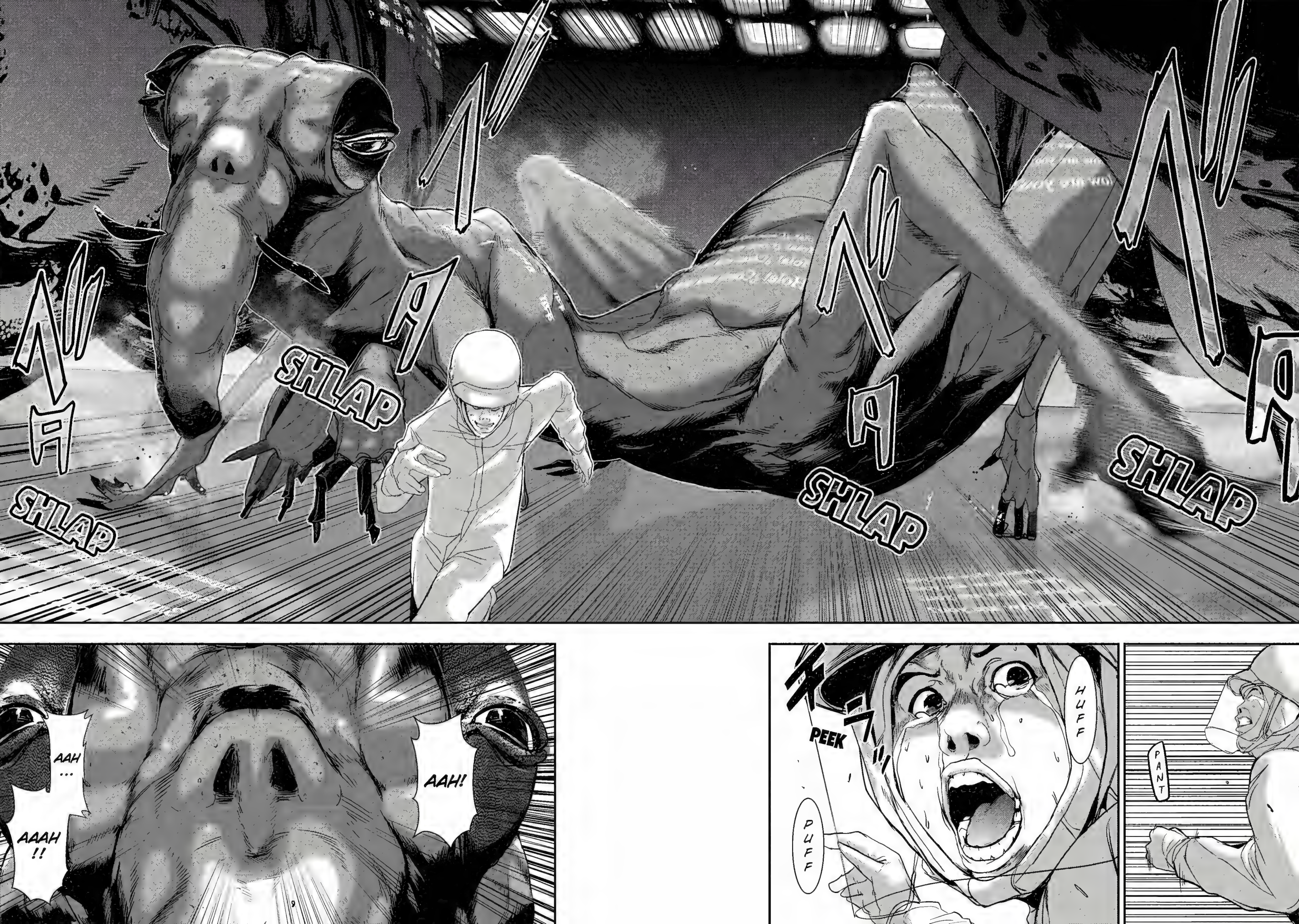

GSHHH

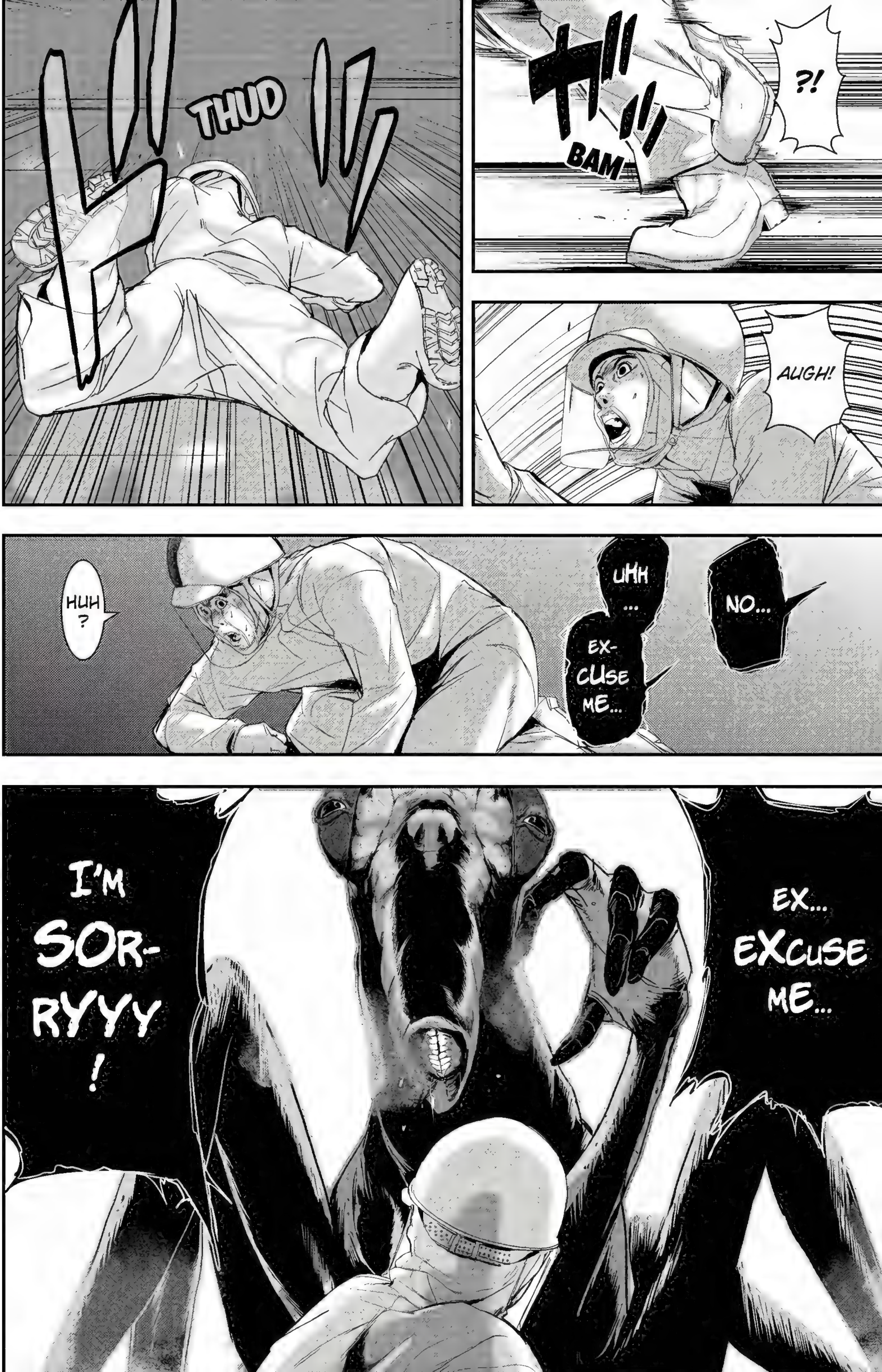

?
?
CRACK
CRUNCH
GSHH
KSHH
GOOOSHK
HUFF

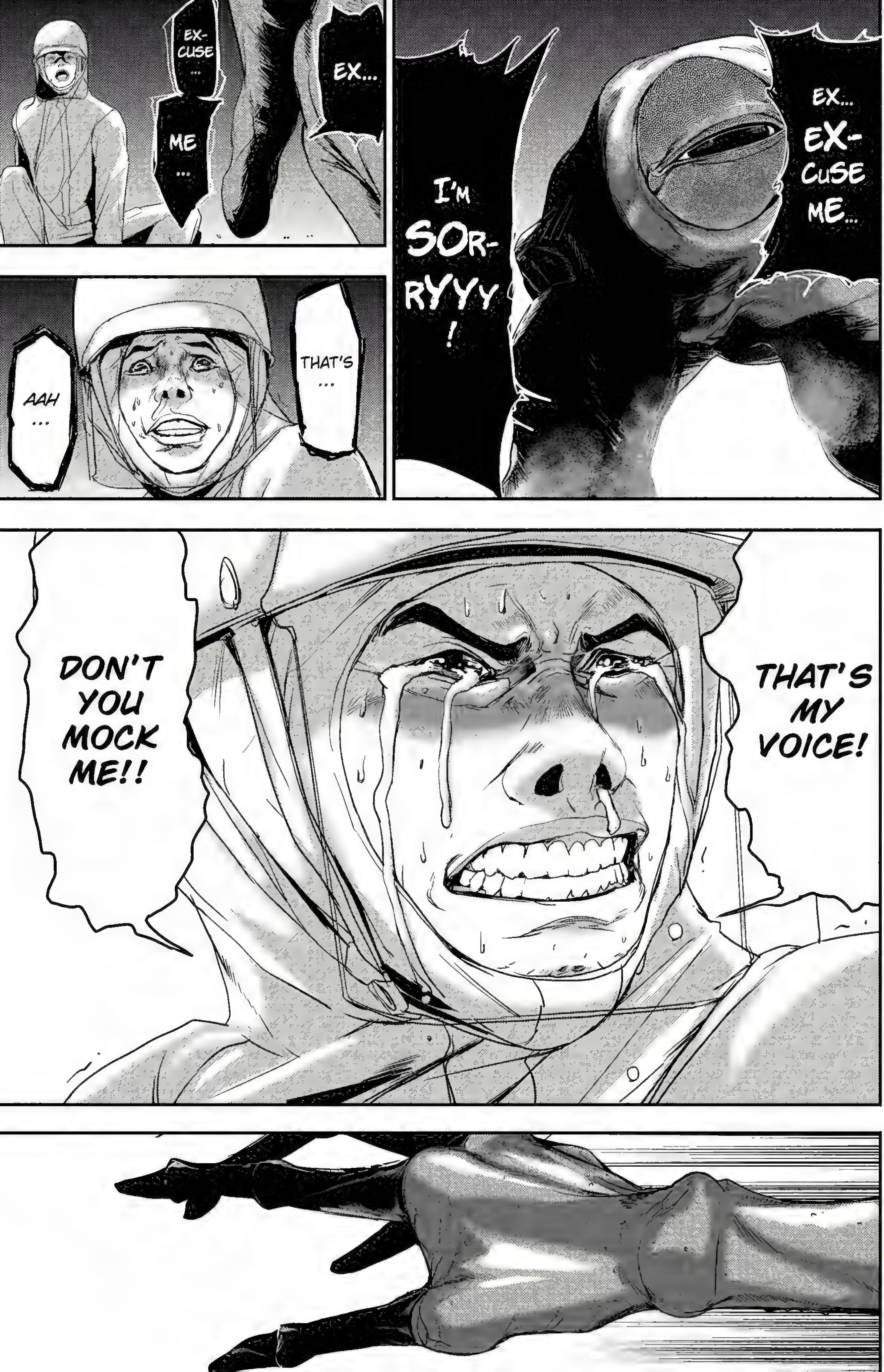

CRACK
CRUNCH
GRICK
HUFF
PUFF
SHLLP
BOOM

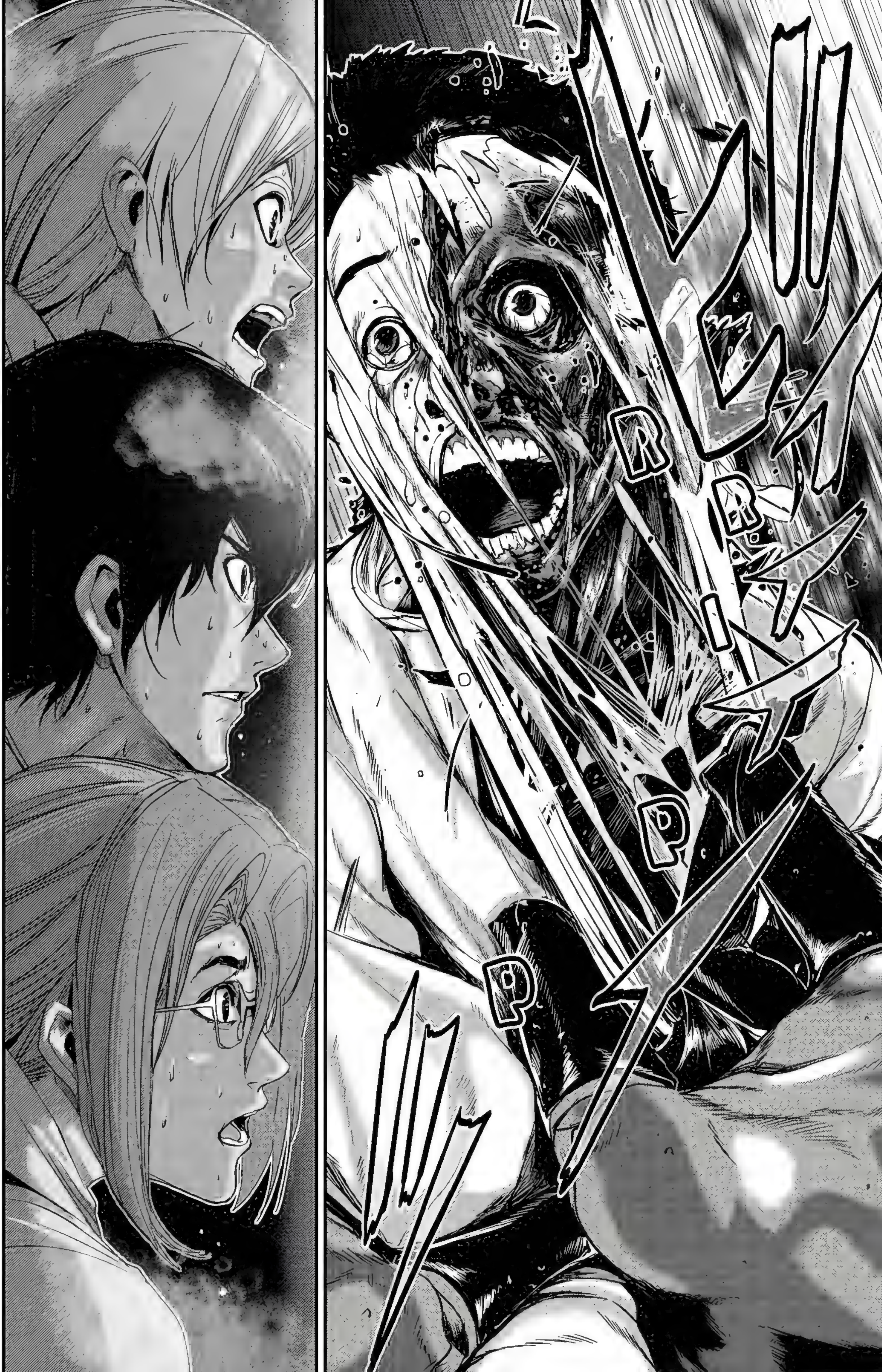
Здравствуйте
Здравствуйте. Как де
Здравствуйте. Как де
Hello. How are


...N...
PUFF
NO...
UHH...
HUFF
HUFF
HEY...
EX...
EXCUSE ME...
I'M SORRY!!
FWOOSH


SHLAP
SHLAP
SHLAP
SHLAP
PANT
HUFF
PEEK
PUFF
AAH!
AAH...
AAAH!!


?!
ガッ
BAM
THUD
AUGH!
NO...
UHH ...
EX-CUSE ME...
HUH?
EX... EXCUSE ME...
I'M SORRYYY!


EX... EX-CUSE ME...
I'M SORRYYY!
EX...
EXCUSE ... ME ...
THAT'S ...
AAH ...
THAT'S MY VOICE!
DON'T YOU MOCK ME!!


RRIPP

STARVING
ANONYMOUS
1
END

NO PROBLEMS HERE!
AAA-AHH !!
DANGER
CONTROLLED ACCESS ZONE
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY
FSHHH
WHEN I FIRST SET EYES ON THE FACILITY ...

Your hopes of escaping this prison are dead.

Beneath the surface, society is warped…

…unfathomable horrors drive I'e and his companions to the brink…

…and the secrets locked away in the darkest depths of the facility will be told at last…

…strange, grotesque discoveries come to light…

STARVING ANONYMOUS ②

COMING SOON

Starving Anonymous 1

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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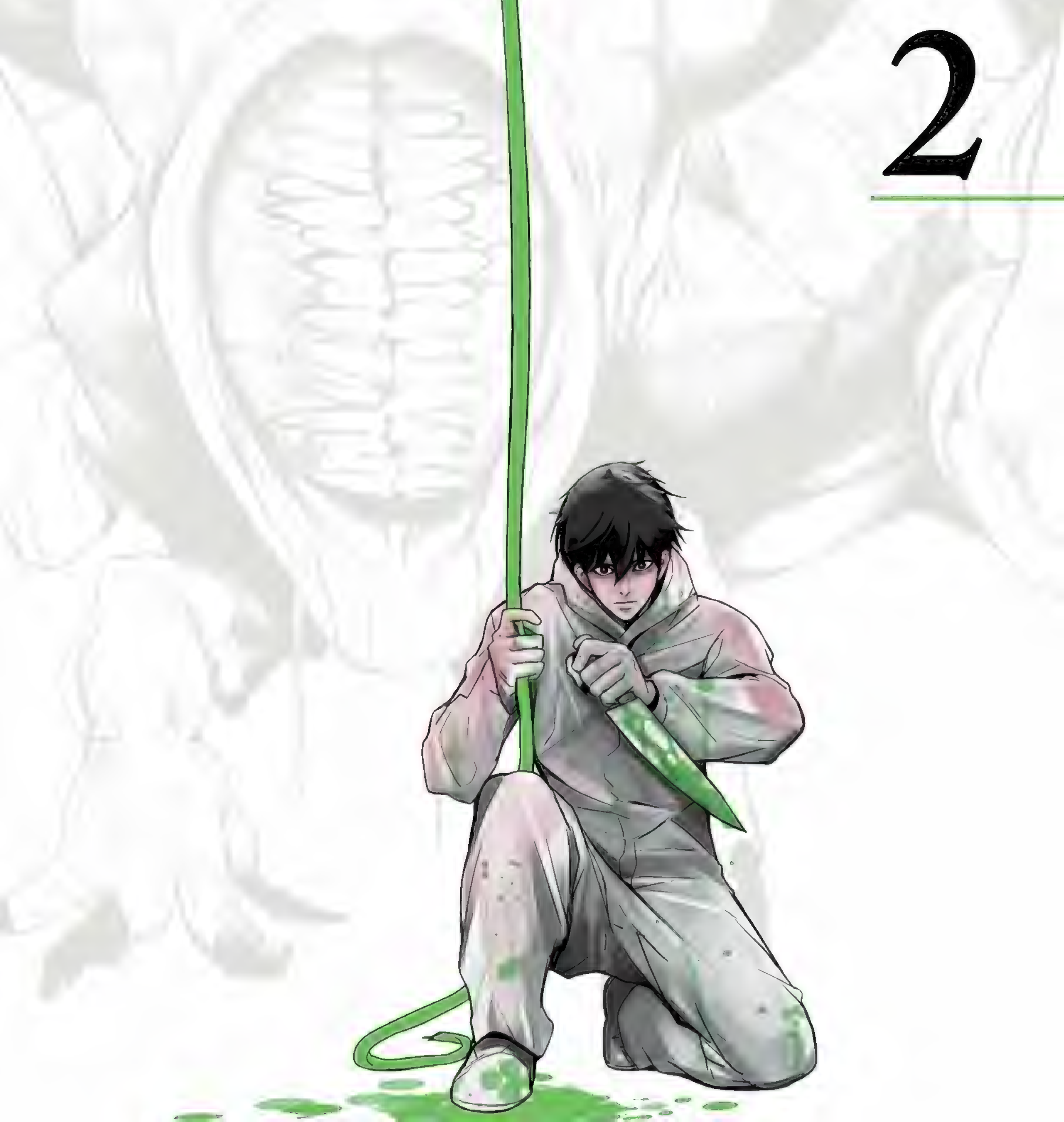
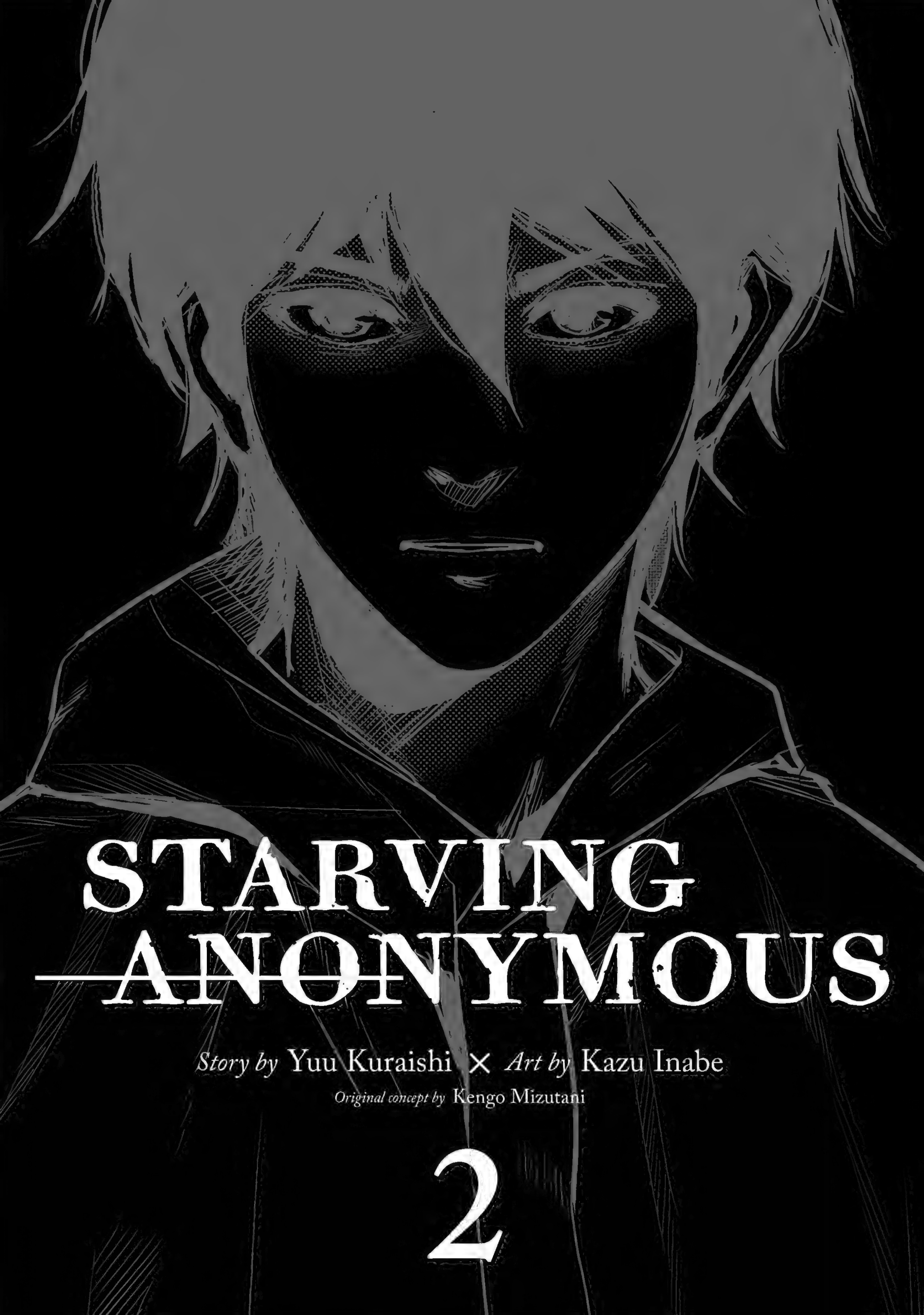
STARVING ANONYMOUS

Story by Yuu Kuraishi × *Art by* Kazu Inabe

Original concept by Kengo Mizutani

2





STARVING ANONYMOUS

Story by Yuu Kuraishi × *Art by* Kazu Inabe

Original concept by Kengo Mizutani

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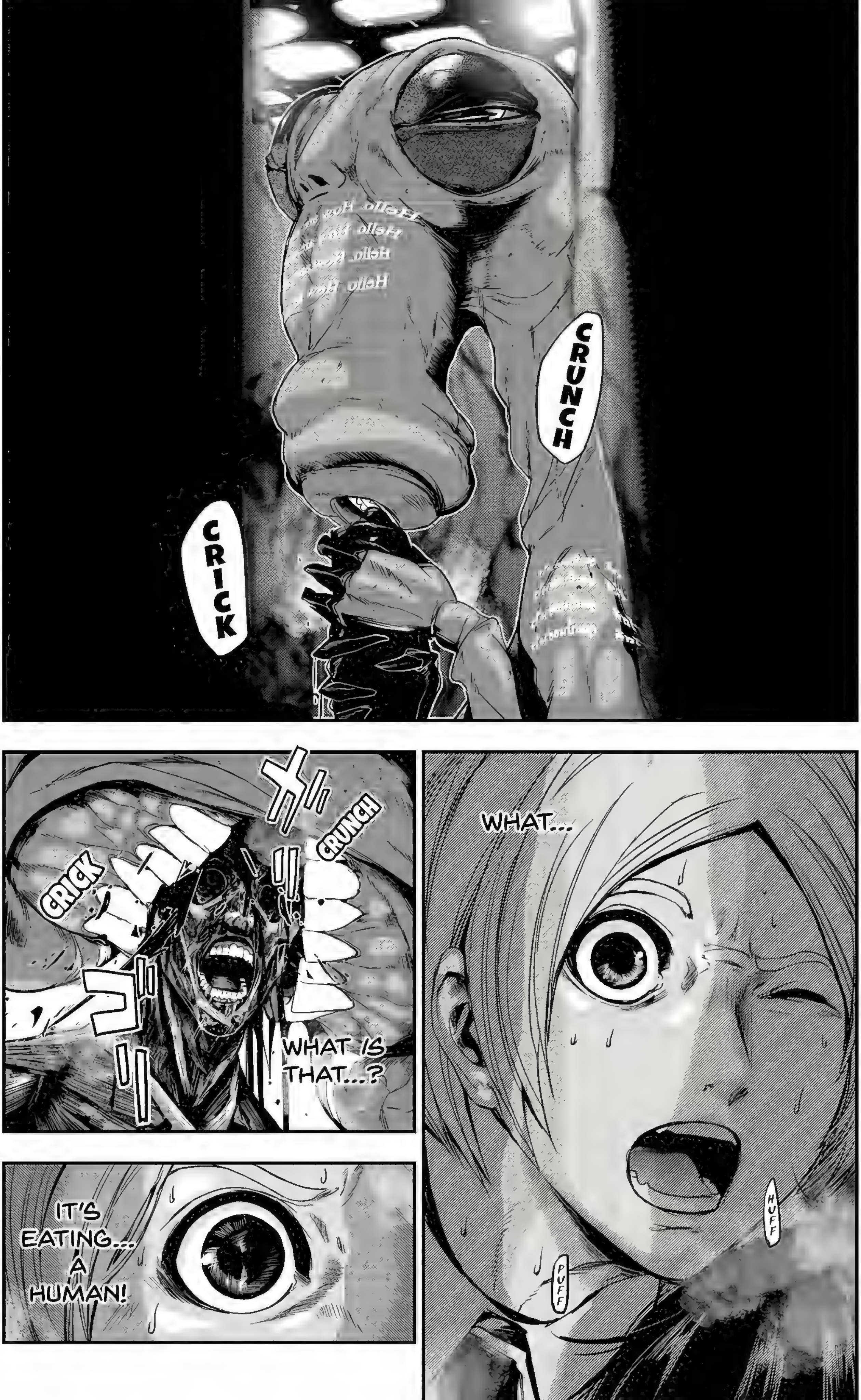
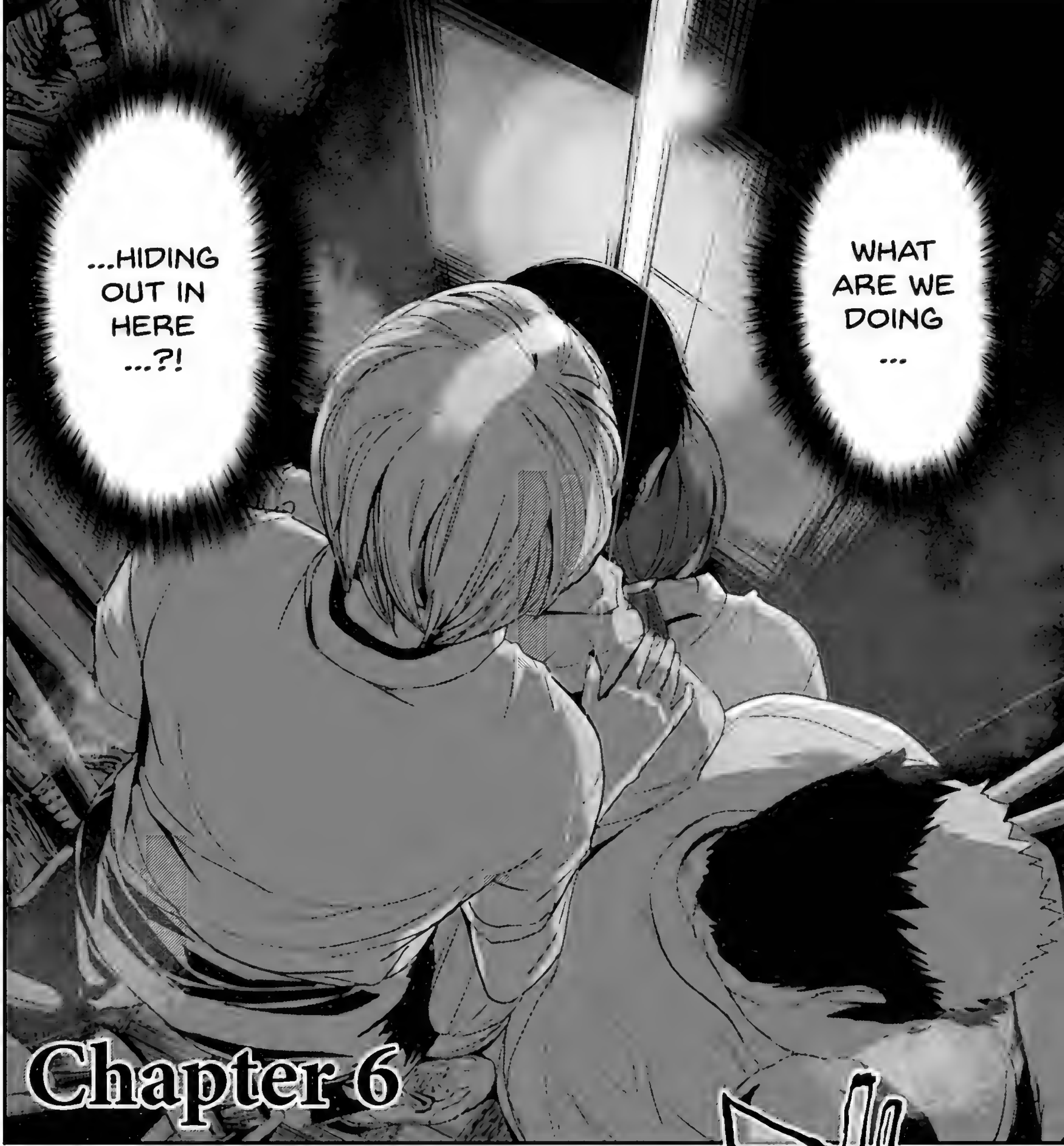
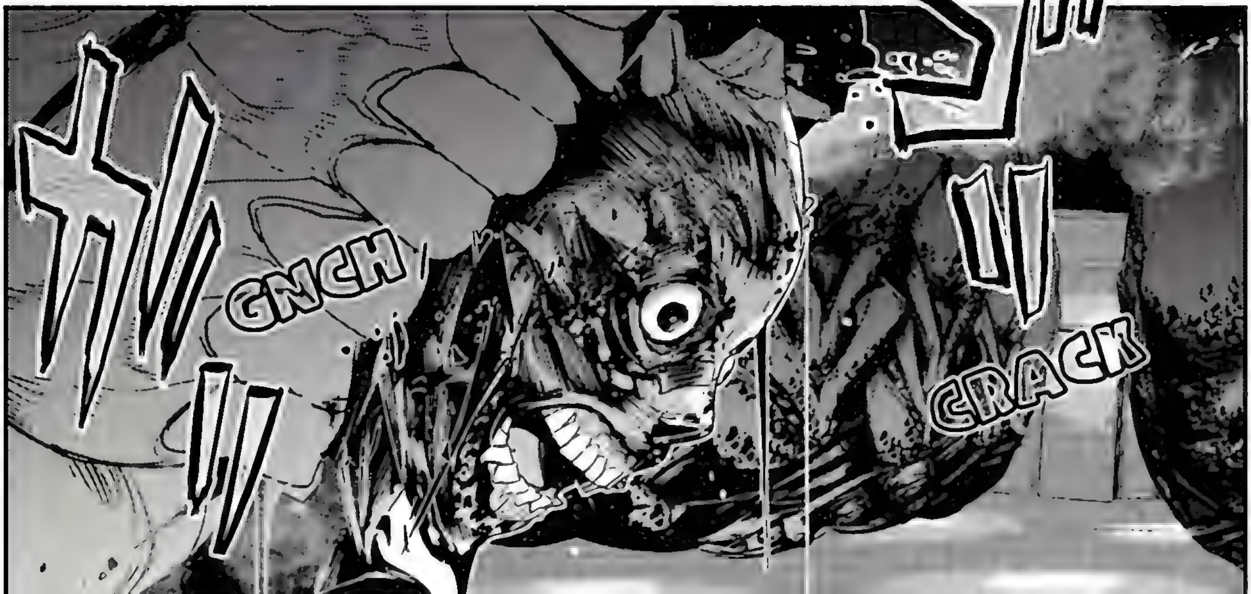
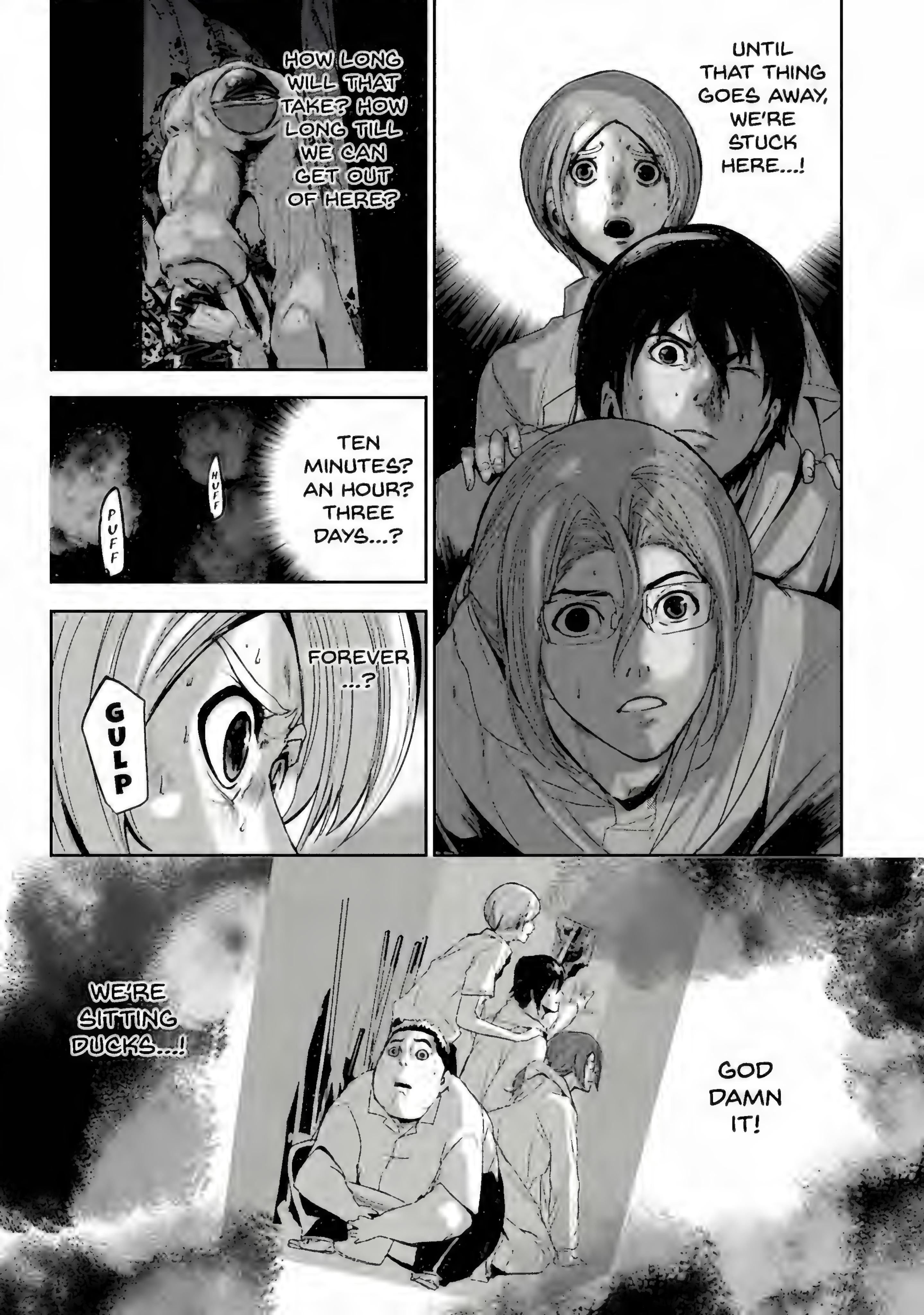
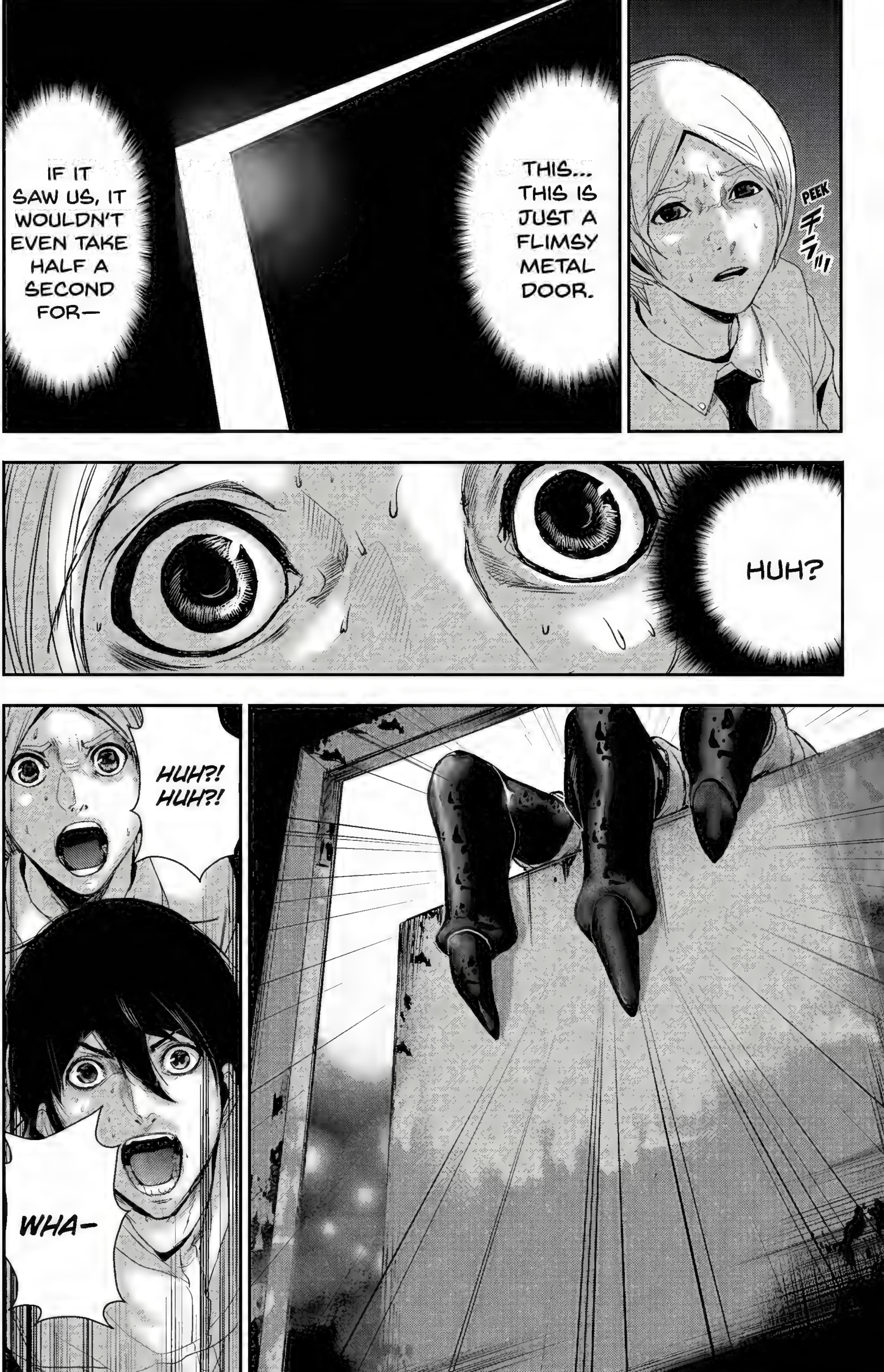

CRUNCH
CRICK
WHAT...
HUFF
PUFF
CRUNCH
CRICK
WHAT IS THAT...?
IT'S EATING... A HUMAN!

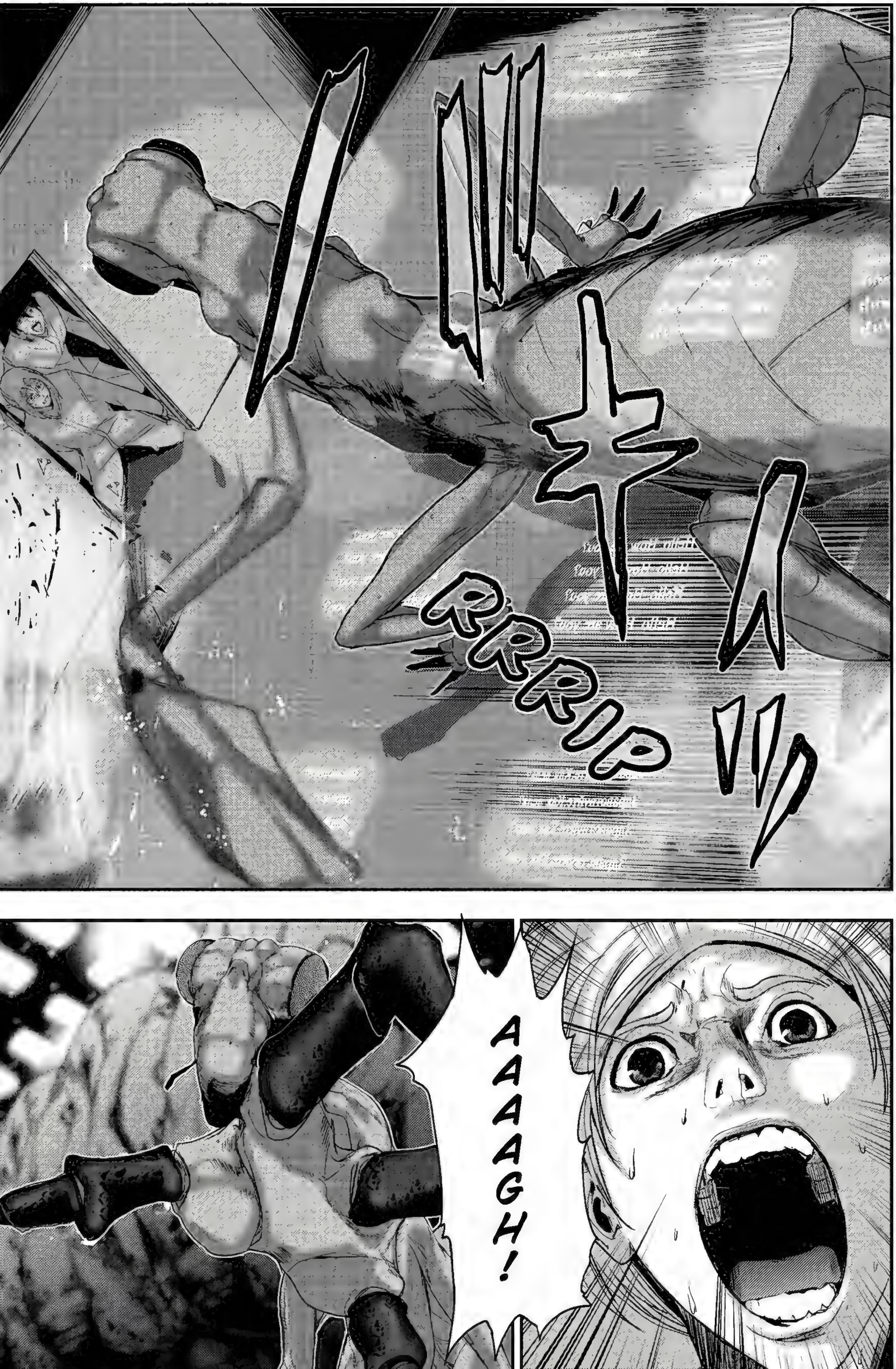

WHAT ARE WE DOING ...
...HIDING OUT IN HERE ...?!

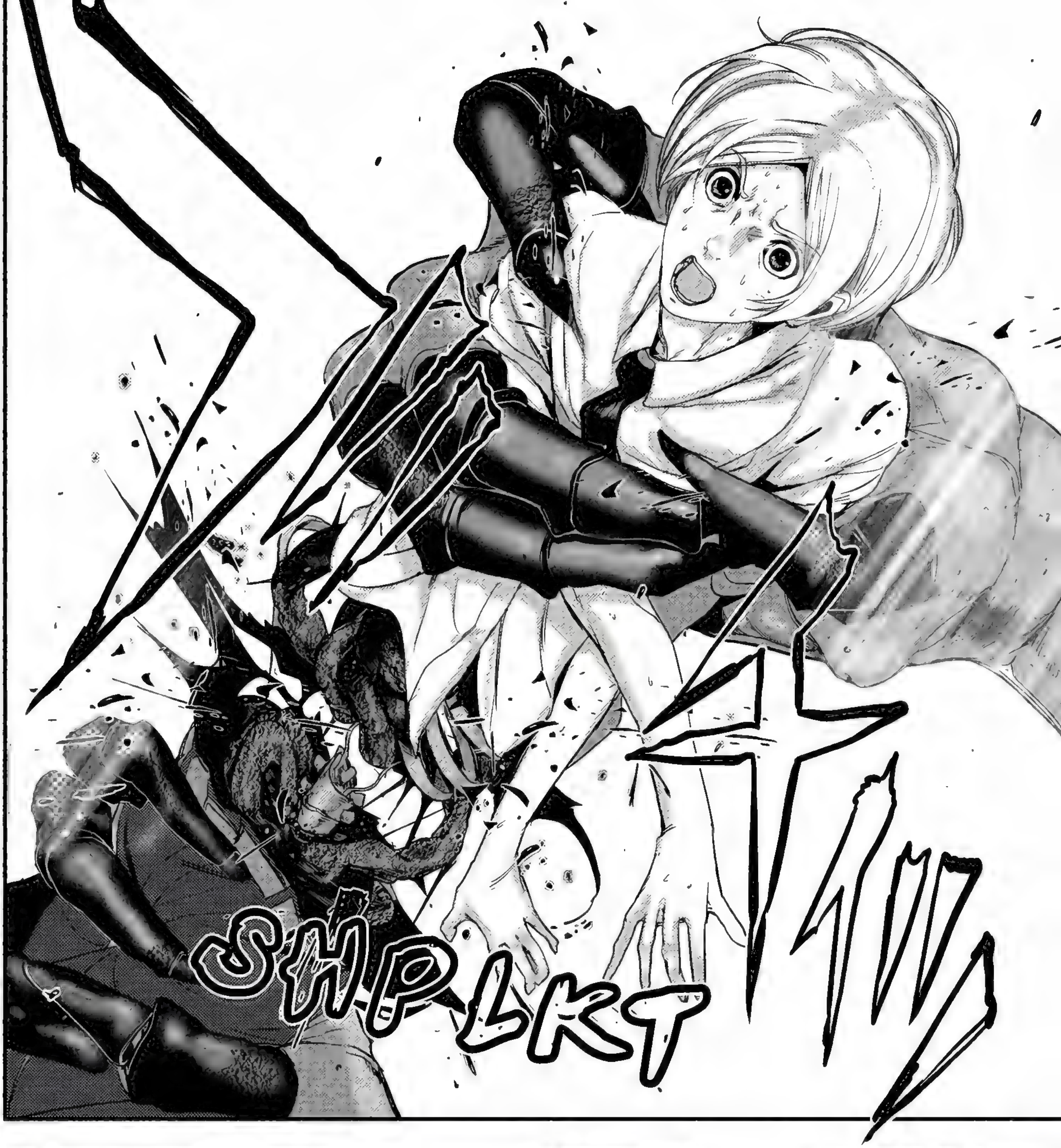
Chapter 6

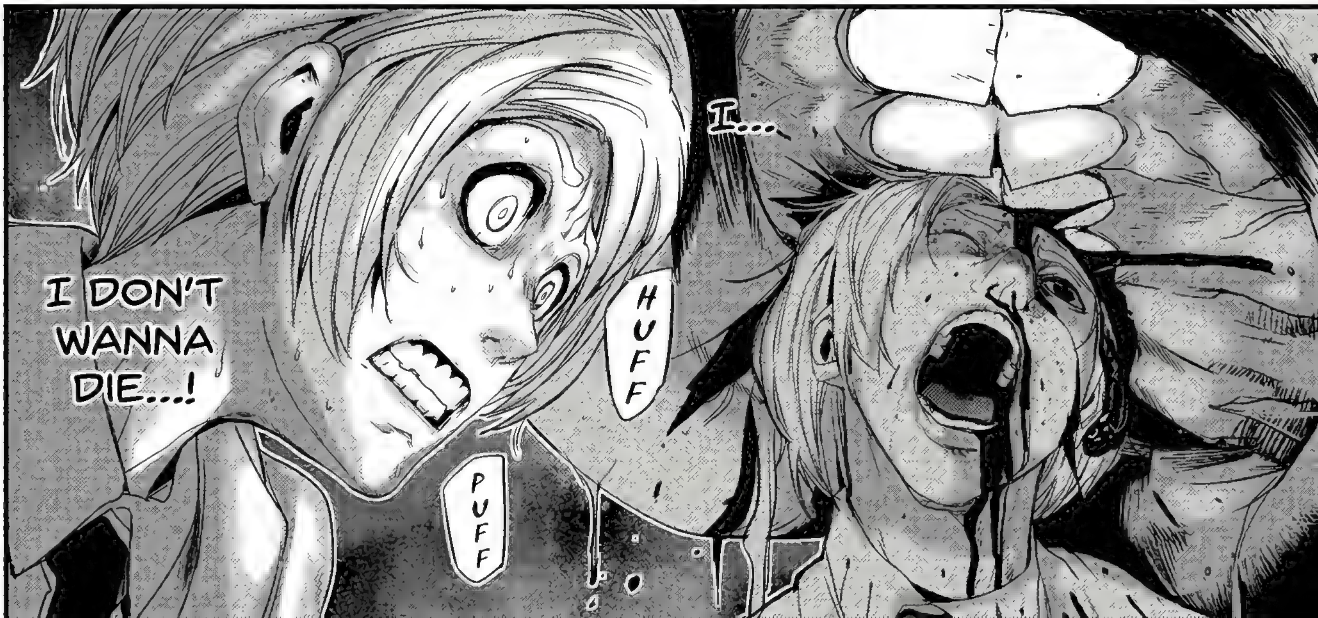


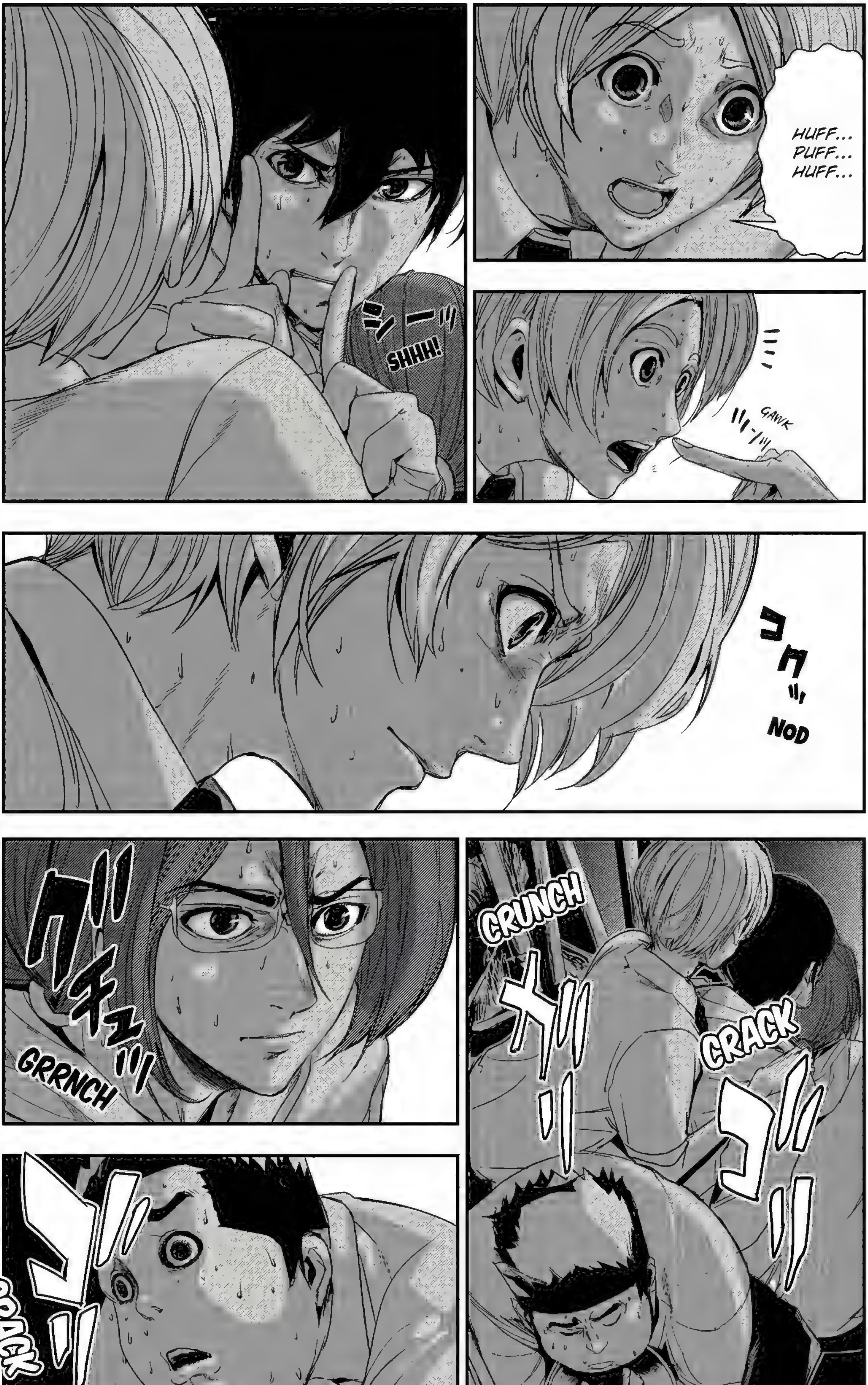

UNTIL THAT THING GOES AWAY, WE'RE STUCK HERE...!
HOW LONG WILL THAT TAKE? HOW LONG TILL WE CAN GET OUT OF HERE?
HUFF
PUFF
TEN MINUTES? AN HOUR? THREE DAYS...?
FOREVER ...?
GULP
GOD DAMN IT!
WE'RE SITTING DUCKS...!

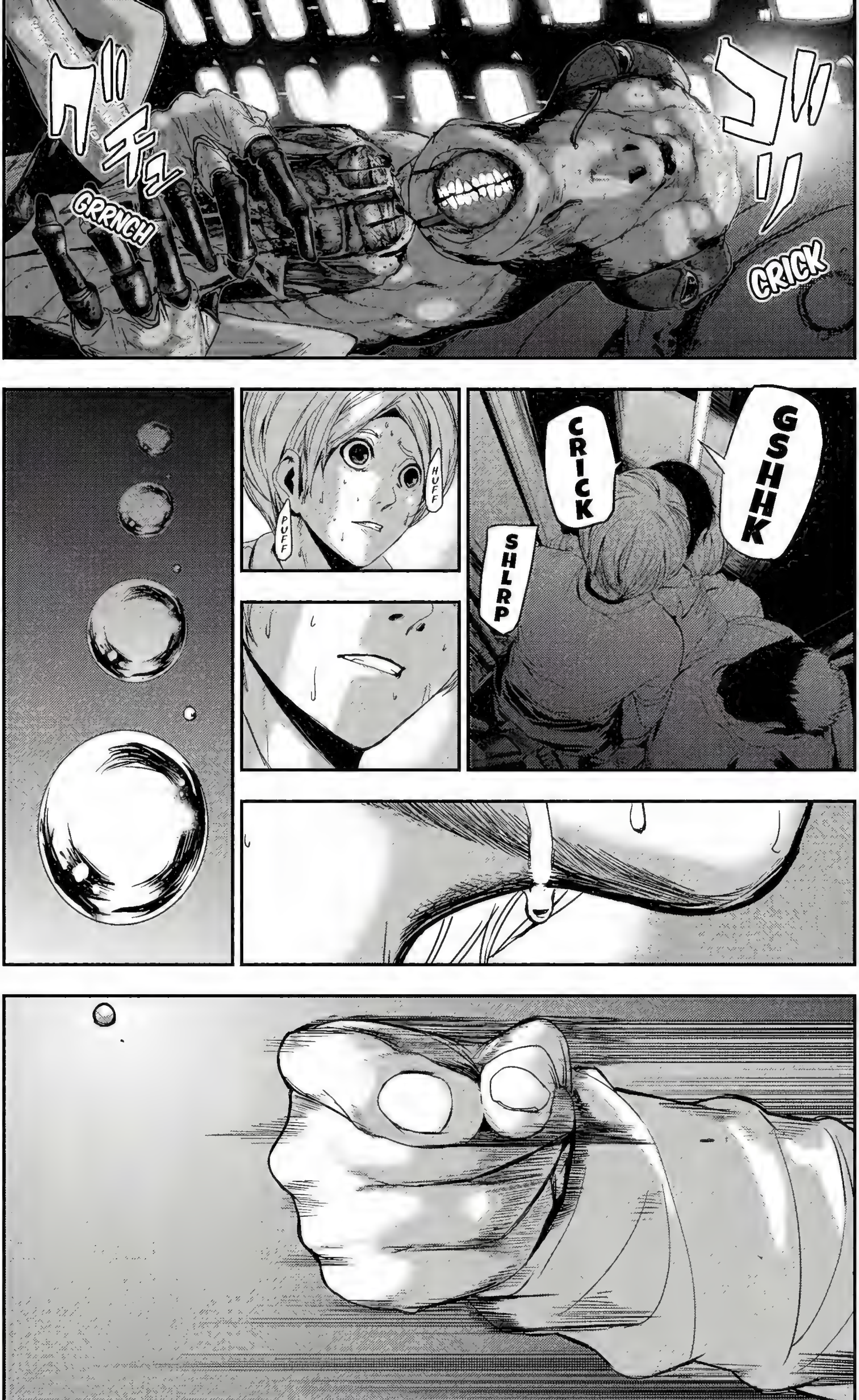

PEEK
チラッ
THIS... THIS IS JUST A FLIMSY METAL DOOR.
IF IT SAW US, IT WOULDN'T EVEN TAKE HALF A SECOND FOR—
HUH?
HUH?! HUH?!
WHA-

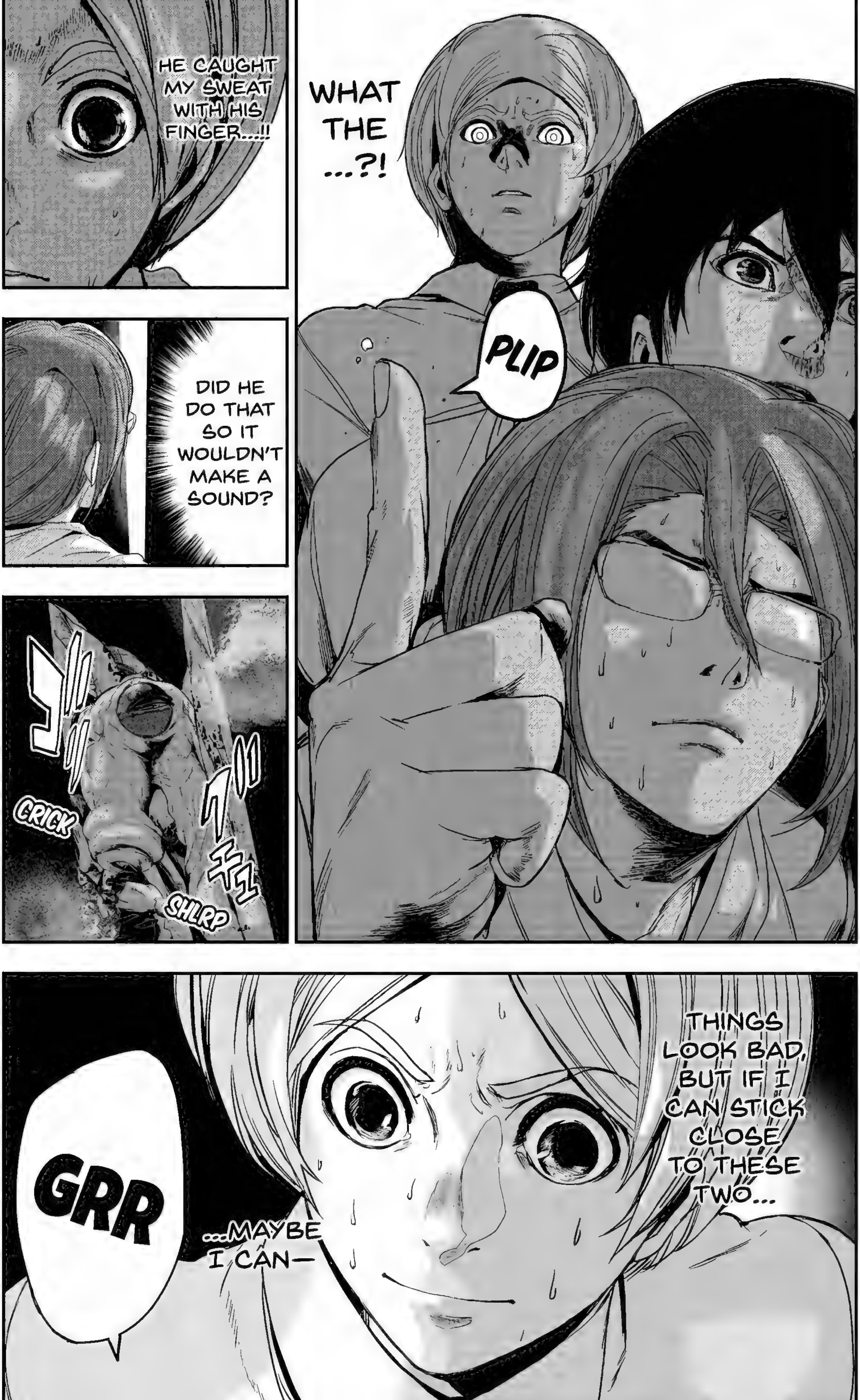

RRRIP
AAAAAGH!

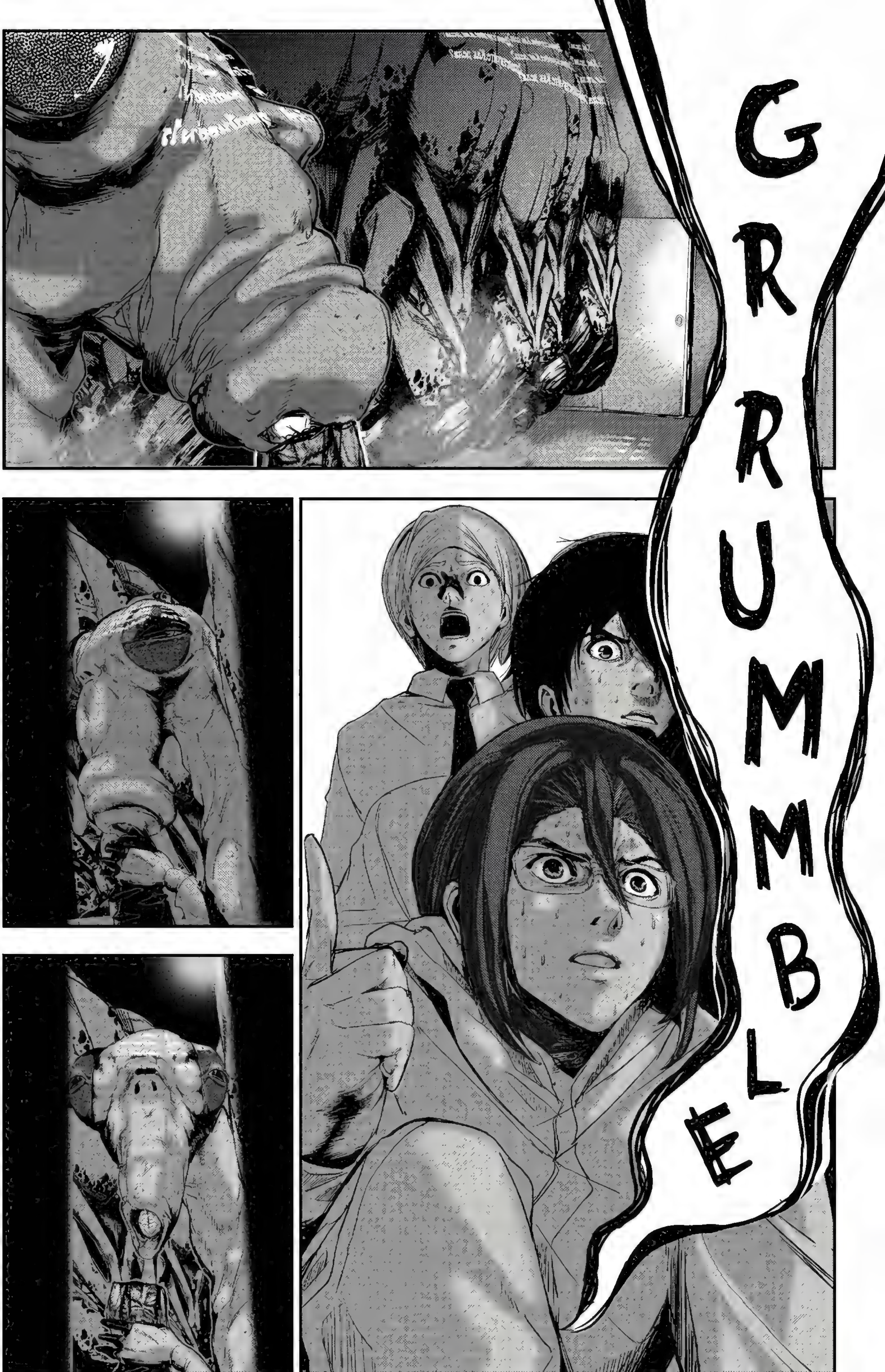

SHPLKT

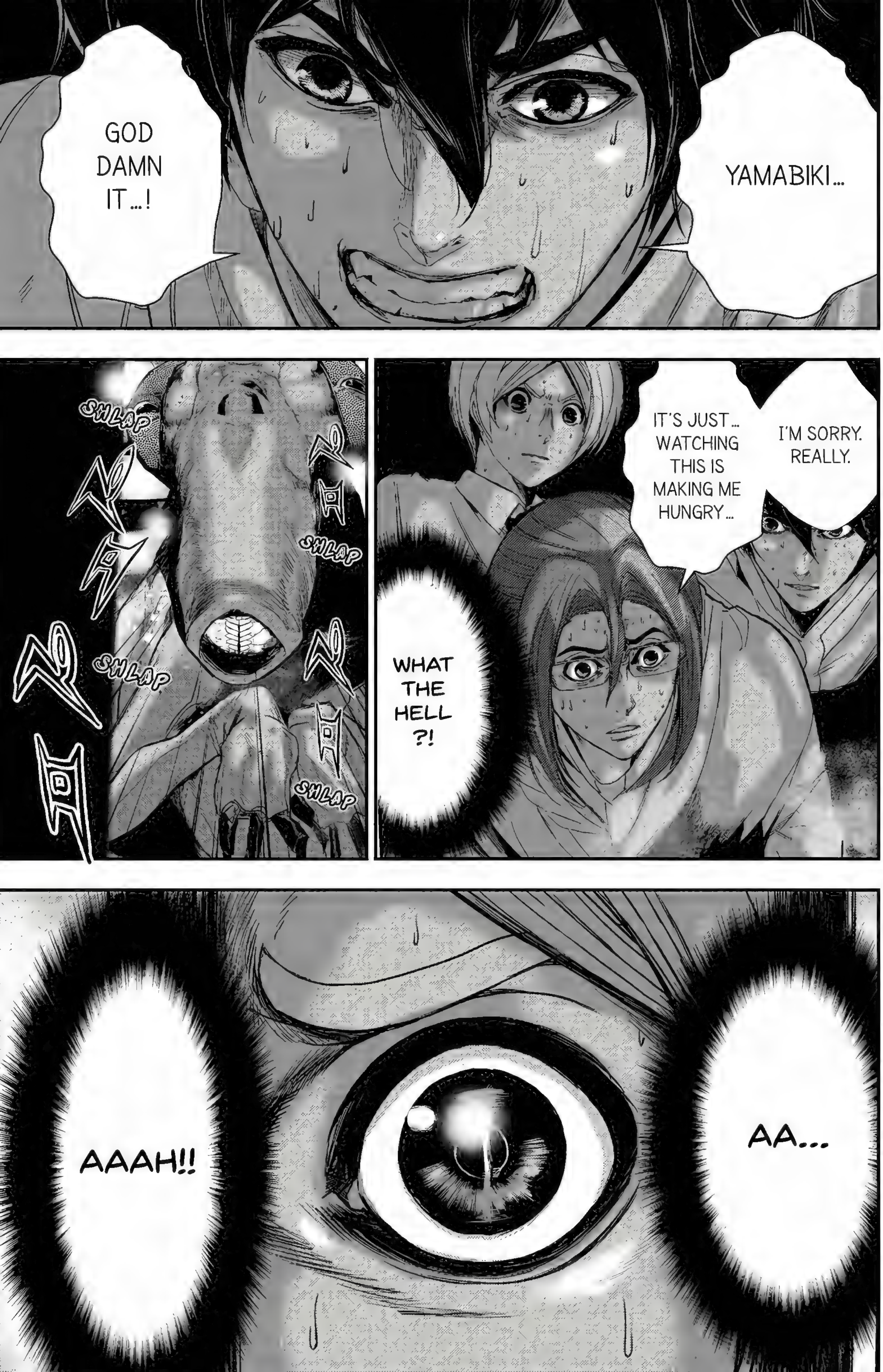

I...
I DON'T WANNA DIE...!
HUFF
PUFF
PUFF

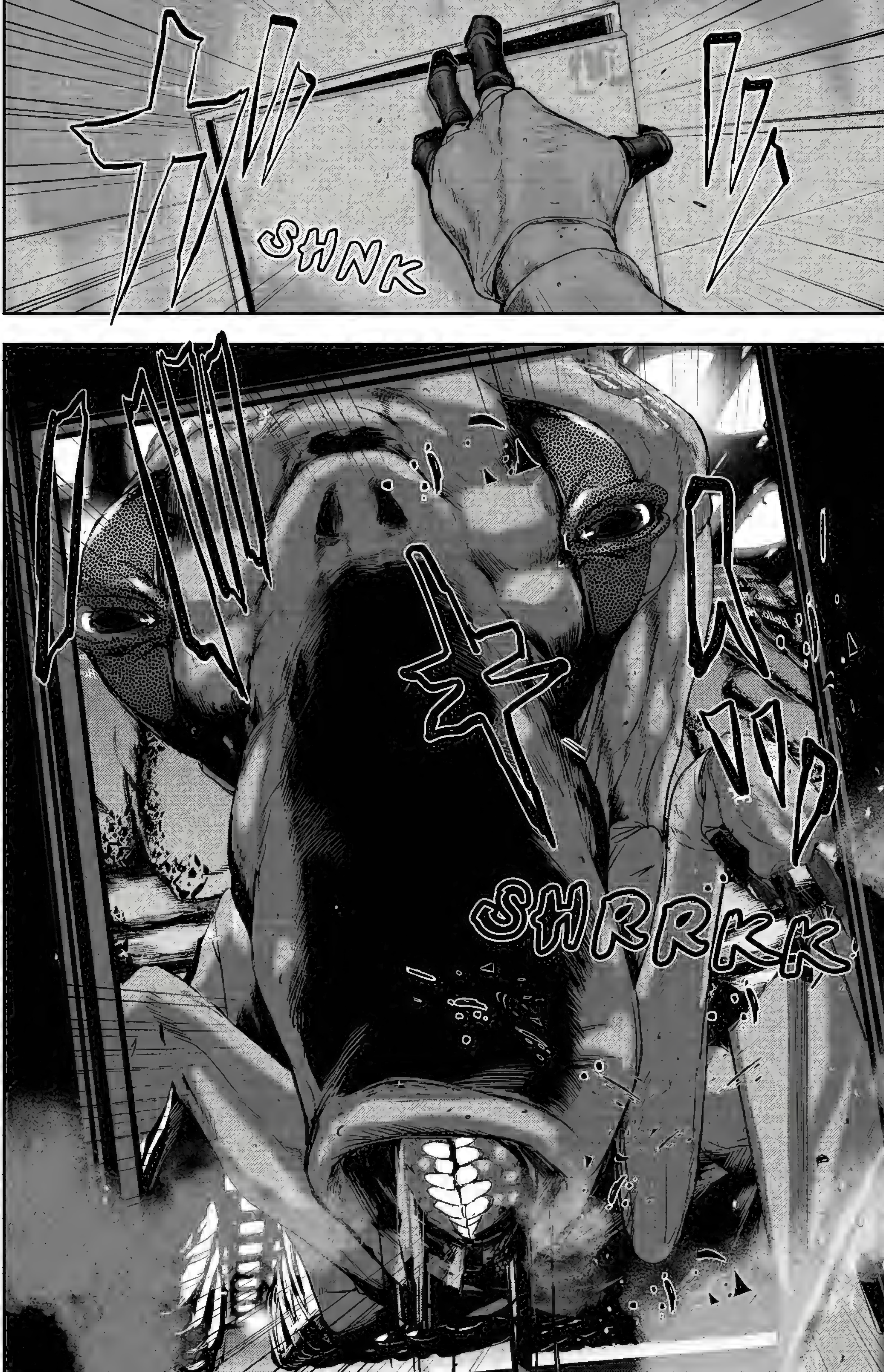

HUFF...
PUFF...
HUFF...
シーッ
SHHH!
ハッ
GAWK
ゴクッ
NOD
メリッ
CRUNCH
ゴッ
CRACK
グチュッ
GRRNCH
ゴッ
CRACK


ゴリッ
CRICK
グヂュ
GRRNCH
GSHHK
CRICK
SHLRP
HUFF
PUFF


WHAT THE ...?!
PLIP
HE CAUGHT MY SWEAT WITH HIS FINGER...!!
DID HE DO THAT SO IT WOULDN'T MAKE A SOUND?
CRICK
SHLRP
THINGS LOOK BAD, BUT IF I CAN STICK CLOSE TO THESE TWO...
...MAYBE I CAN—
GRR

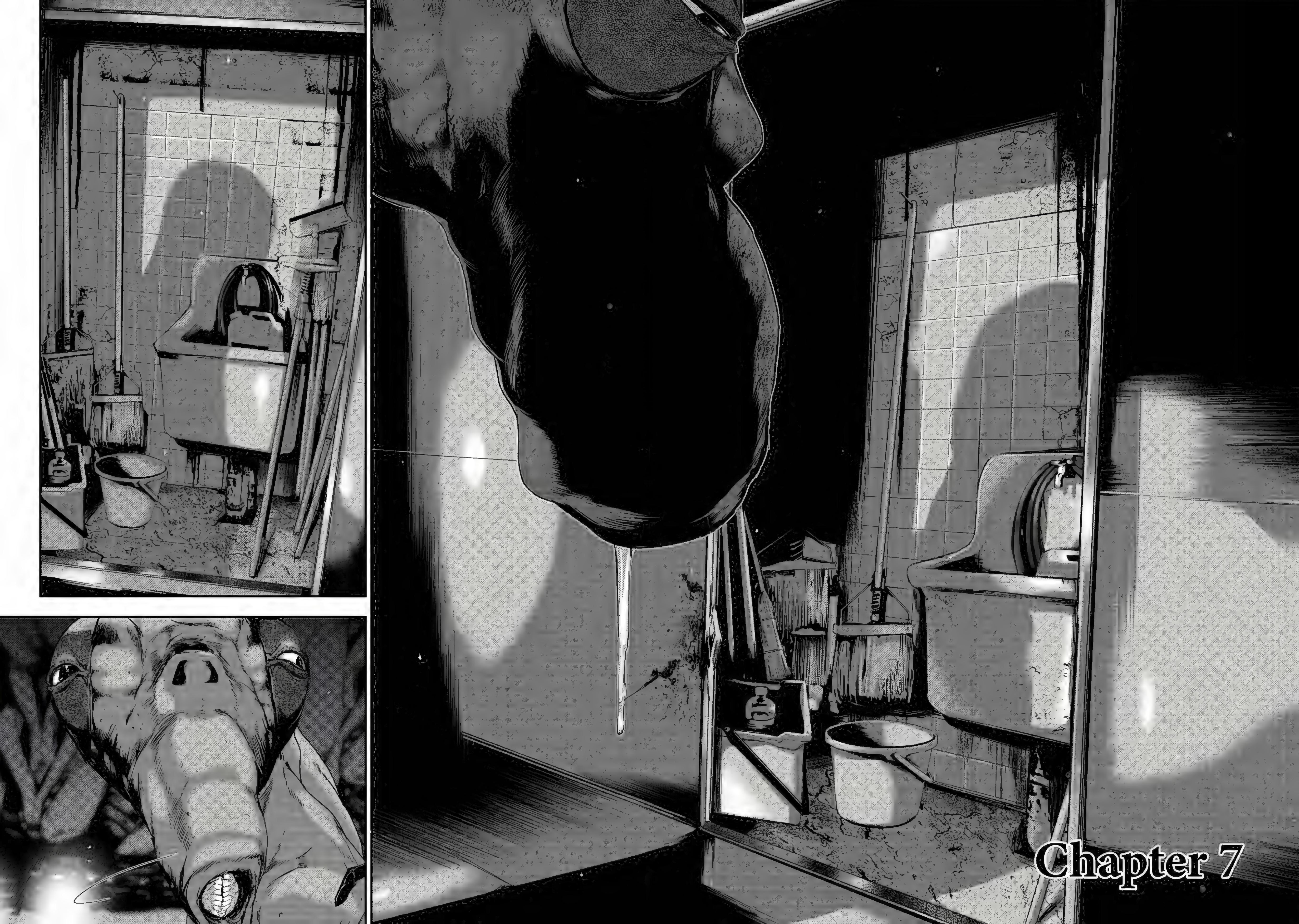

GRRUMMBLE


YAMABIKI...
GOD DAMN IT...!
I'M SORRY. REALLY.
IT'S JUST... WATCHING THIS IS MAKING ME HUNGRY...
WHAT THE HELL?!
SHLAP
SHLAP
SHLAP
SHLAP
AA...
AAAH!!

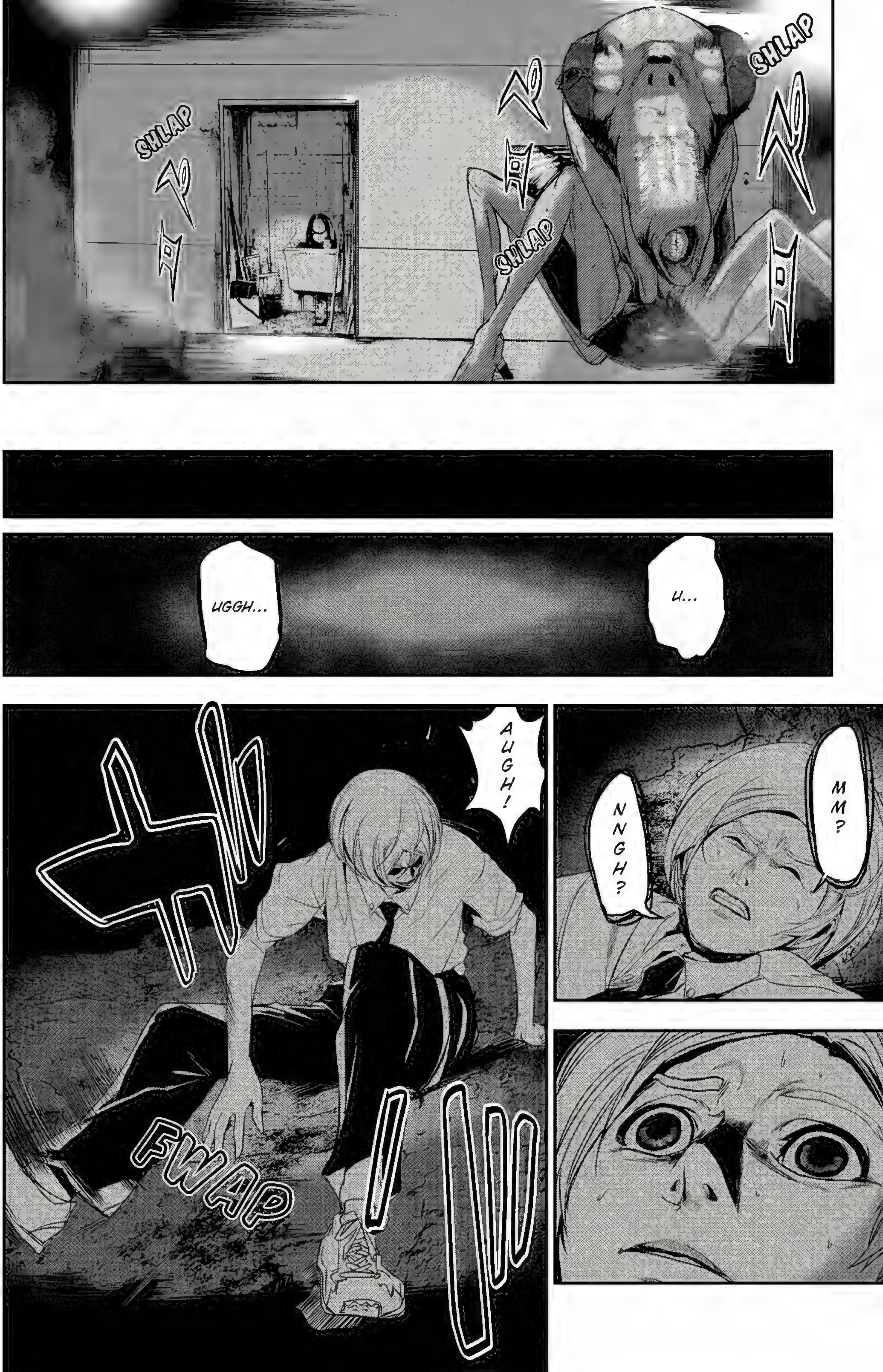

SHNK
SHRRKK

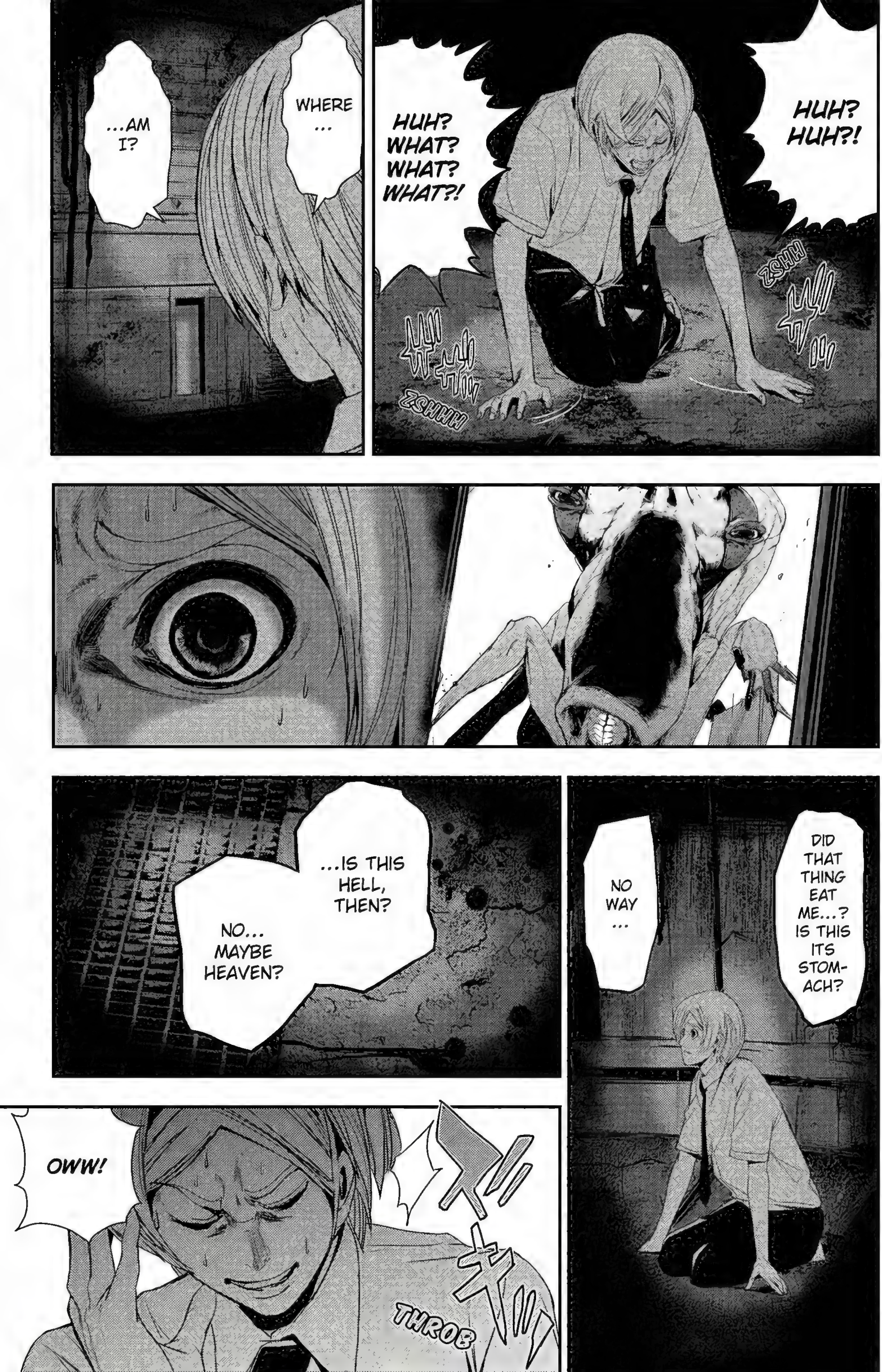
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

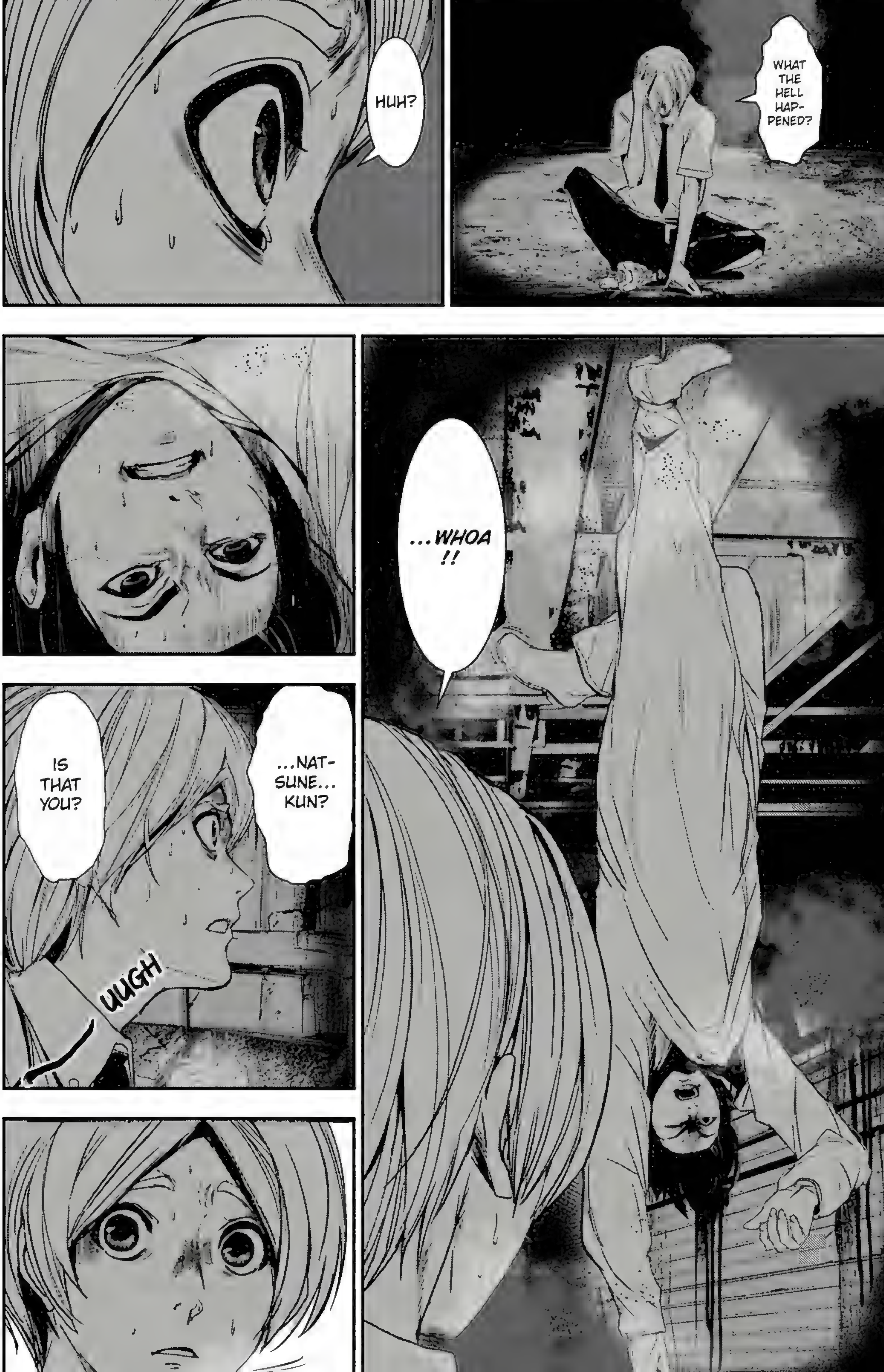
CLONNNG

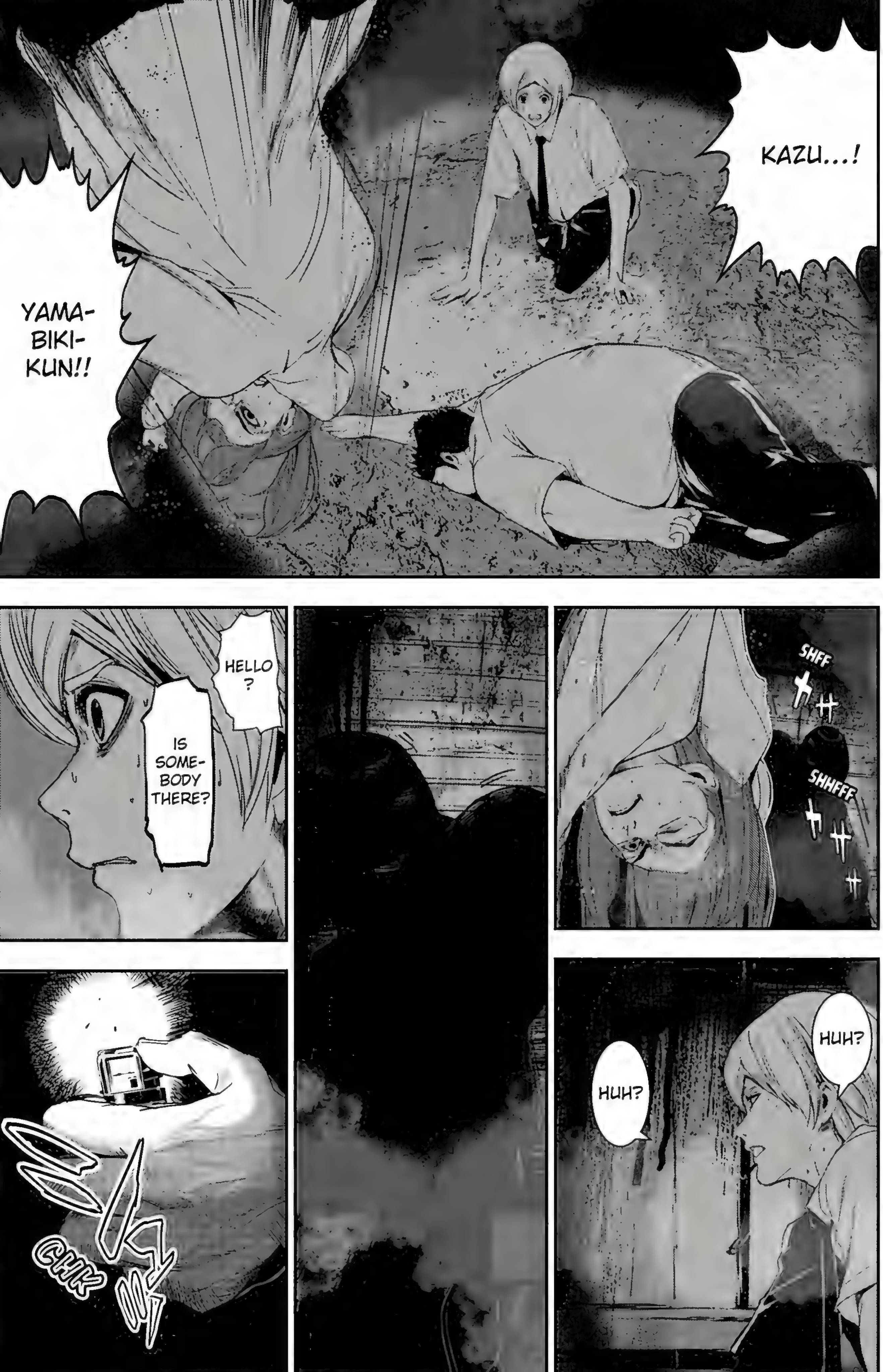


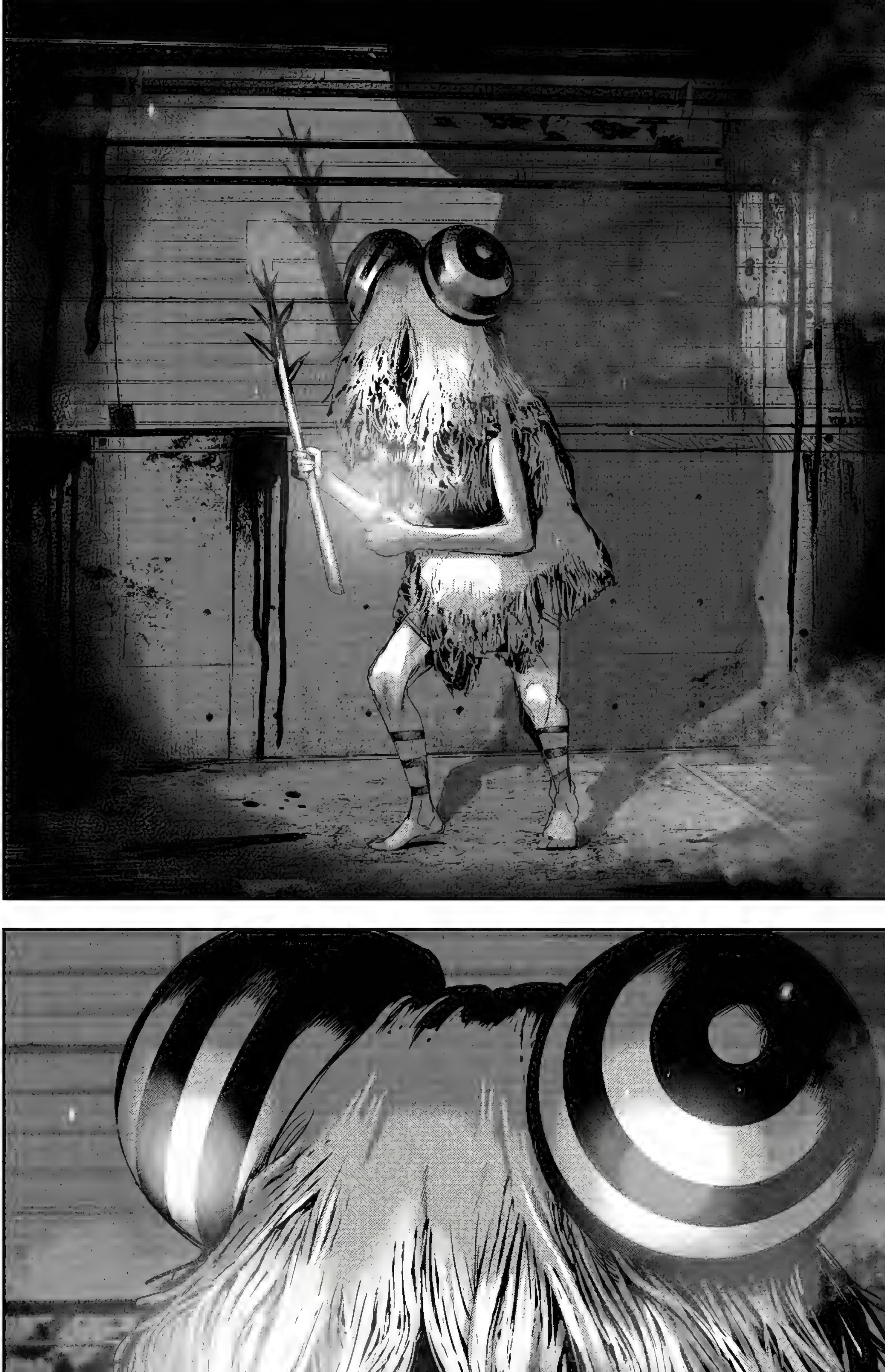
Chapter 7

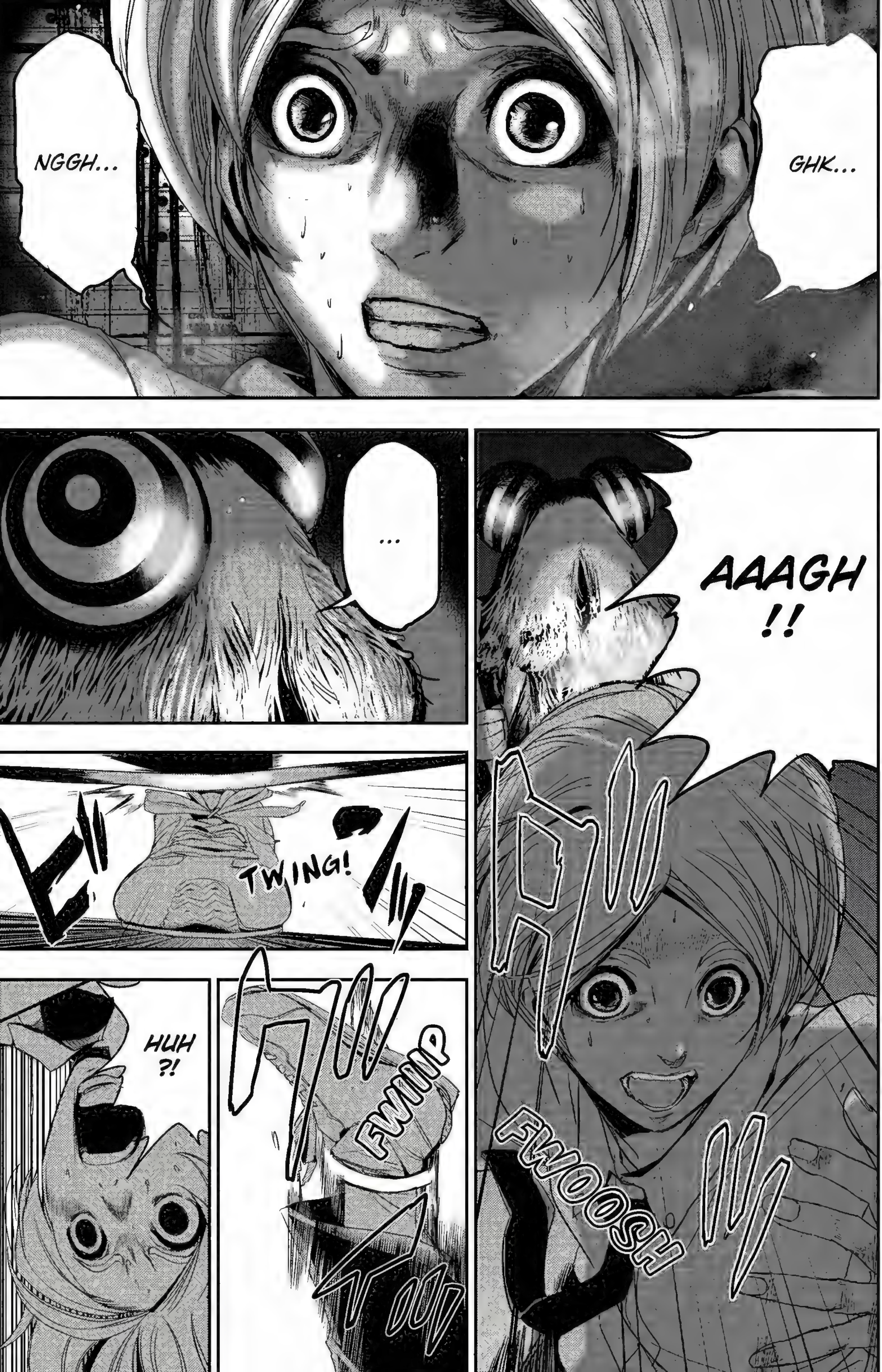

SHLAP
SHLAP
SHLAP
SHLAP
U...
UGGH...
MM?
NNGH?
AUGH!
FWAP

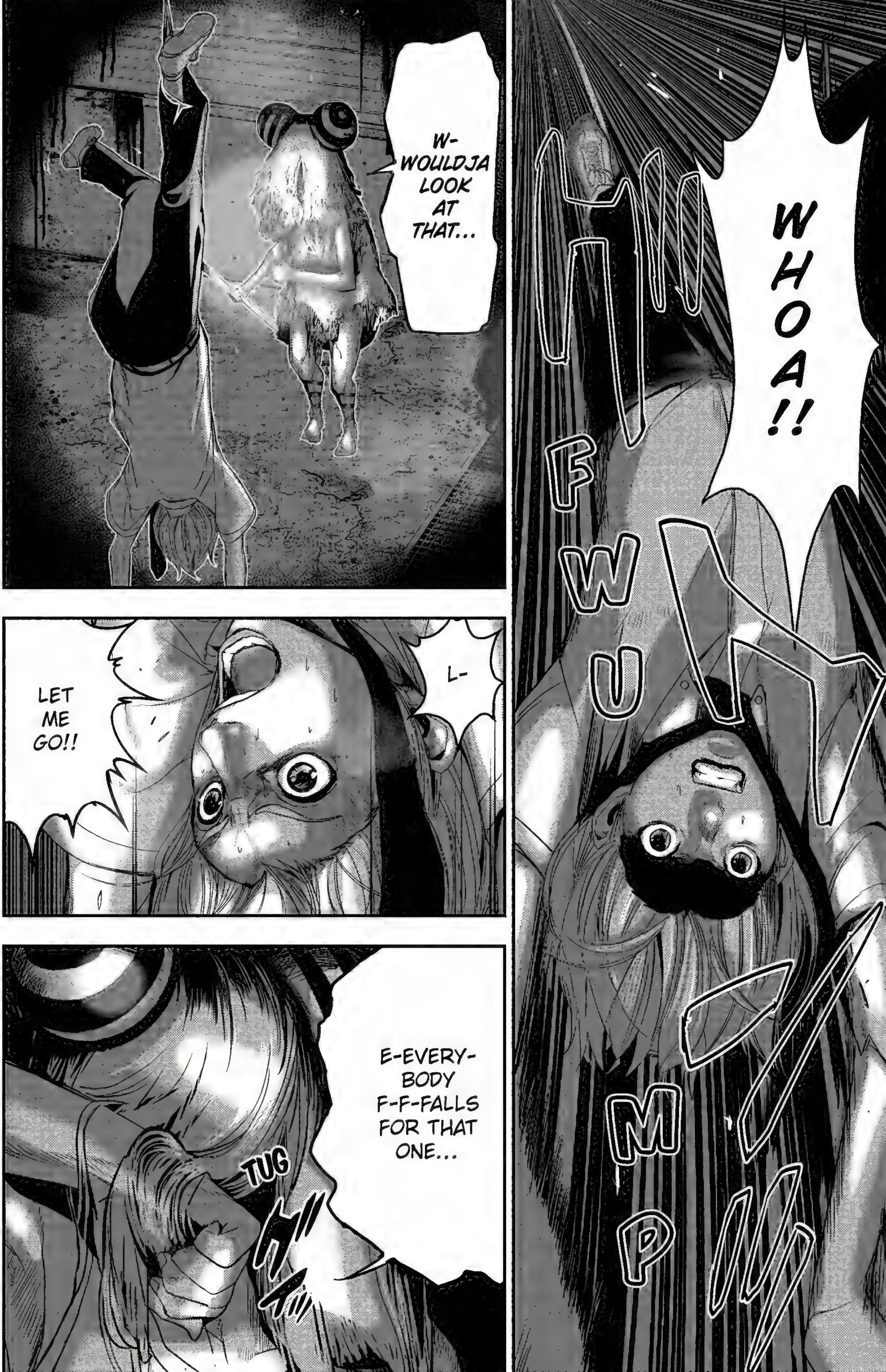

HUH? HUH?!
HUH? WHAT? WHAT? WHAT?!
ZSHH
ZSHHH
WHERE …
…AM I?
DID THAT THING EAT ME…? IS THIS ITS STOMACH?
NO WAY …
…IS THIS HELL, THEN?
NO… MAYBE HEAVEN?
OWW!
THROB

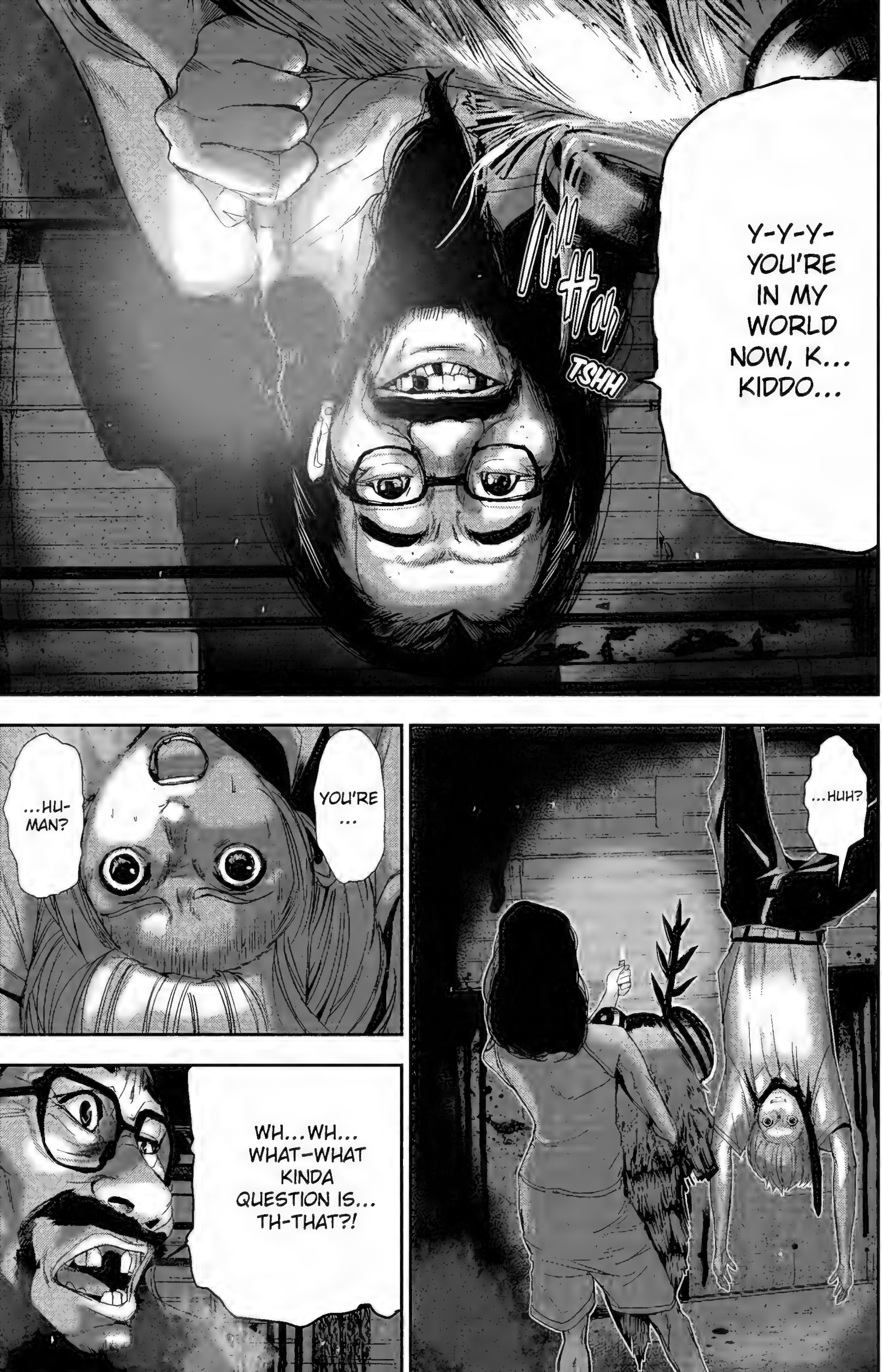

WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED?
HUH?
...WHOA !!
...NATSUNE... KUN?
IS THAT YOU?
UUGH

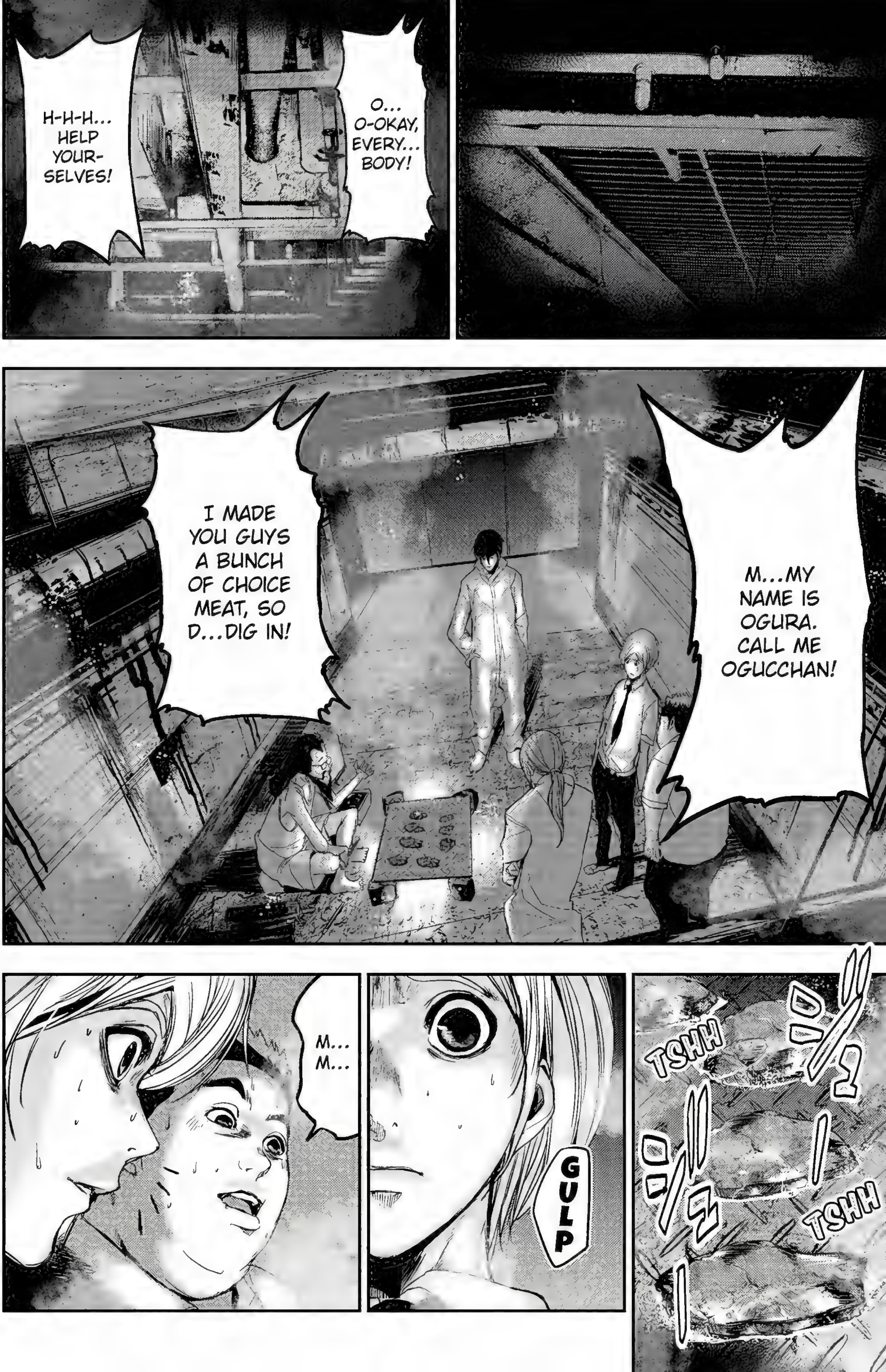

KAZU...!
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!!
SHFF
SHHFFF
HELLO?
IS SOMEBODY THERE?
HUH?
HUH?
CHK

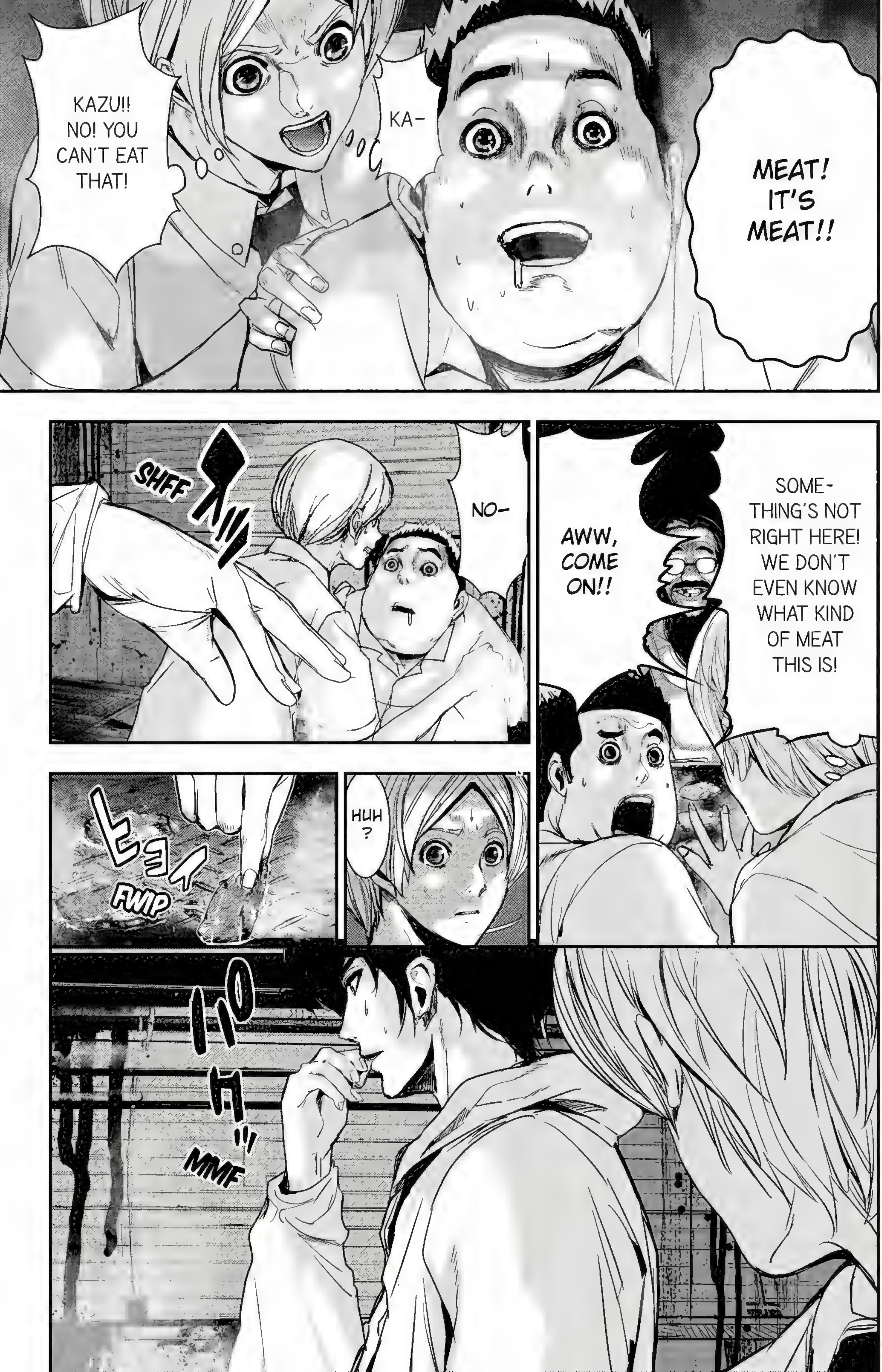


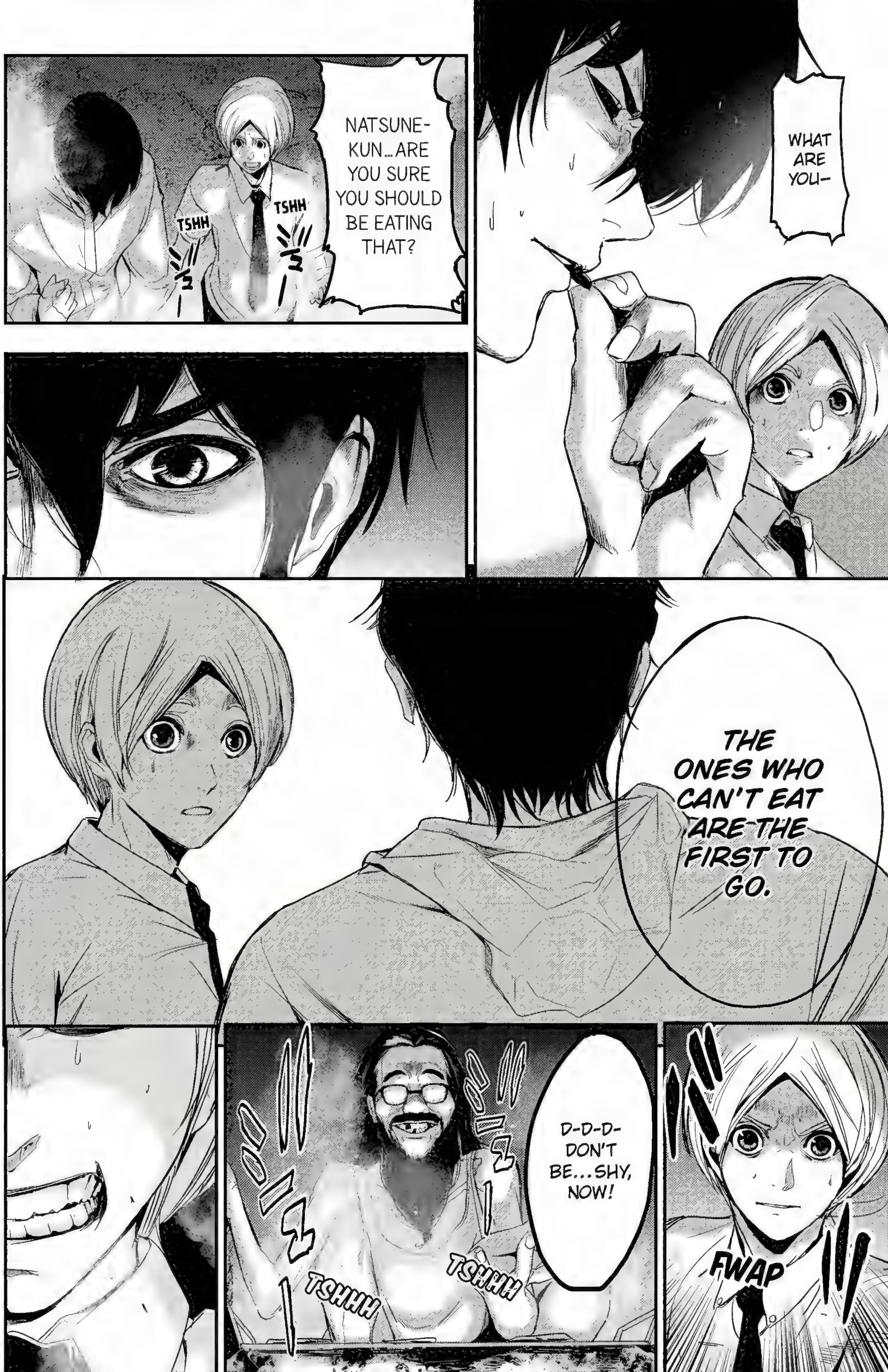

GHK...
NGGH...
AAAGH!!
FWOOSH
...
TWING!
FWIP
HUH?!

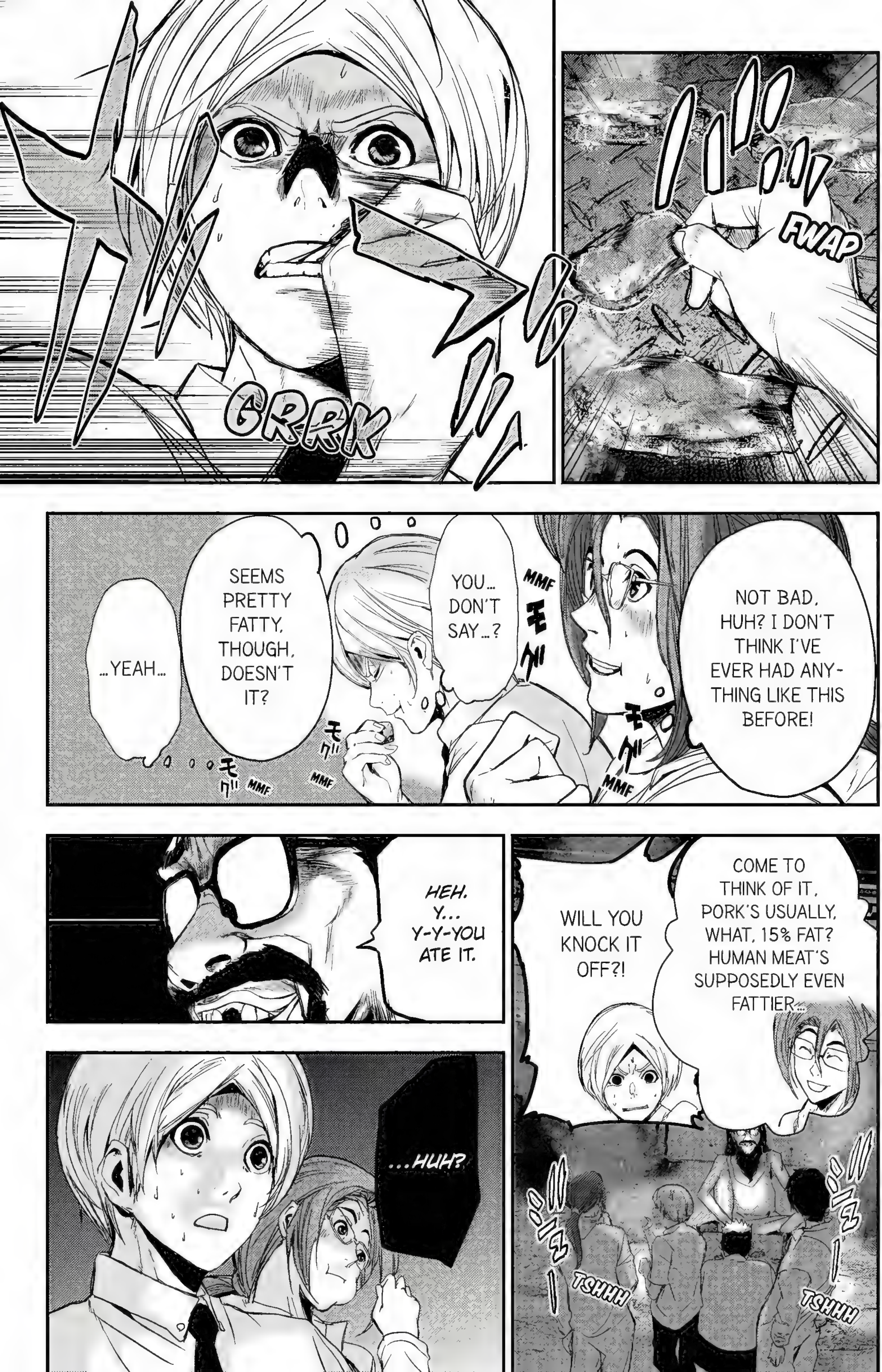

WHOA!!
FWUMP
W-WOULDJA LOOK AT THAT...
L-
LET ME GO!!
E-EVERYBODY F-F-FALLS FOR THAT ONE...
TUG

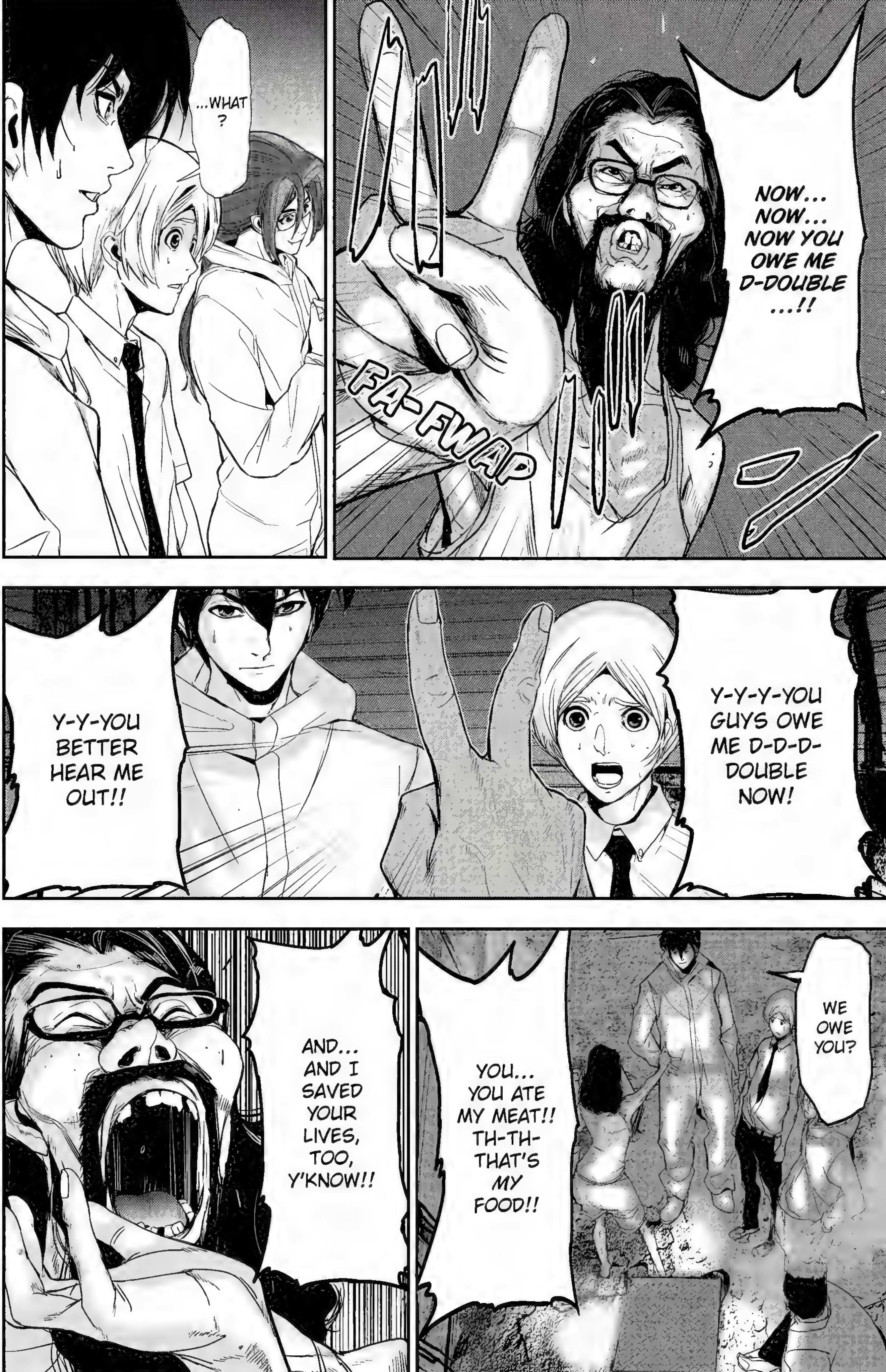

Y-Y-Y-YOU'RE IN MY WORLD NOW, K... KIDDO...
TSHH
...HUH?
YOU'RE ...
...HU-MAN?
WH...WH... WHAT-WHAT KINDA QUESTION IS... TH-THAT?!

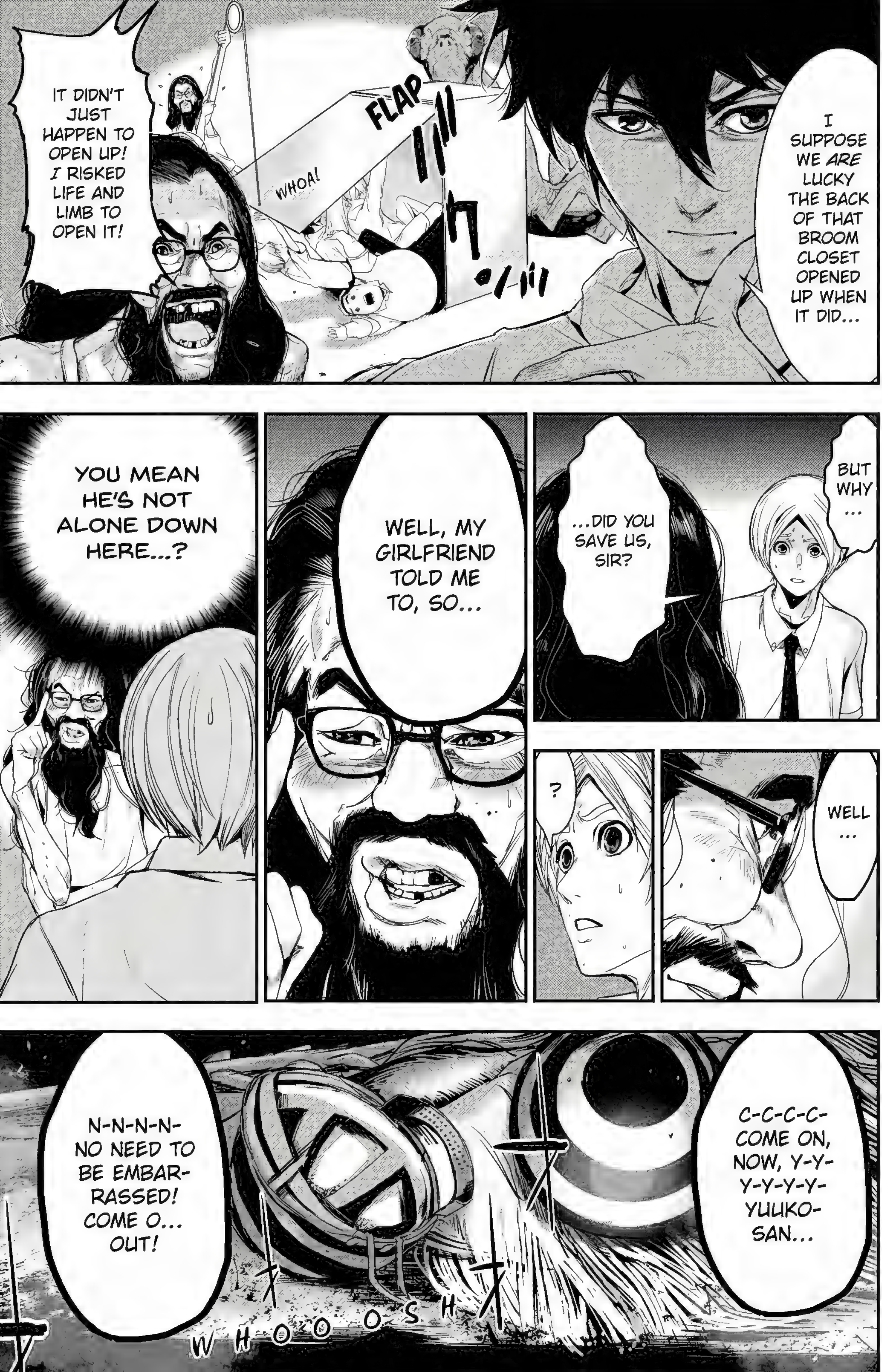

O... O-OKAY, EVERY... BODY!
H-H-H... HELP YOURSELVES!
M...MY NAME IS OGURA. CALL ME OGUCCHAN!
I MADE YOU GUYS A BUNCH OF CHOICE MEAT, SO D...DIG IN!
DJW
TSHH
TSHH
GULP
M... M...

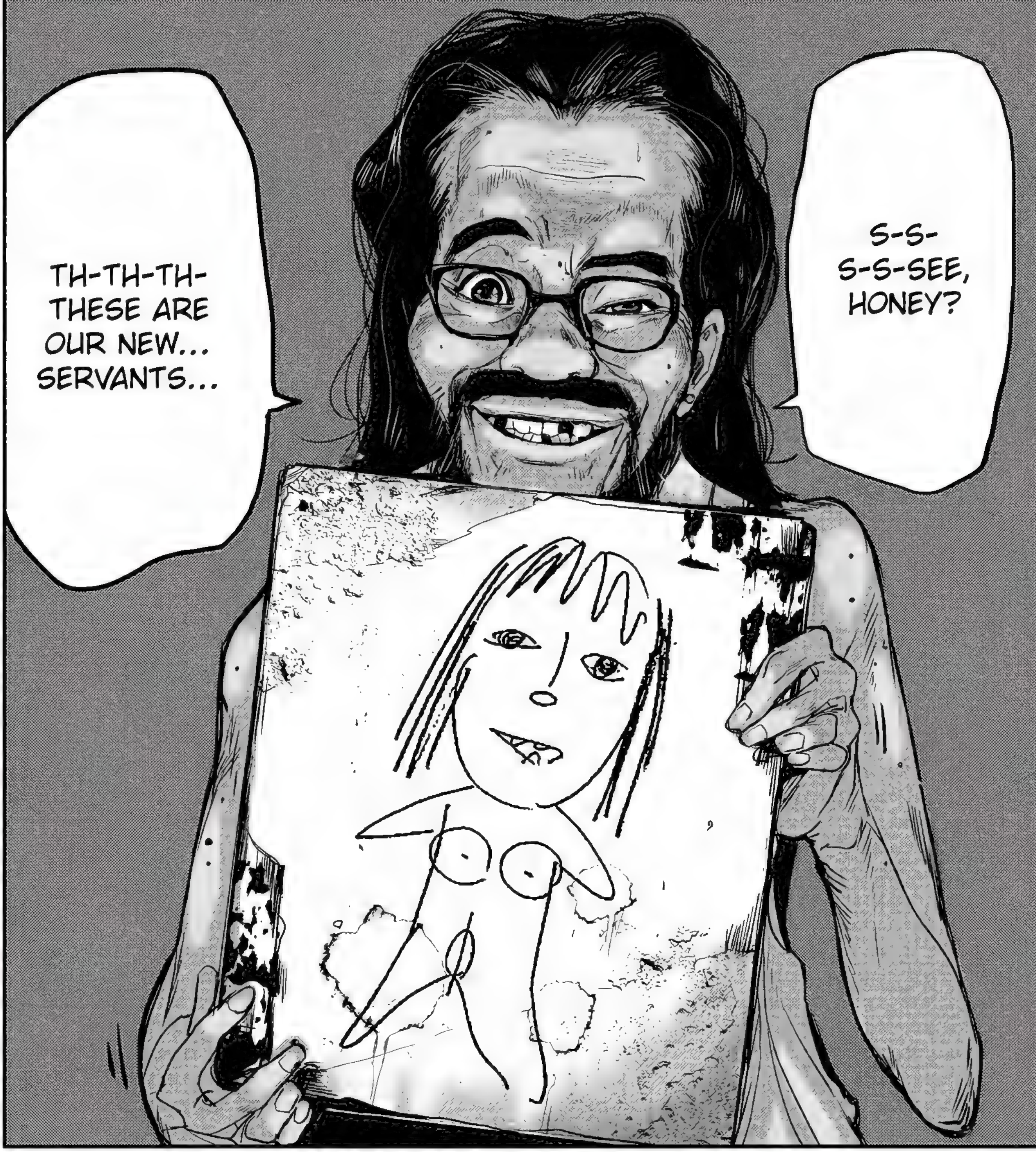

MEAT! IT'S MEAT!!
KA-
KAZU!! NO! YOU CAN'T EAT THAT!
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT HERE! WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT KIND OF MEAT THIS IS!
AWW, COME ON!!
NO-
SHFF
HUH?
ヒョイ
FWIP
パクッ
MMF

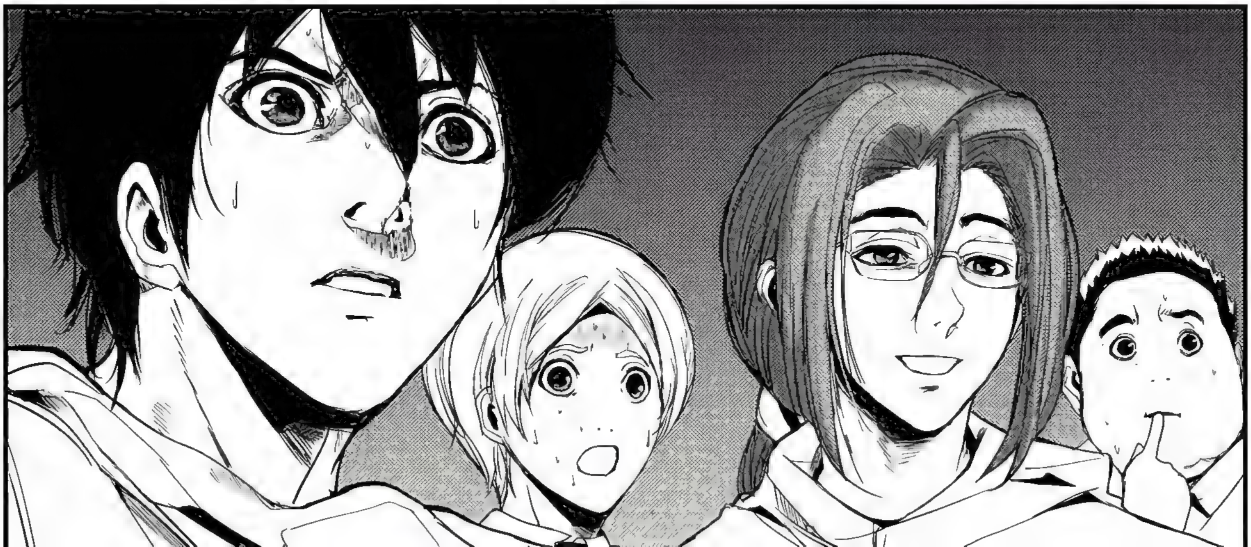

WHAT ARE YOU-
NATSUNE-KUN…ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD BE EATING THAT?
TSHH
TSHH
THE ONES WHO CAN'T EAT ARE THE FIRST TO GO.
FWAP
D-D-D-DON'T BE…SHY, NOW!
TSHHH
TSHHH

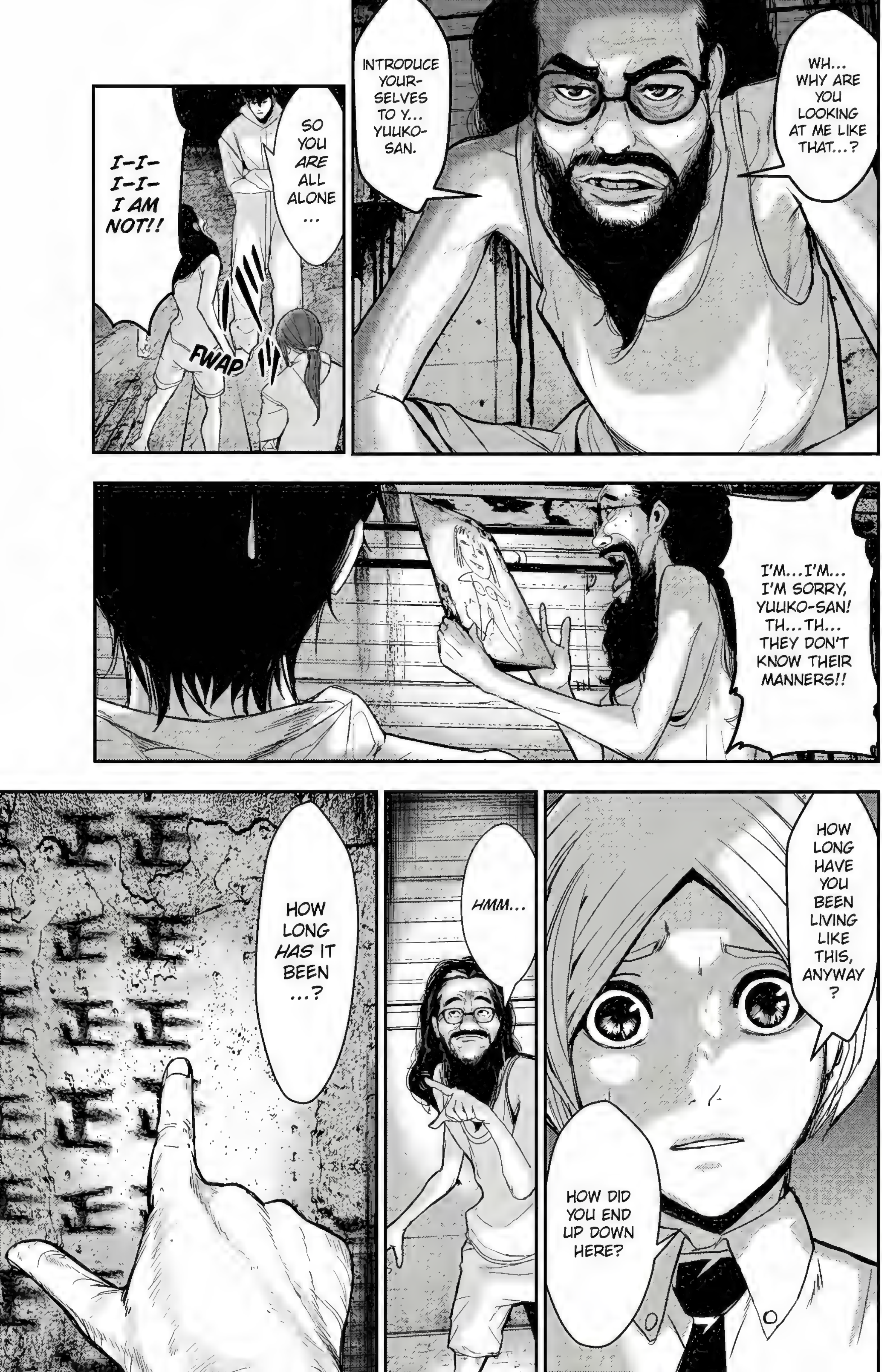

FWAP
GRRK
NOT BAD, HUH? I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER HAD ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE!
MMF
モグ
MMF
モグ
YOU... DON'T SAY...?
SEEMS PRETTY FATTY, THOUGH, DOESN'T IT?
...YEAH...
モグ
MMF
MMF
COME TO THINK OF IT, PORK'S USUALLY, WHAT, 15% FAT? HUMAN MEAT'S SUPPOSEDLY EVEN FATTIER...
WILL YOU KNOCK IT OFF?!
TSHHH
TSHHH
HEH. Y... Y-Y-YOU ATE IT.
...HUH?

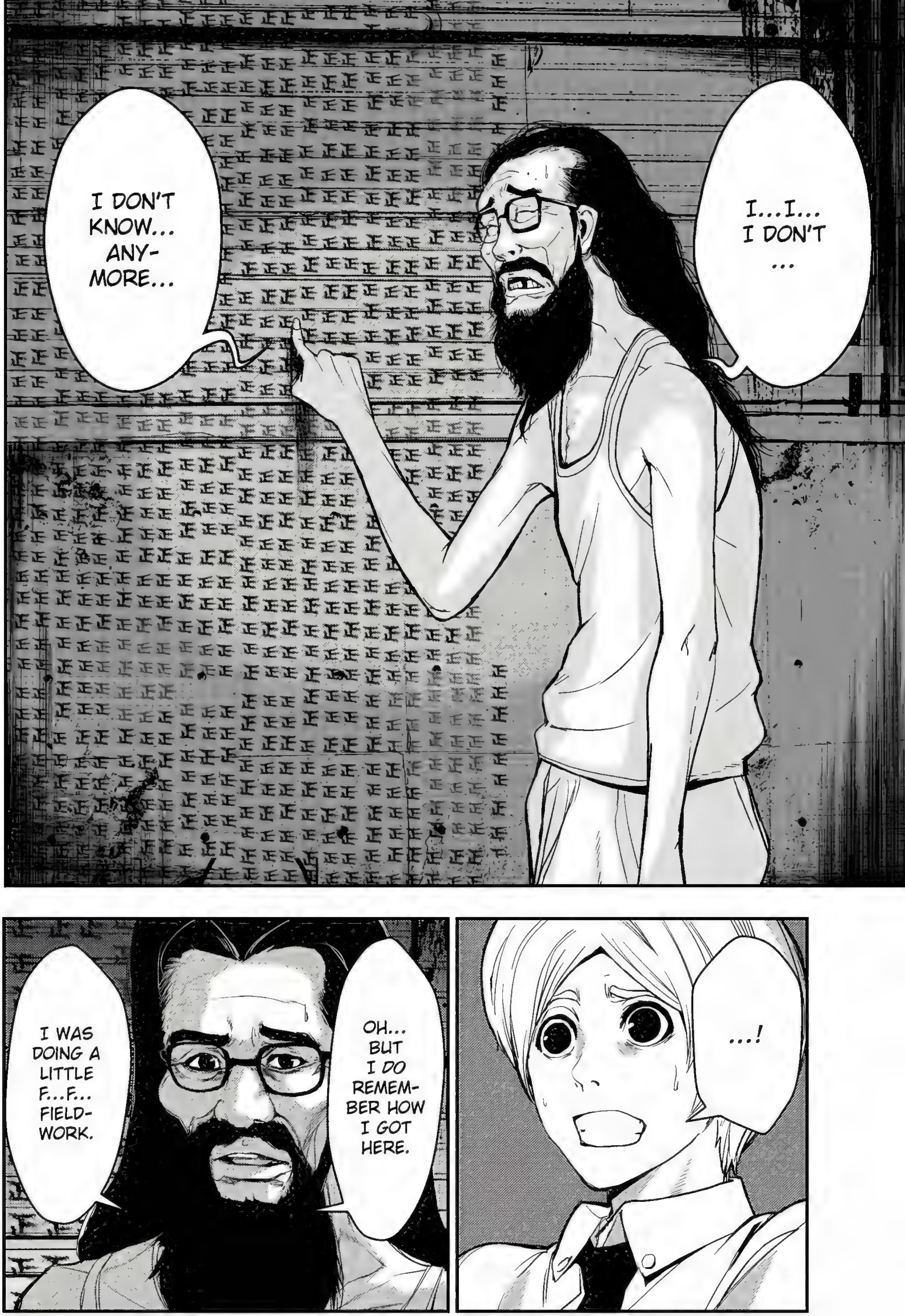

NOW... NOW... NOW YOU OWE ME D-DOUBLE ...!!
FA-FWAP
...WHAT ?
Y-Y-Y-YOU GUYS OWE ME D-D-D-DOUBLE NOW!
Y-Y-YOU BETTER HEAR ME OUT!!
WE OWE YOU?
YOU... YOU ATE MY MEAT!! TH-TH-THAT'S MY FOOD!!
AND... AND I SAVED YOUR LIVES, TOO, Y'KNOW!!

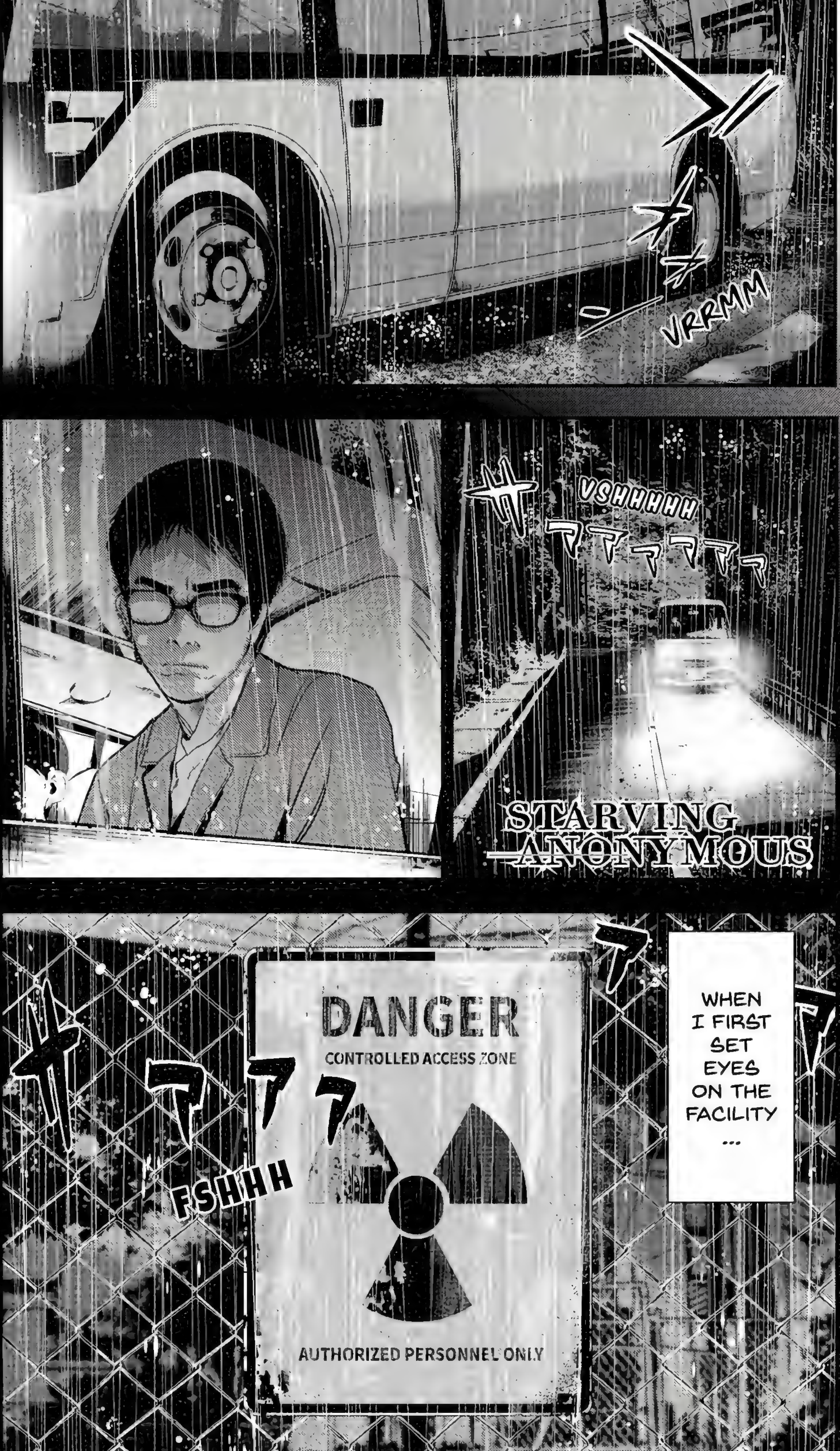

I SUPPOSE WE ARE LUCKY THE BACK OF THAT BROOM CLOSET OPENED UP WHEN IT DID...
FLAP
WHOA!
IT DIDN'T JUST HAPPEN TO OPEN UP! I RISKED LIFE AND LIMB TO OPEN IT!
BUT WHY...
...DID YOU SAVE US, SIR?
WELL...
?
WELL, MY GIRLFRIEND TOLD ME TO, SO...
YOU MEAN HE'S NOT ALONE DOWN HERE...?
C-C-C-C-COME ON, NOW, Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-YUUKO-SAN...
N-N-N-N-NO NEED TO BE EMBARRASSED! COME O... OUT!
WHOOOSH


S-S-S-S-SEE, HONEY?
TH-TH-TH-THESE ARE OUR NEW... SERVANTS...

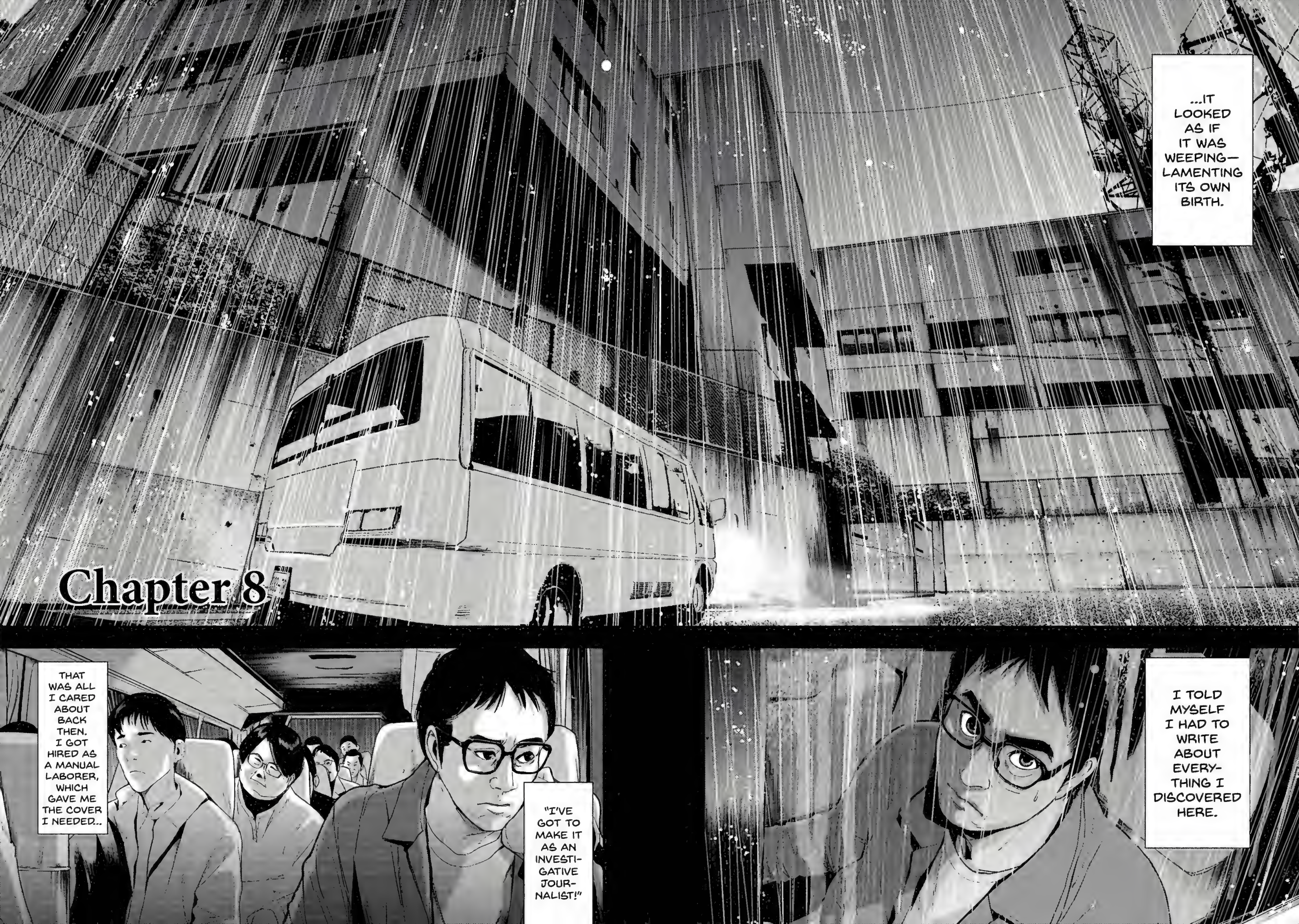


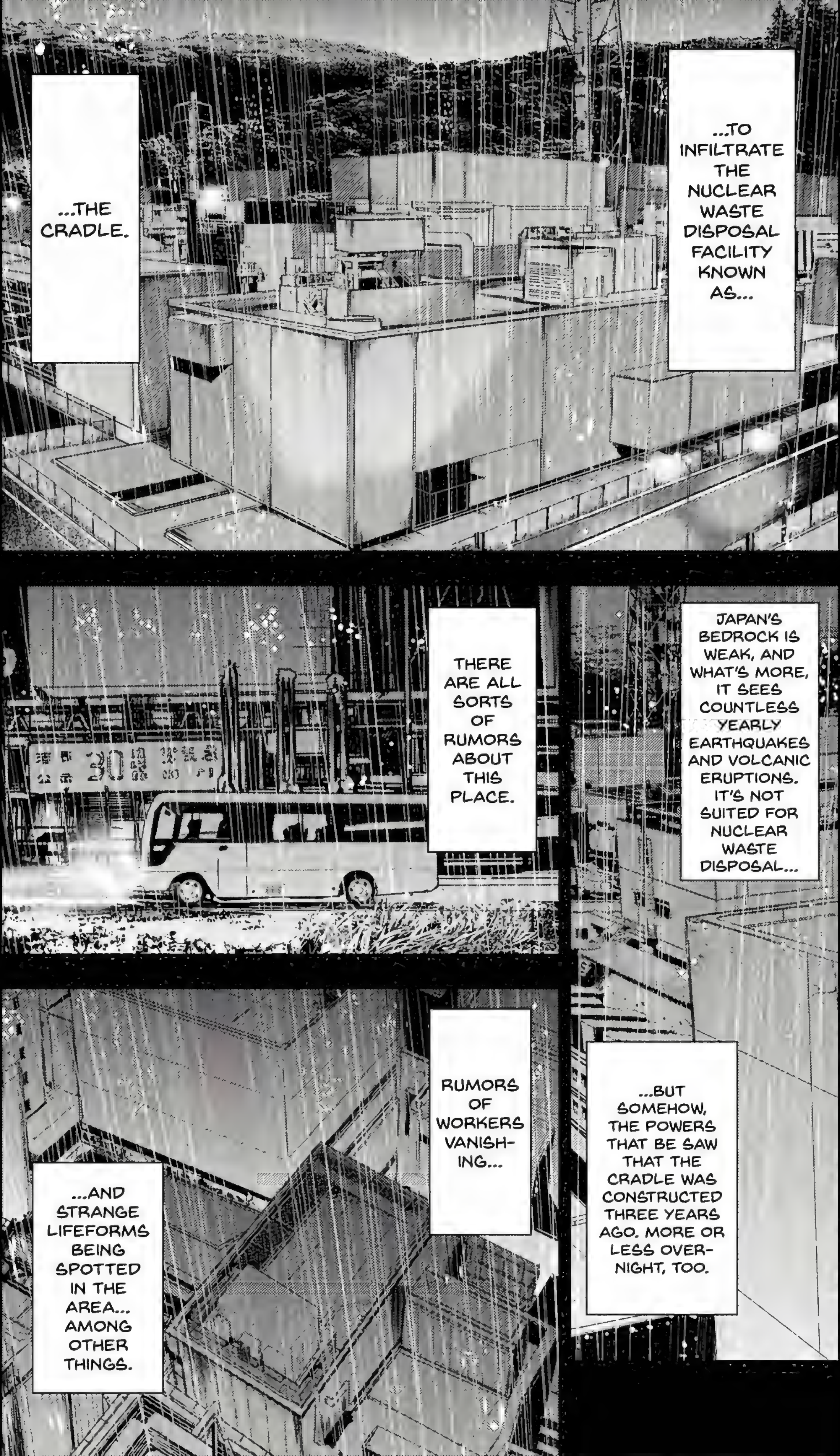

WH... WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT...?
INTRODUCE YOURSELVES TO Y... YUUKO-SAN.
SO YOU ARE ALL ALONE ...
I-I-I-I- I AM NOT!!
FWAP
I'M...I'M... I'M SORRY, YUUKO-SAN! TH...TH... THEY DON'T KNOW THEIR MANNERS!!
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING LIKE THIS, ANYWAY?
HOW DID YOU END UP DOWN HERE?
HMM...
HOW LONG *HAS* IT BEEN ...?

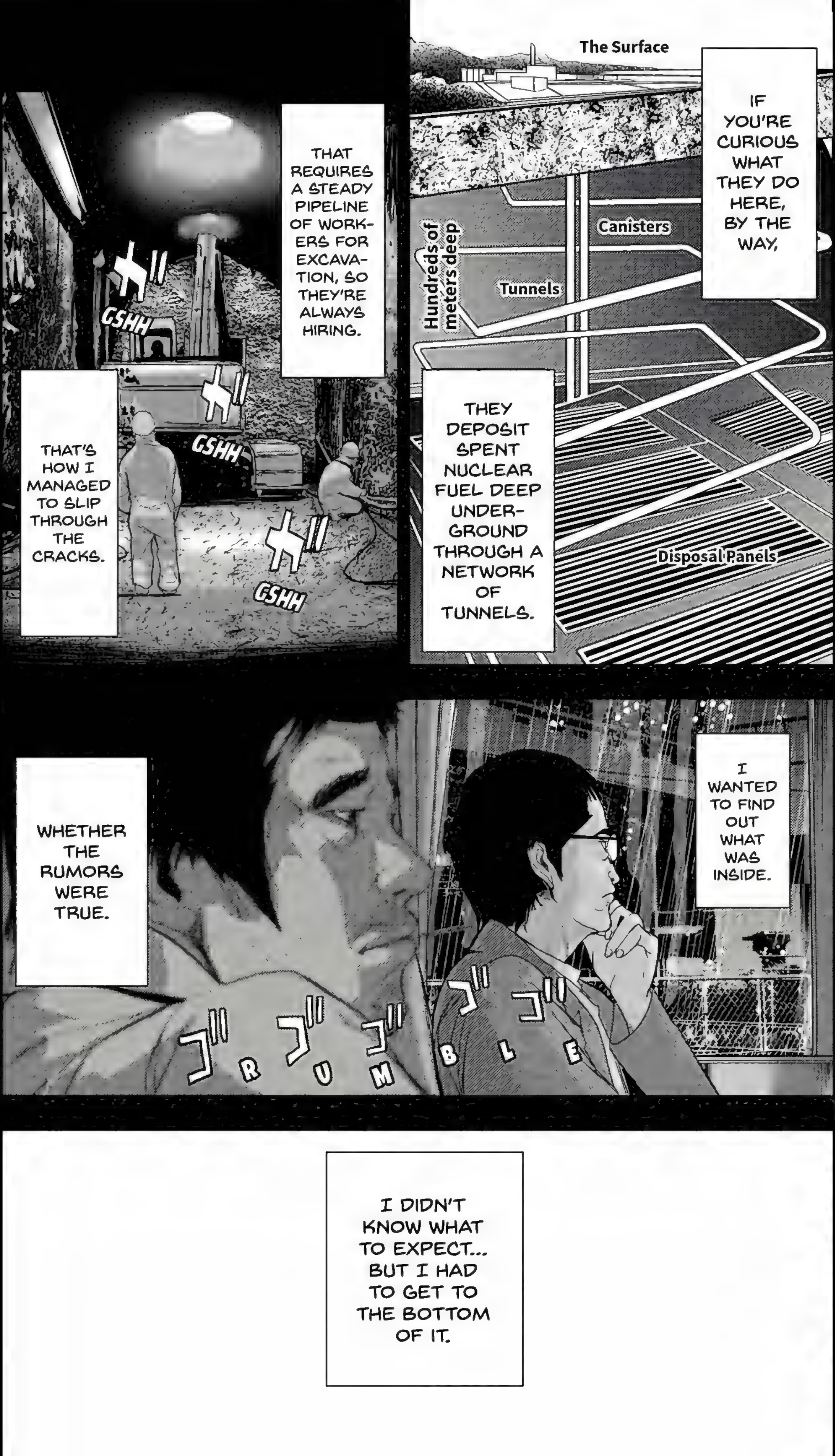

I...I... I DON'T ...
I DON'T KNOW... ANYMORE...
...!
OH... BUT I DO REMEMBER HOW I GOT HERE.
I WAS DOING A LITTLE F...F... FIELDWORK.

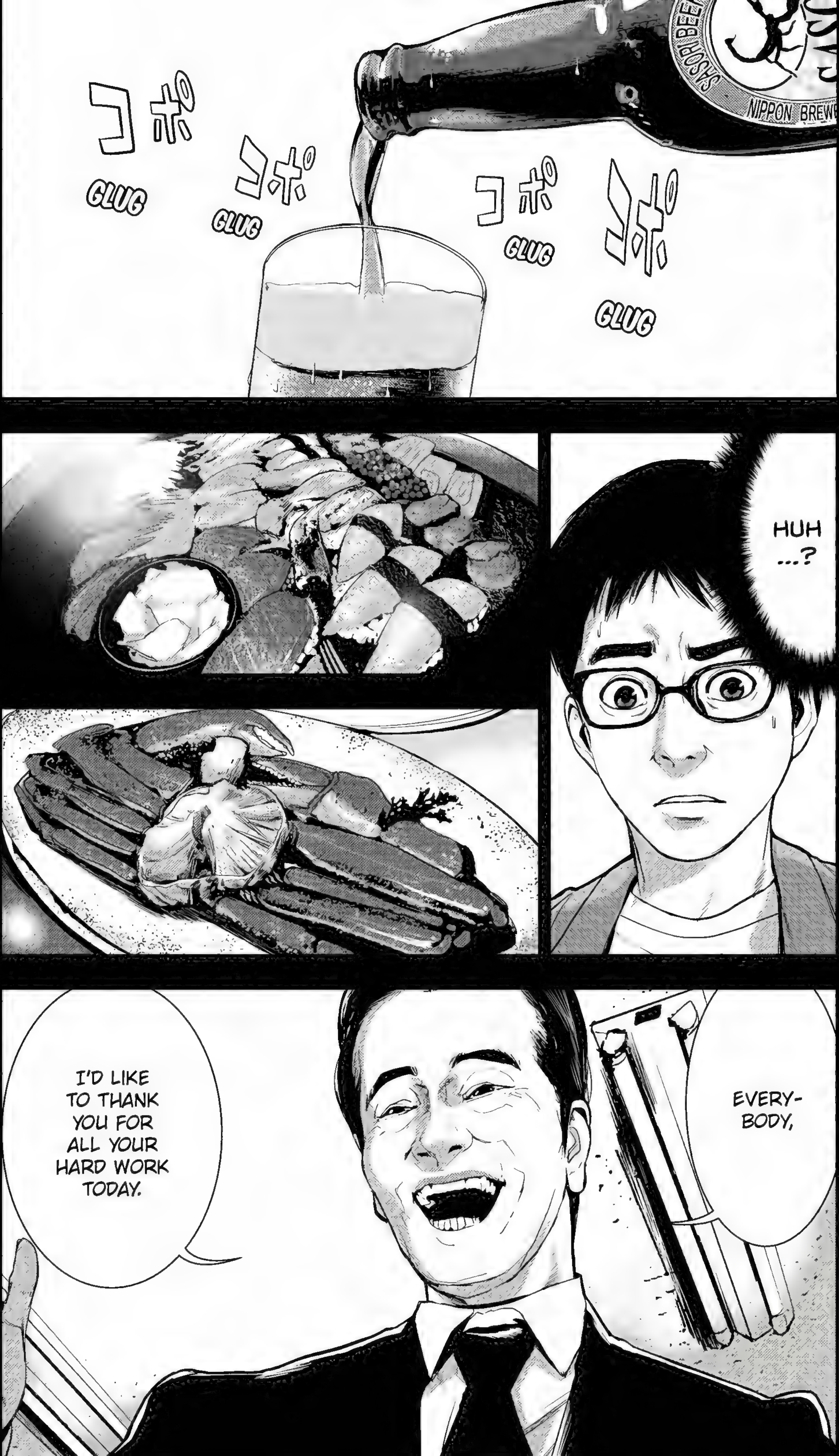

VRRMM
VSHHHHH
STARVING ANONYMOUS
WHEN I FIRST SET EYES ON THE FACILITY ...
DANGER
CONTROLLED ACCESS ZONE
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY
FSHHH

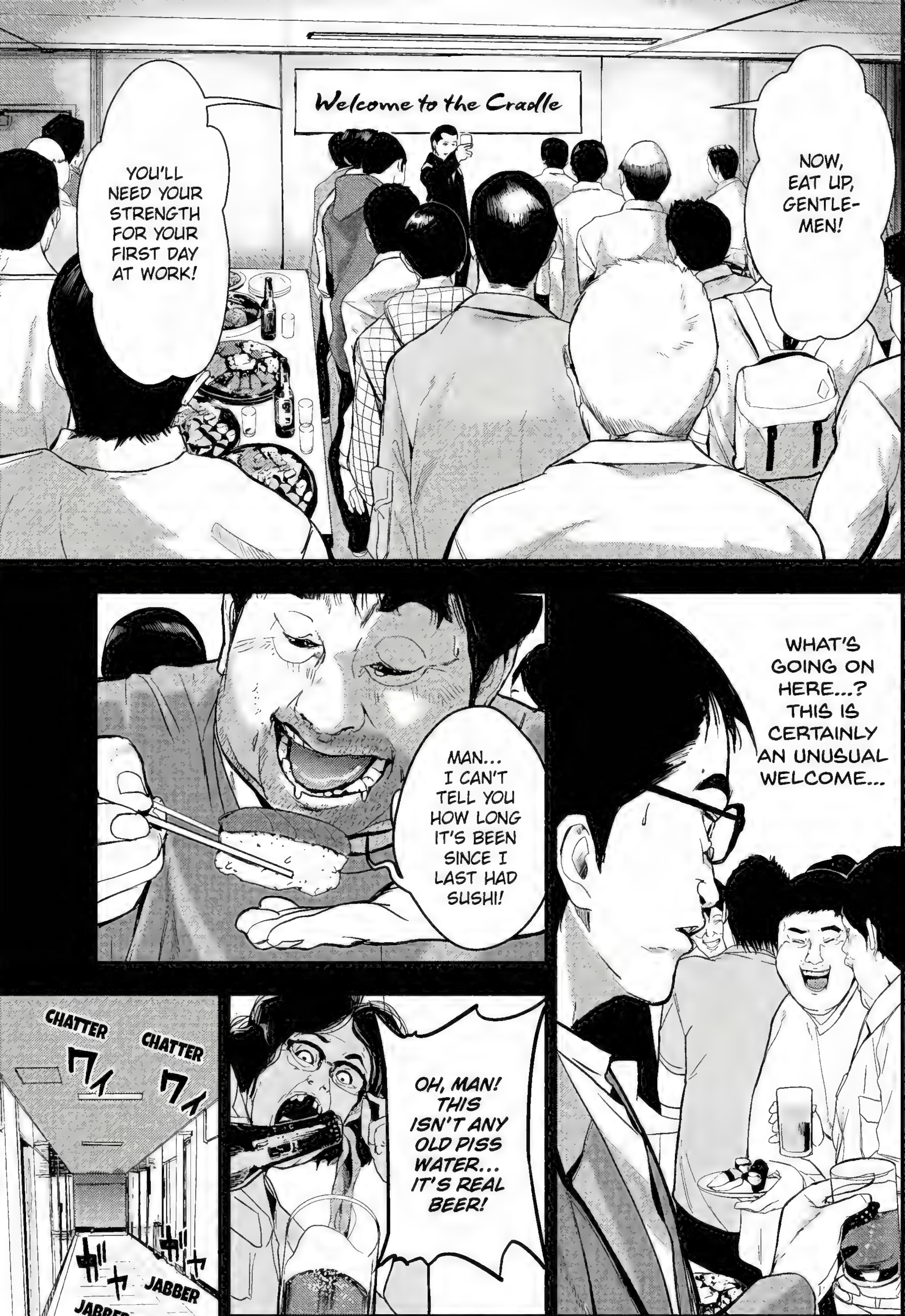
Chapter 8

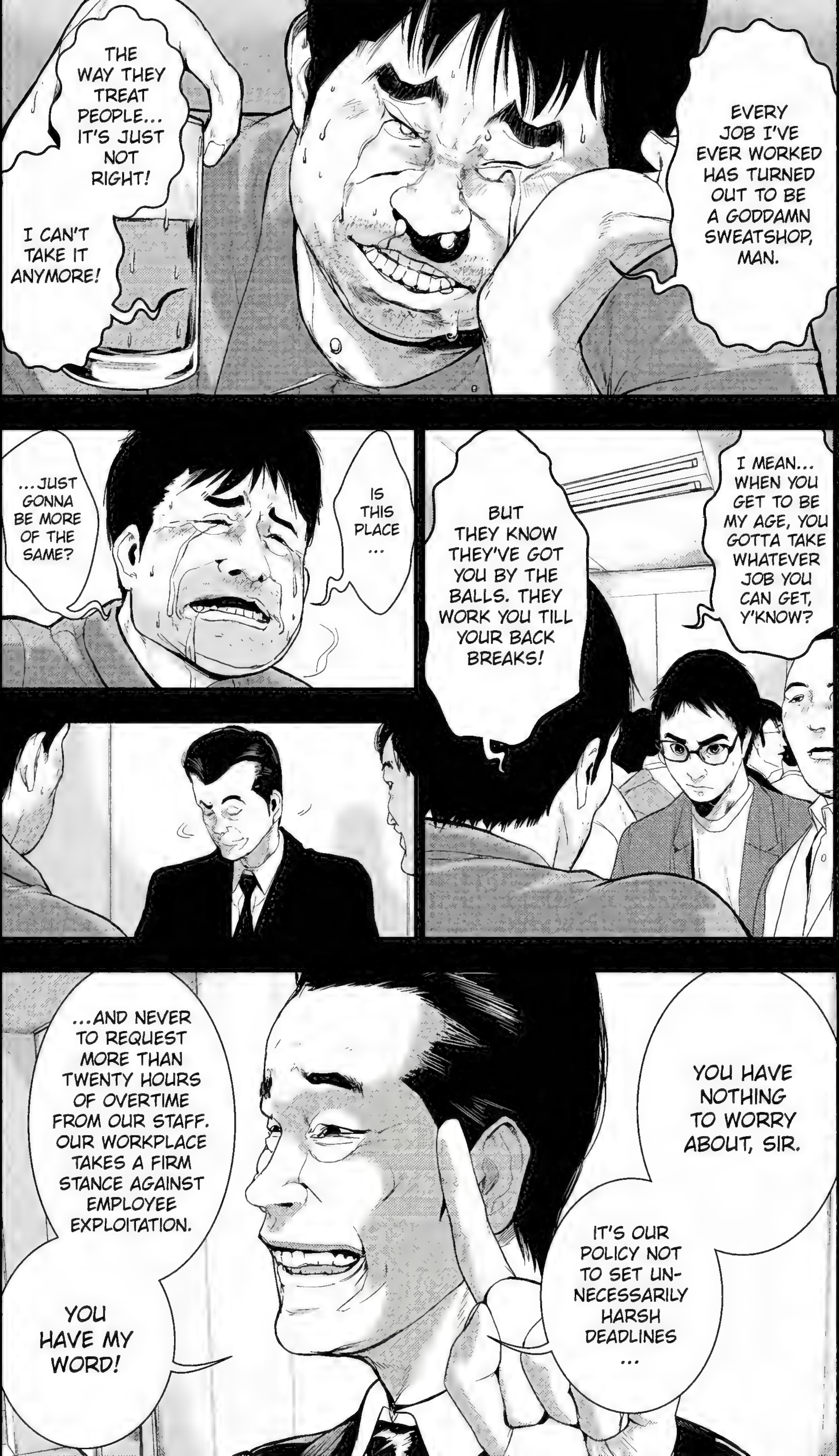

...IT LOOKED AS IF IT WAS WEEPING—LAMENTING ITS OWN BIRTH.
I TOLD MYSELF I HAD TO WRITE ABOUT EVERYTHING I DISCOVERED HERE.
"I'VE GOT TO MAKE IT AS AN INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST!"
THAT WAS ALL I CARED ABOUT BACK THEN. I GOT HIRED AS A MANUAL LABORER, WHICH GAVE ME THE COVER I NEEDED...

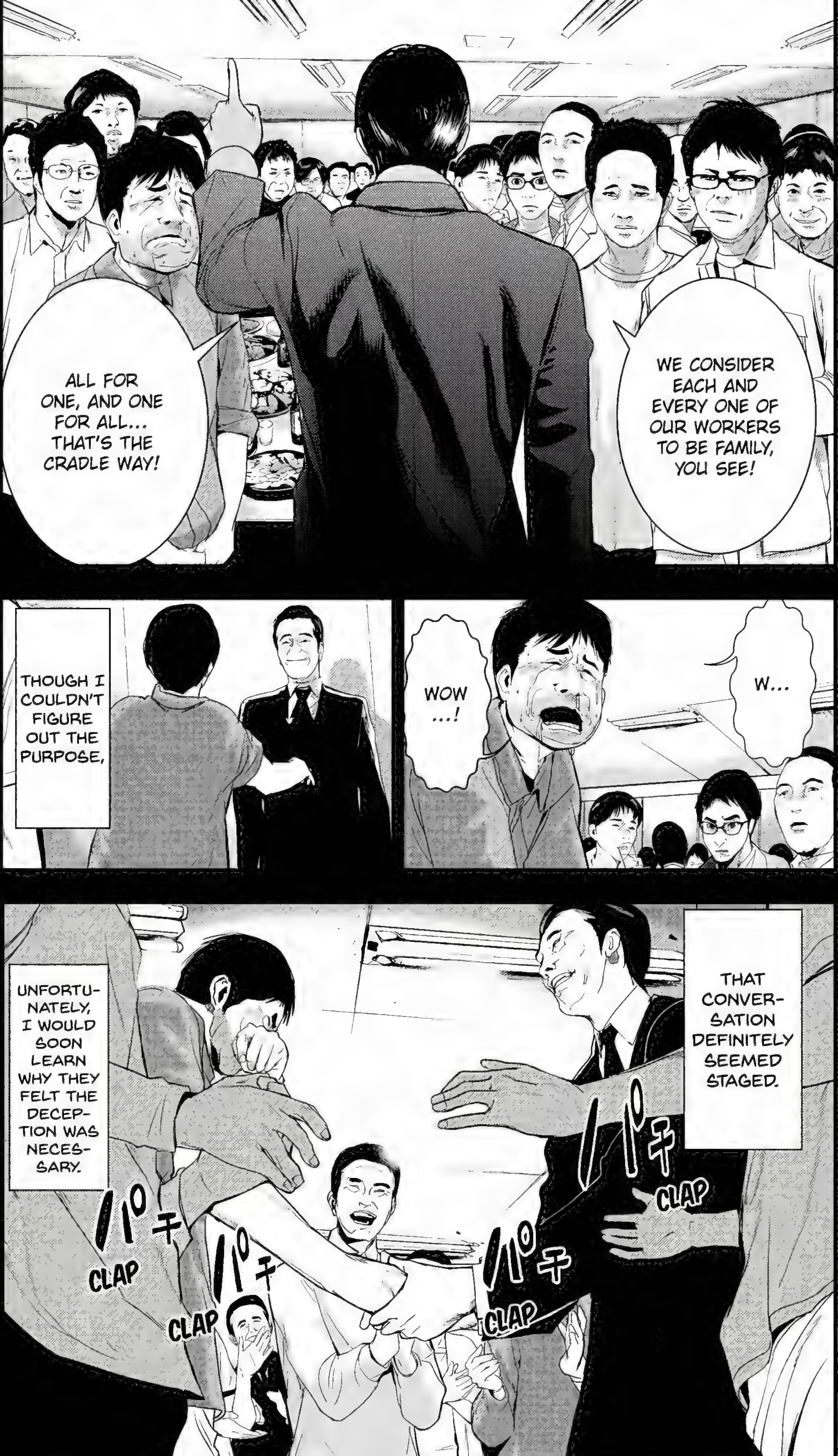

...TO INFILTRATE THE NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY KNOWN AS...
...THE CRADLE.
JAPAN'S BEDROCK IS WEAK, AND WHAT'S MORE, IT SEES COUNTLESS YEARLY EARTHQUAKES AND VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS. IT'S NOT SUITED FOR NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL...
...BUT SOMEHOW, THE POWERS THAT BE SAW THAT THE CRADLE WAS CONSTRUCTED THREE YEARS AGO. MORE OR LESS OVERNIGHT, TOO.
THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF RUMORS ABOUT THIS PLACE.
RUMORS OF WORKERS VANISHING...
...AND STRANGE LIFEFORMS BEING SPOTTED IN THE AREA... AMONG OTHER THINGS.

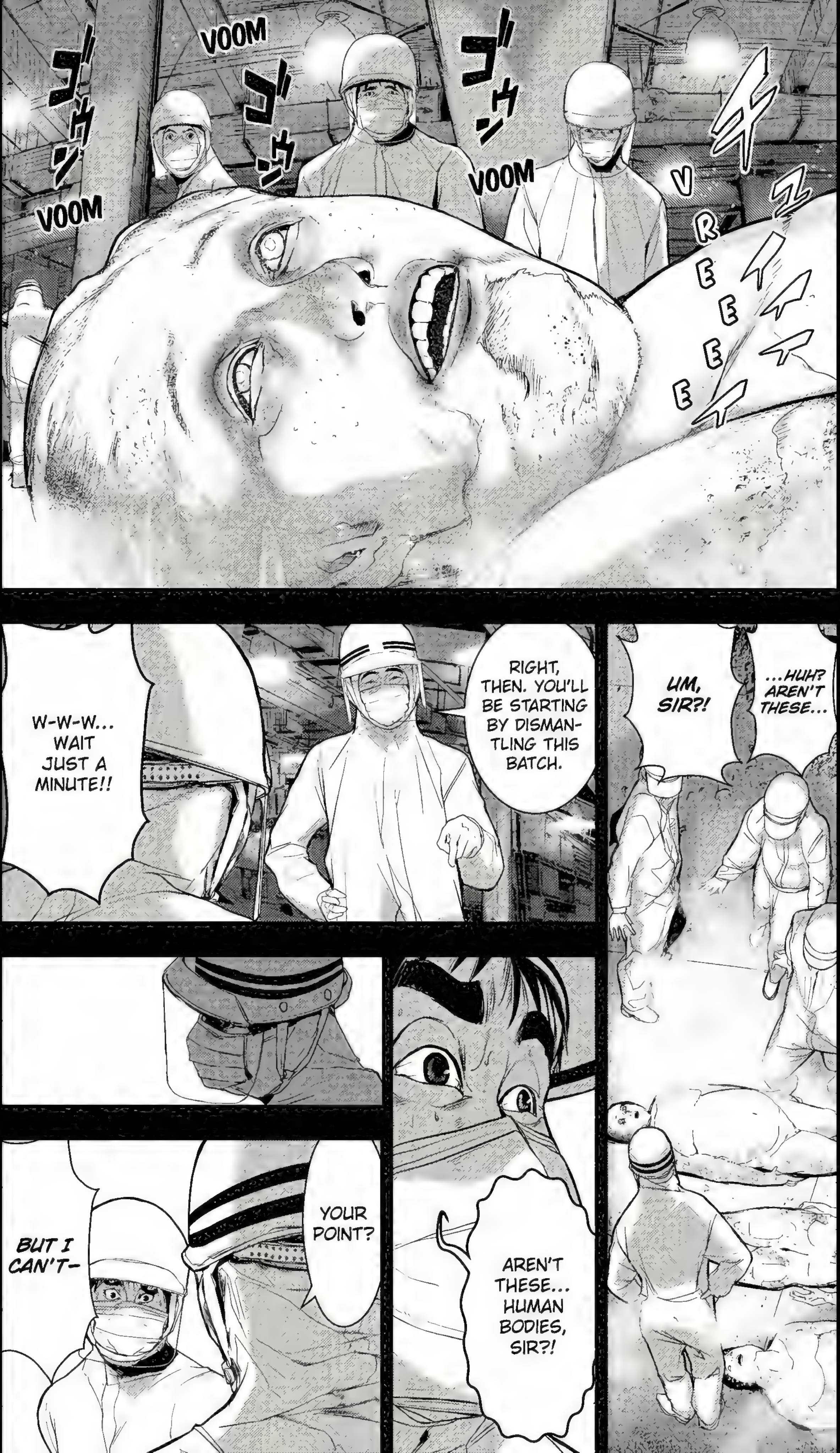

IF YOU'RE CURIOUS WHAT THEY DO HERE, BY THE WAY,
The Surface
Canisters
Tunnels
Hundreds of meters deep
Disposal Panels
THEY DEPOSIT SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL DEEP UNDERGROUND THROUGH A NETWORK OF TUNNELS.
THAT REQUIRES A STEADY PIPELINE OF WORKERS FOR EXCAVATION, SO THEY'RE ALWAYS HIRING.
ガ
GSHH
ガ
GSHH
ガ
GSHH
THAT'S HOW I MANAGED TO SLIP THROUGH THE CRACKS.
I WANTED TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS INSIDE.
WHETHER THE RUMORS WERE TRUE.
ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ ゴ
RUMBLE
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT... BUT I HAD TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT.

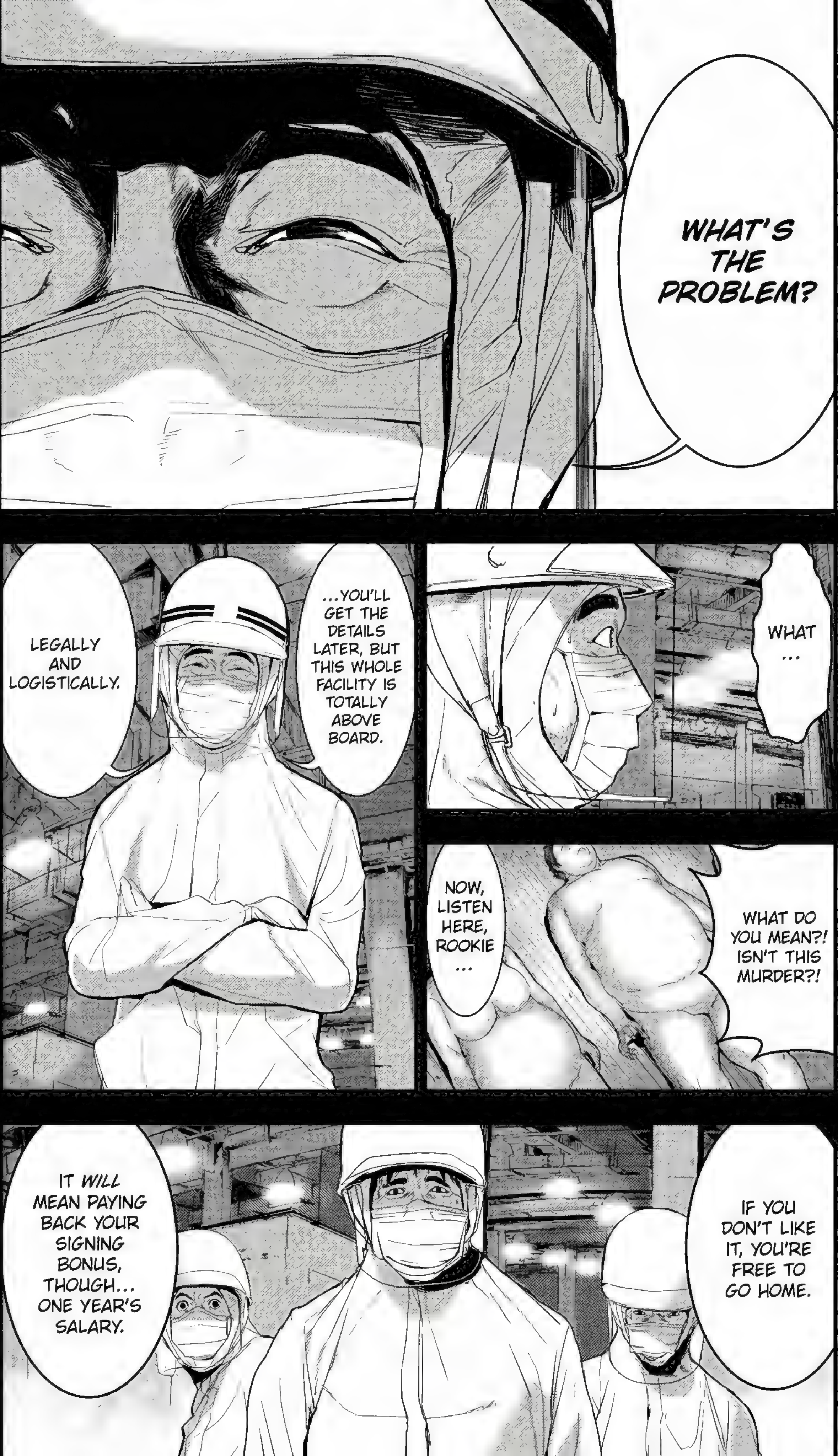

コポ
GLUG
コポ
GLUG
コポ
GLUG
コポ
GLUG
HUH ...?
EVERY-BODY,
I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK TODAY.

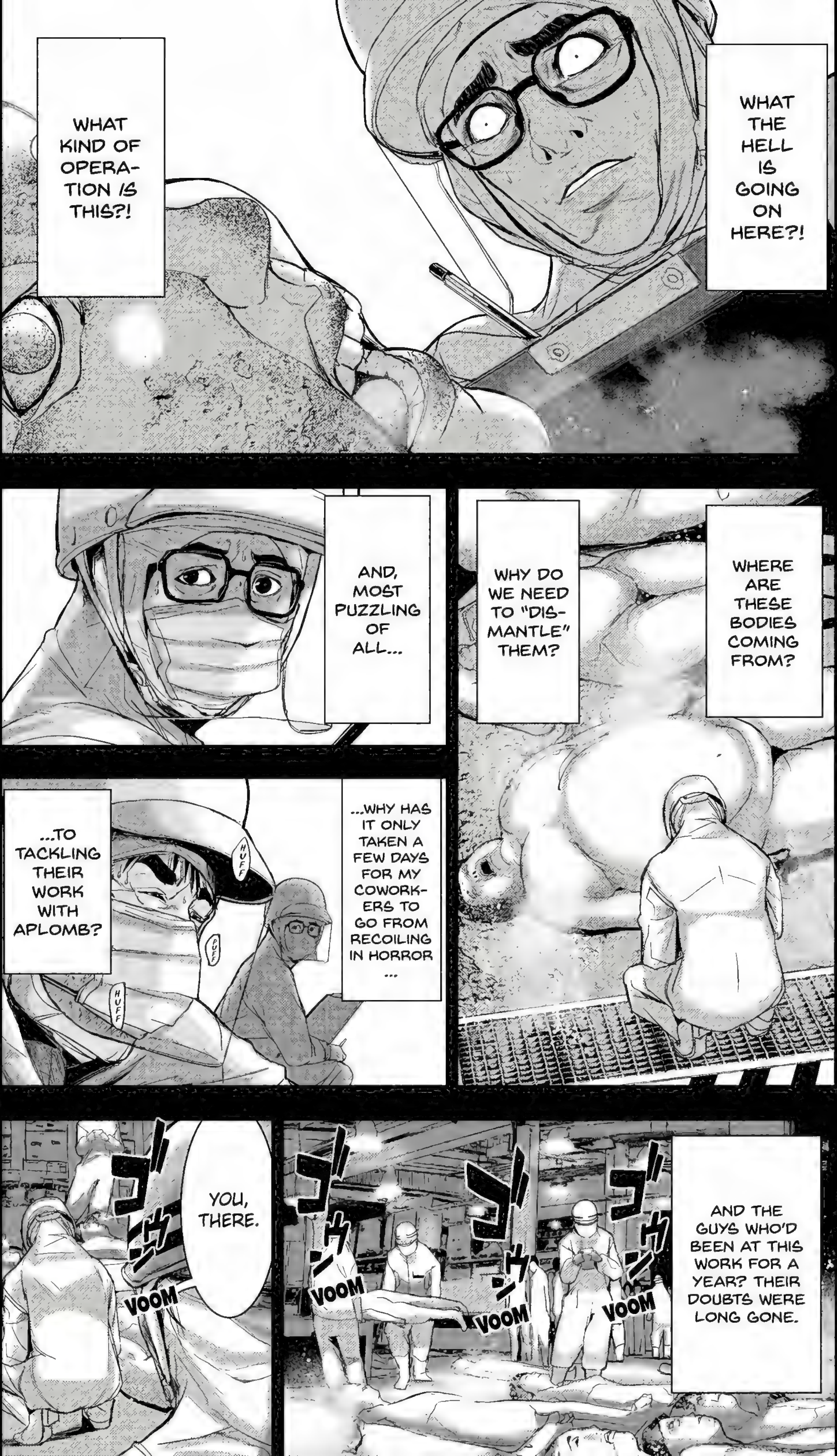

Welcome to the Cradle
YOU'LL NEED YOUR STRENGTH FOR YOUR FIRST DAY AT WORK!
NOW, EAT UP, GENTLEMEN!
MAN... I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW LONG IT'S BEEN SINCE I LAST HAD SUSHI!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE...? THIS IS CERTAINLY AN UNUSUAL WELCOME...
CHATTER ワイ
CHATTER ワイ
ガヤ JABBER
ガヤ JABBER
OH, MAN! THIS ISN'T ANY OLD PISS WATER... IT'S REAL BEER!

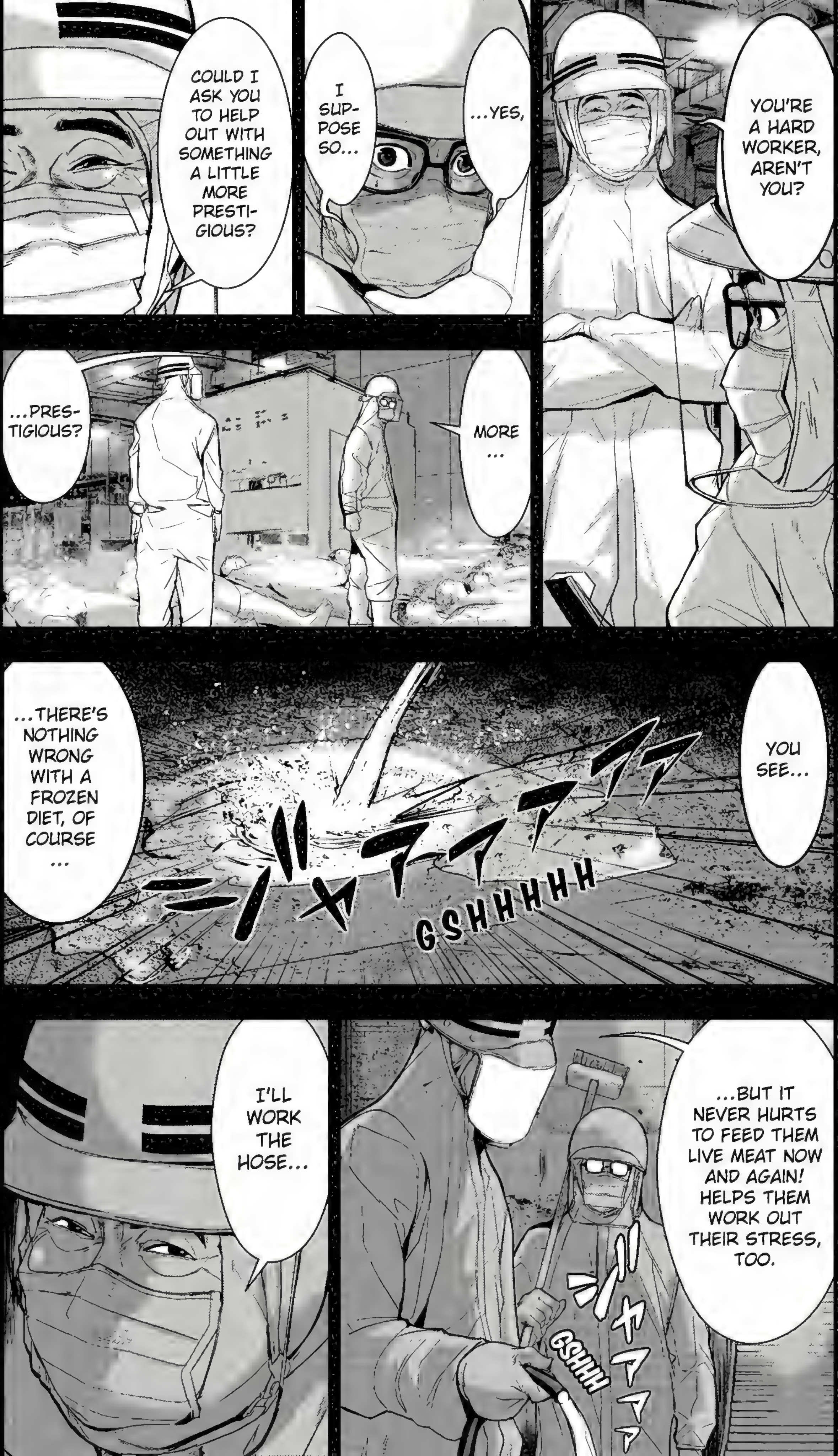

EVERY JOB I'VE EVER WORKED HAS TURNED OUT TO BE A GODDAMN SWEATSHOP, MAN.
THE WAY THEY TREAT PEOPLE... IT'S JUST NOT RIGHT!
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!
I MEAN... WHEN YOU GET TO BE MY AGE, YOU GOTTA TAKE WHATEVER JOB YOU CAN GET, Y'KNOW?
BUT THEY KNOW THEY'VE GOT YOU BY THE BALLS. THEY WORK YOU TILL YOUR BACK BREAKS!
IS THIS PLACE...
...JUST GONNA BE MORE OF THE SAME?
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, SIR.
IT'S OUR POLICY NOT TO SET UNNECESSARILY HARSH DEADLINES...
...AND NEVER TO REQUEST MORE THAN TWENTY HOURS OF OVERTIME FROM OUR STAFF. OUR WORKPLACE TAKES A FIRM STANCE AGAINST EMPLOYEE EXPLOITATION.
YOU HAVE MY WORD!

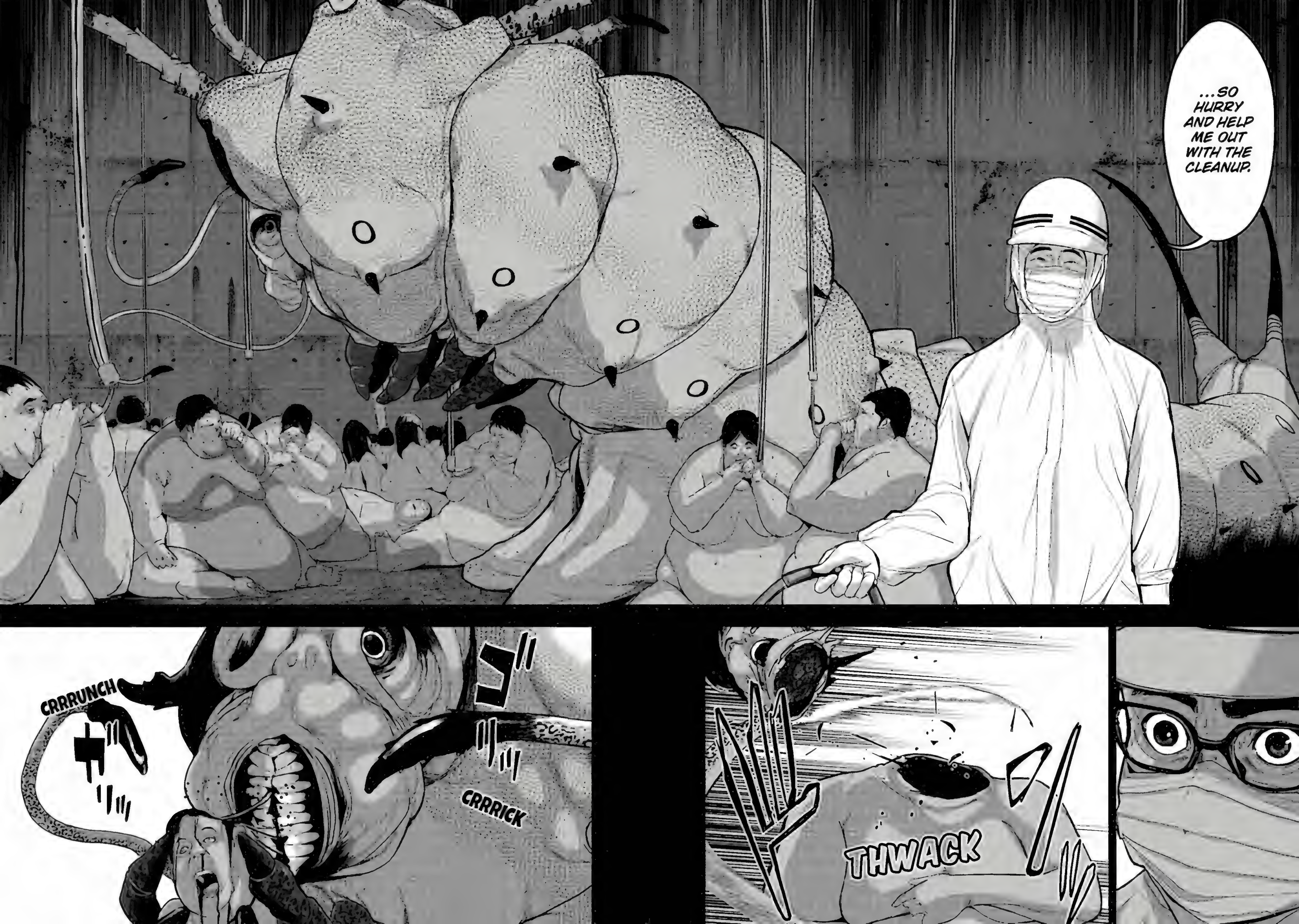

WE CONSIDER EACH AND EVERY ONE OF OUR WORKERS TO BE FAMILY, YOU SEE!
ALL FOR ONE, AND ONE FOR ALL... THAT'S THE CRADLE WAY!
W...
WOW ...!
THOUGH I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT THE PURPOSE,
THAT CONVERSATION DEFINITELY SEEMED STAGED.
UNFORTUNATELY, I WOULD SOON LEARN WHY THEY FELT THE DECEPTION WAS NECESSARY.
パチ
CLAP
パチ
CLAP
パチ
CLAP
パチ
CLAP

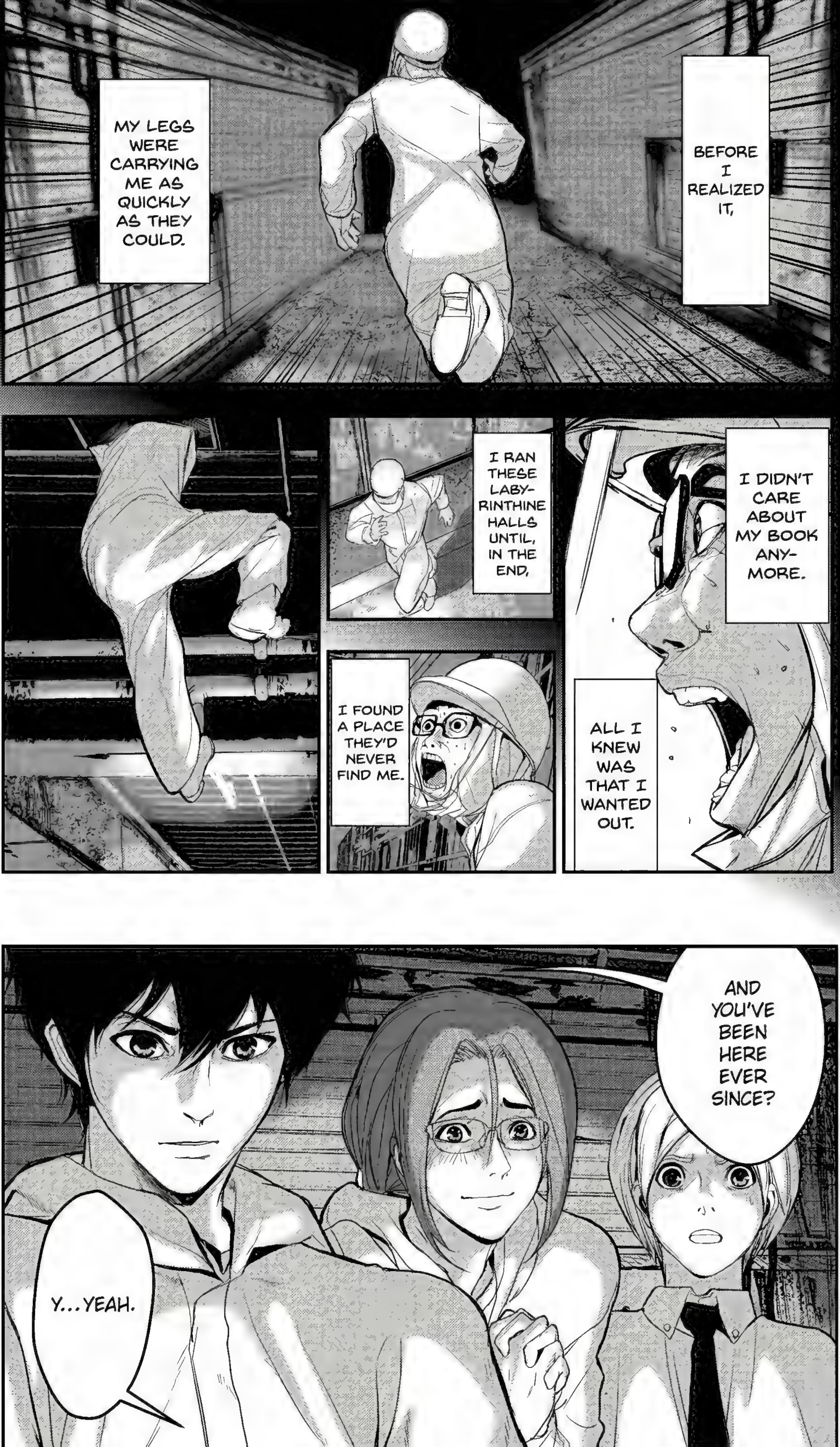

VREEEE
イイイイ
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
RIGHT, THEN. YOU'LL BE STARTING BY DISMANTLING THIS BATCH.
W-W-W... WAIT JUST A MINUTE!!
UM, SIR?!
...HUH? AREN'T THESE...
AREN'T THESE... HUMAN BODIES, SIR?!
YOUR POINT?
BUT I CAN'T-

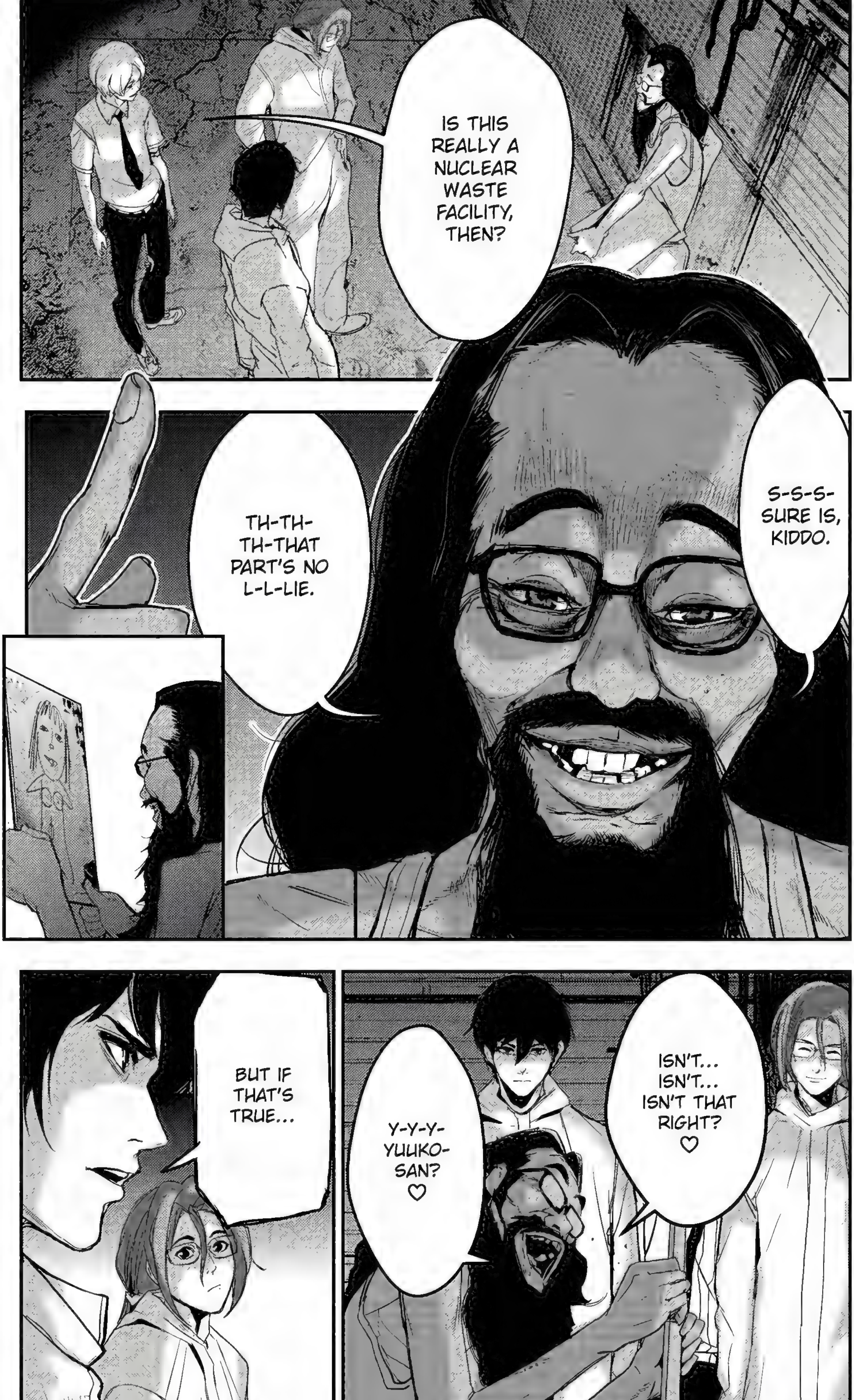

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
WHAT ...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?! ISN'T THIS MURDER?!
NOW, LISTEN HERE, ROOKIE ...
...YOU'LL GET THE DETAILS LATER, BUT THIS WHOLE FACILITY IS TOTALLY ABOVE BOARD.
LEGALLY AND LOGISTICALLY.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, YOU'RE FREE TO GO HOME.
IT *WILL* MEAN PAYING BACK YOUR SIGNING BONUS, THOUGH... ONE YEAR'S SALARY.

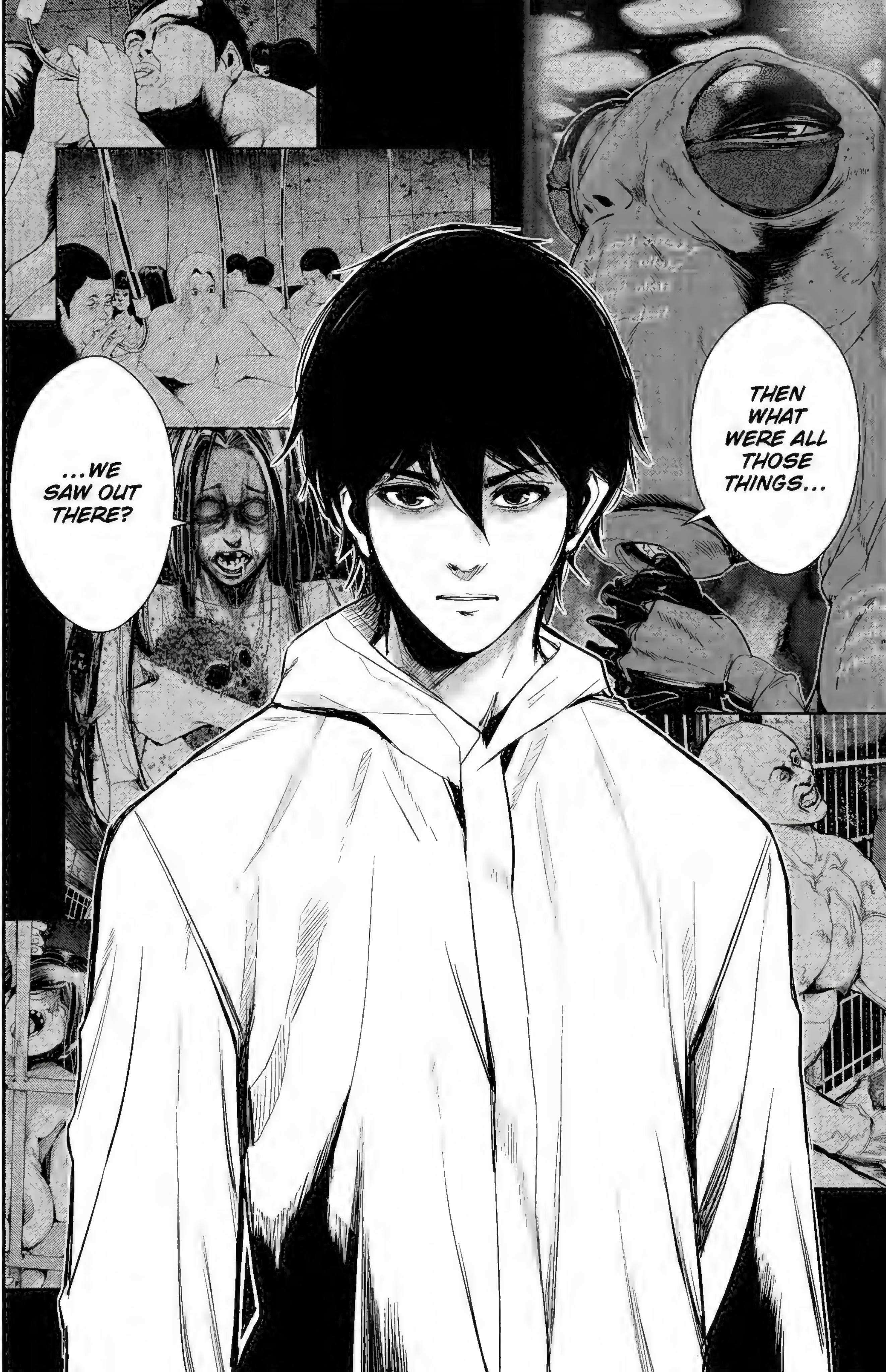

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?!
WHAT KIND OF OPERATION IS THIS?!
WHERE ARE THESE BODIES COMING FROM?
WHY DO WE NEED TO "DISMANTLE" THEM?
AND, MOST PUZZLING OF ALL...
...WHY HAS IT ONLY TAKEN A FEW DAYS FOR MY COWORKERS TO GO FROM RECOILING IN HORROR...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
...TO TACKLING THEIR WORK WITH APLOMB?
AND THE GUYS WHO'D BEEN AT THIS WORK FOR A YEAR? THEIR DOUBTS WERE LONG GONE.
ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
YOU, THERE.

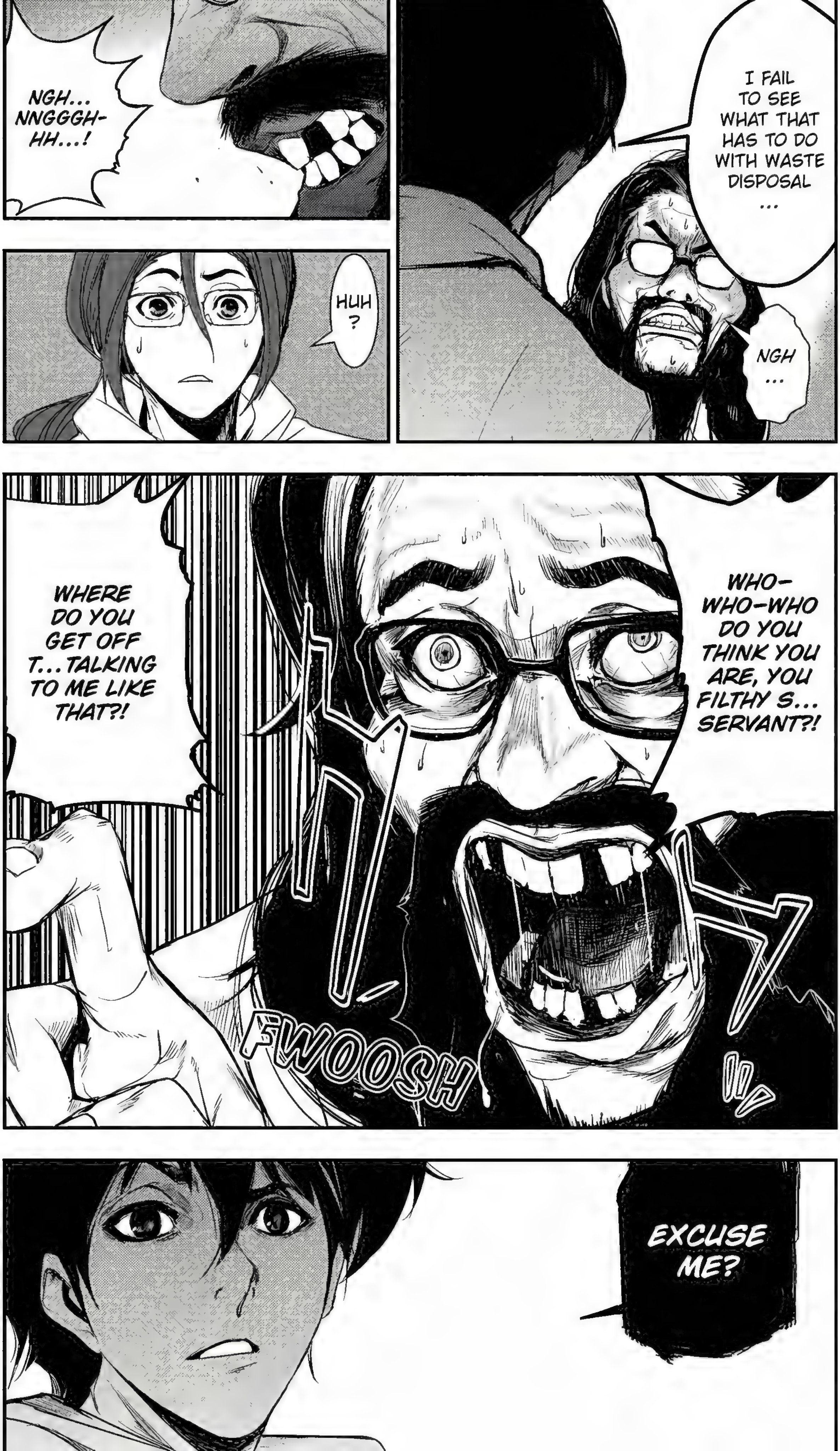

YOU'RE A HARD WORKER, AREN'T YOU?
...YES,
I SUPPOSE SO...
COULD I ASK YOU TO HELP OUT WITH SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE PRESTIGIOUS?
MORE...
...PRESTIGIOUS?
YOU SEE...
GSHHHHH
...THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH A FROZEN DIET, OF COURSE...
...BUT IT NEVER HURTS TO FEED THEM LIVE MEAT NOW AND AGAIN! HELPS THEM WORK OUT THEIR STRESS, TOO.
GSHHH
I'LL WORK THE HOSE...

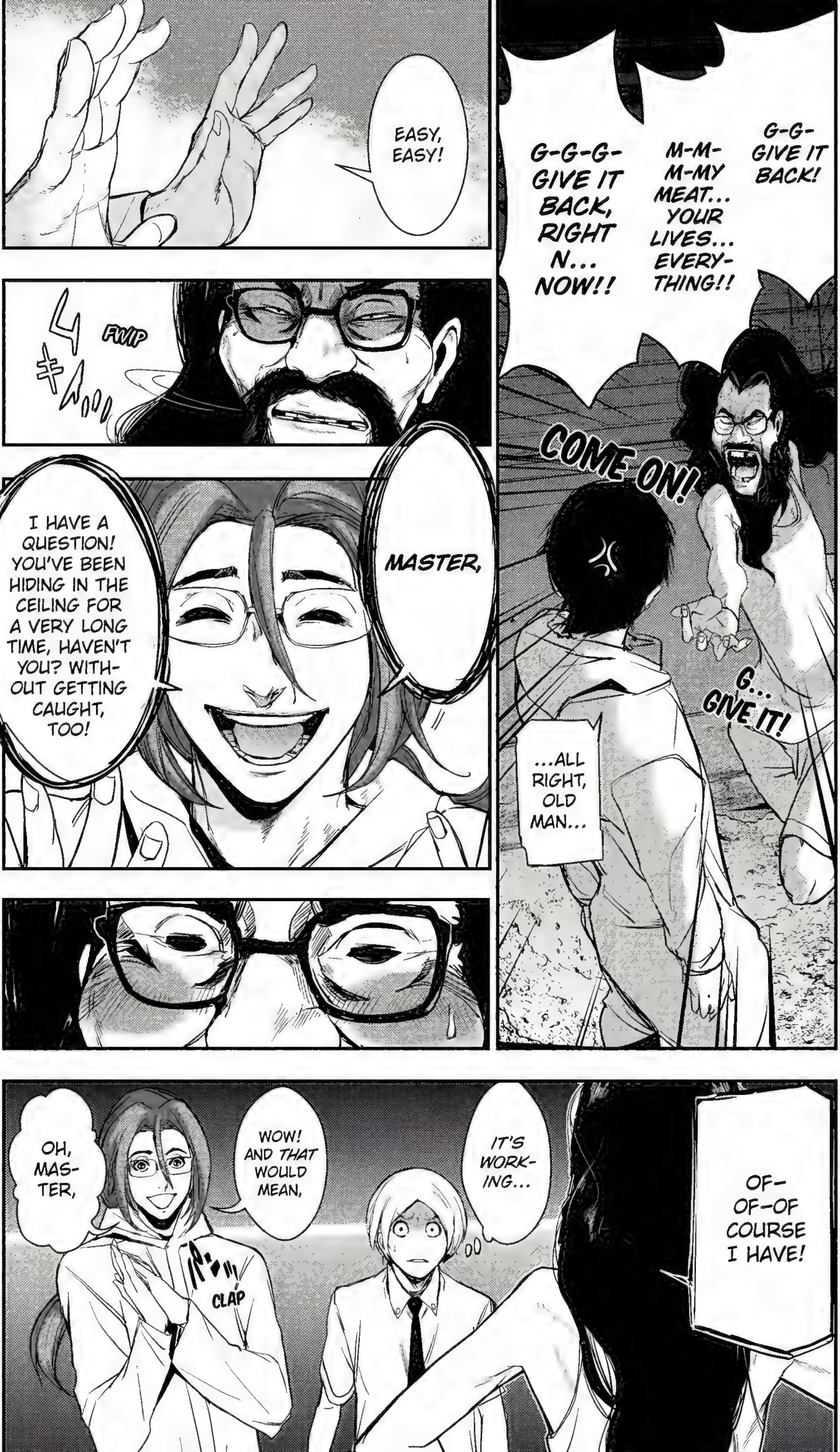

...SO HURRY AND HELP ME OUT WITH THE CLEANUP.
THWACK
CRRRUNCH
CRRRICK

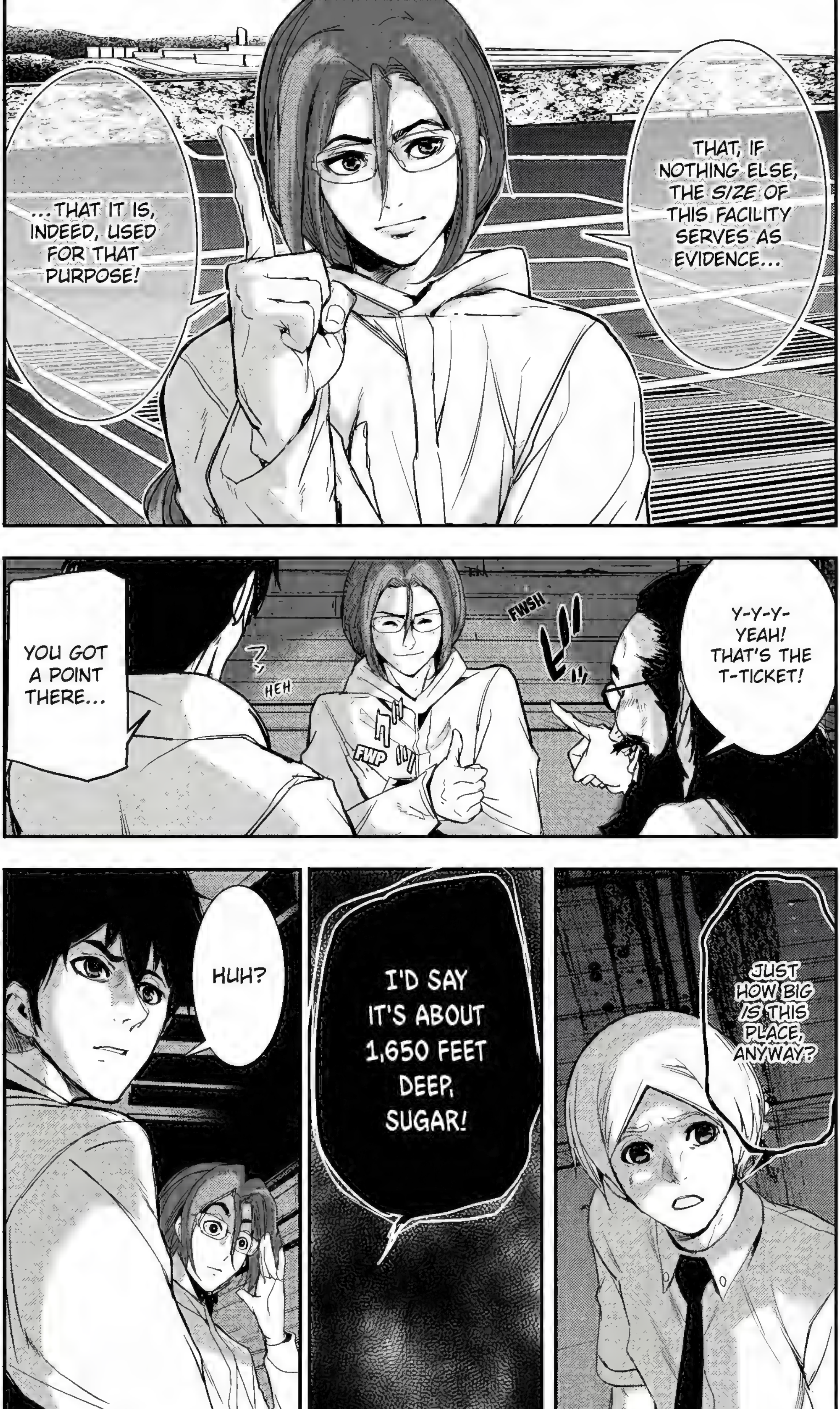

BEFORE I REALIZED IT,
MY LEGS WERE CARRYING ME AS QUICKLY AS THEY COULD.
I DIDN'T CARE ABOUT MY BOOK ANYMORE.
ALL I KNEW WAS THAT I WANTED OUT.
I RAN THESE LABYRINTHINE HALLS UNTIL, IN THE END,
I FOUND A PLACE THEY'D NEVER FIND ME.
AND YOU'VE BEEN HERE EVER SINCE?
Y...YEAH.

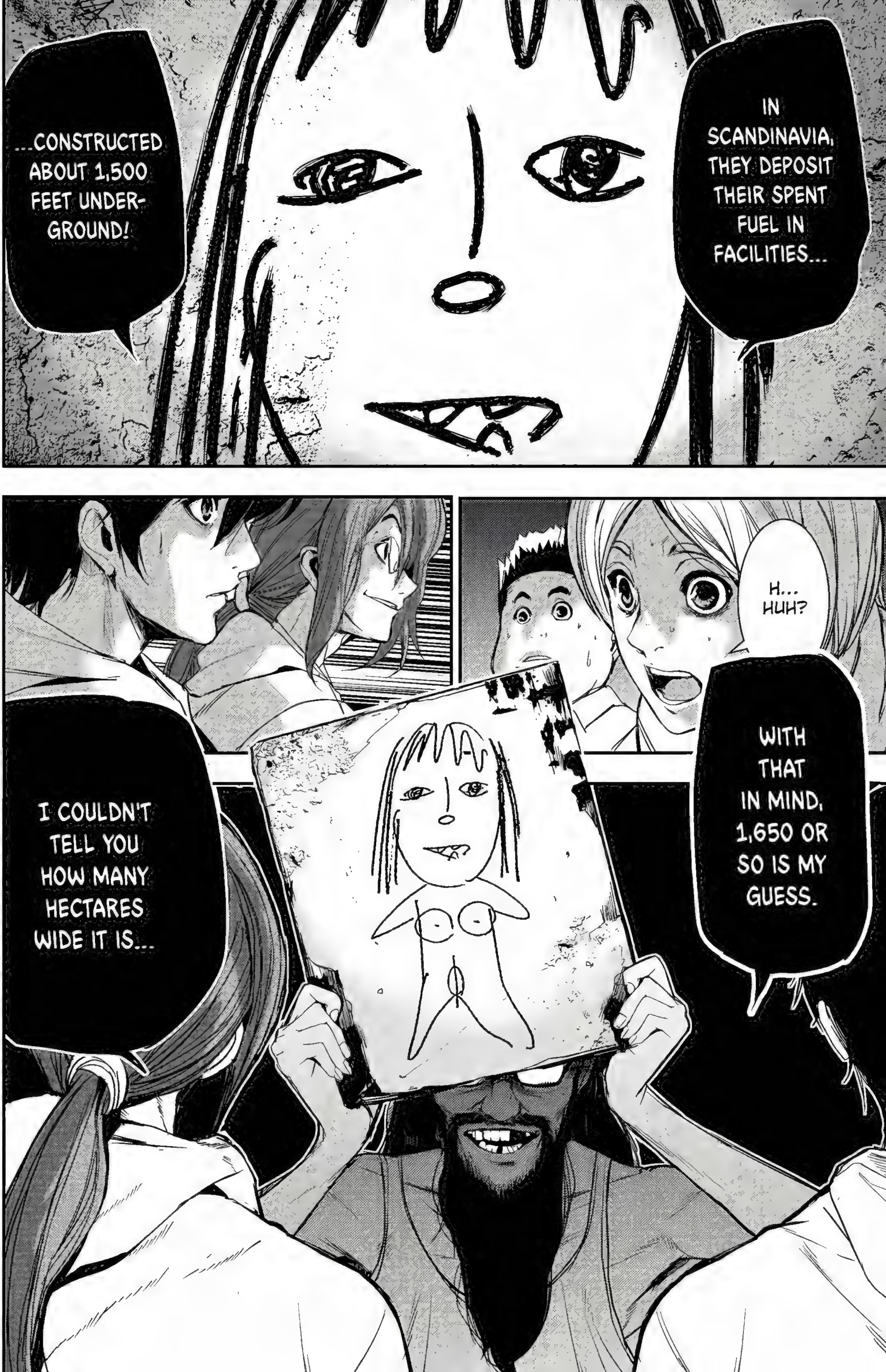

IS THIS REALLY A NUCLEAR WASTE FACILITY, THEN?
S-S-S-SURE IS, KIDDO.
TH-TH-TH-THAT PART'S NO L-L-LIE.
BUT IF THAT'S TRUE...
ISN'T... ISN'T... ISN'T THAT RIGHT? ♡
Y-Y-Y-YUUKO-SAN? ♡

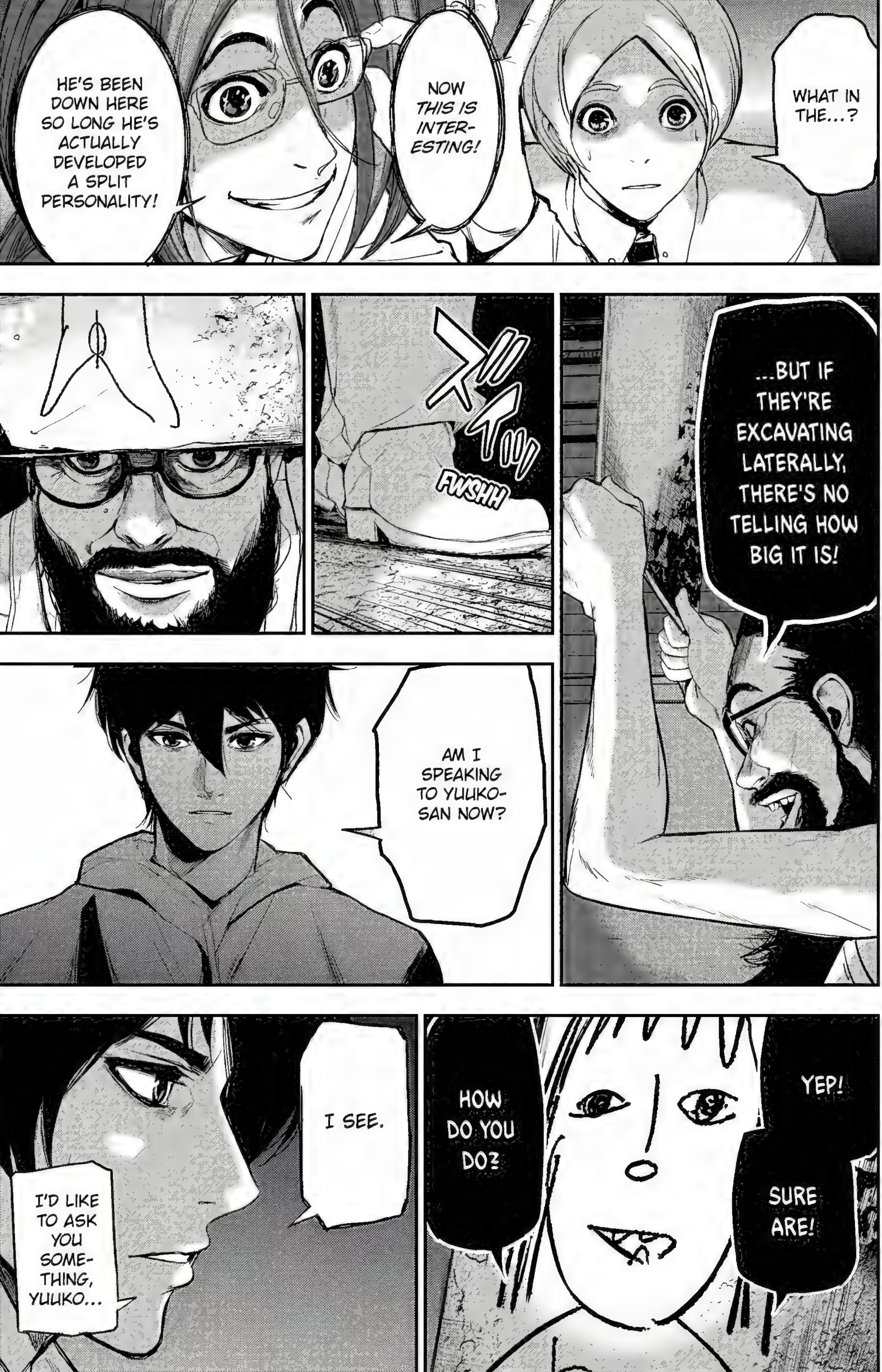

THEN WHAT WERE ALL THOSE THINGS...
...WE SAW OUT THERE?

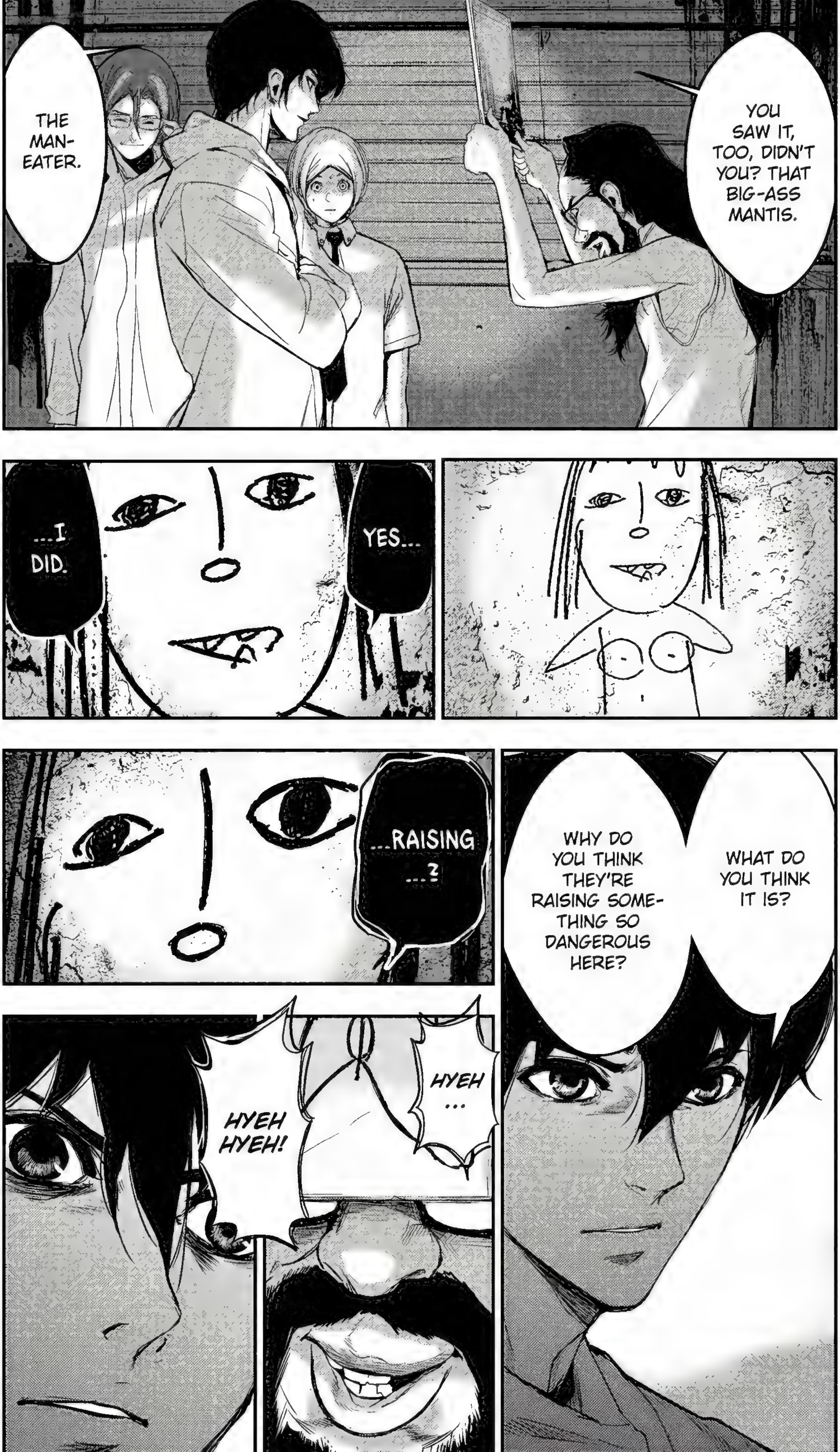

I FAIL TO SEE WHAT THAT HAS TO DO WITH WASTE DISPOSAL ...
NGH ...
NGH... NNGGGH-HH...!
HUH ?
WHO-WHO-WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, YOU FILTHY S... SERVANT?!
WHERE DO YOU GET OFF T...TALKING TO ME LIKE THAT?!
FWOOSH
EXCUSE ME?

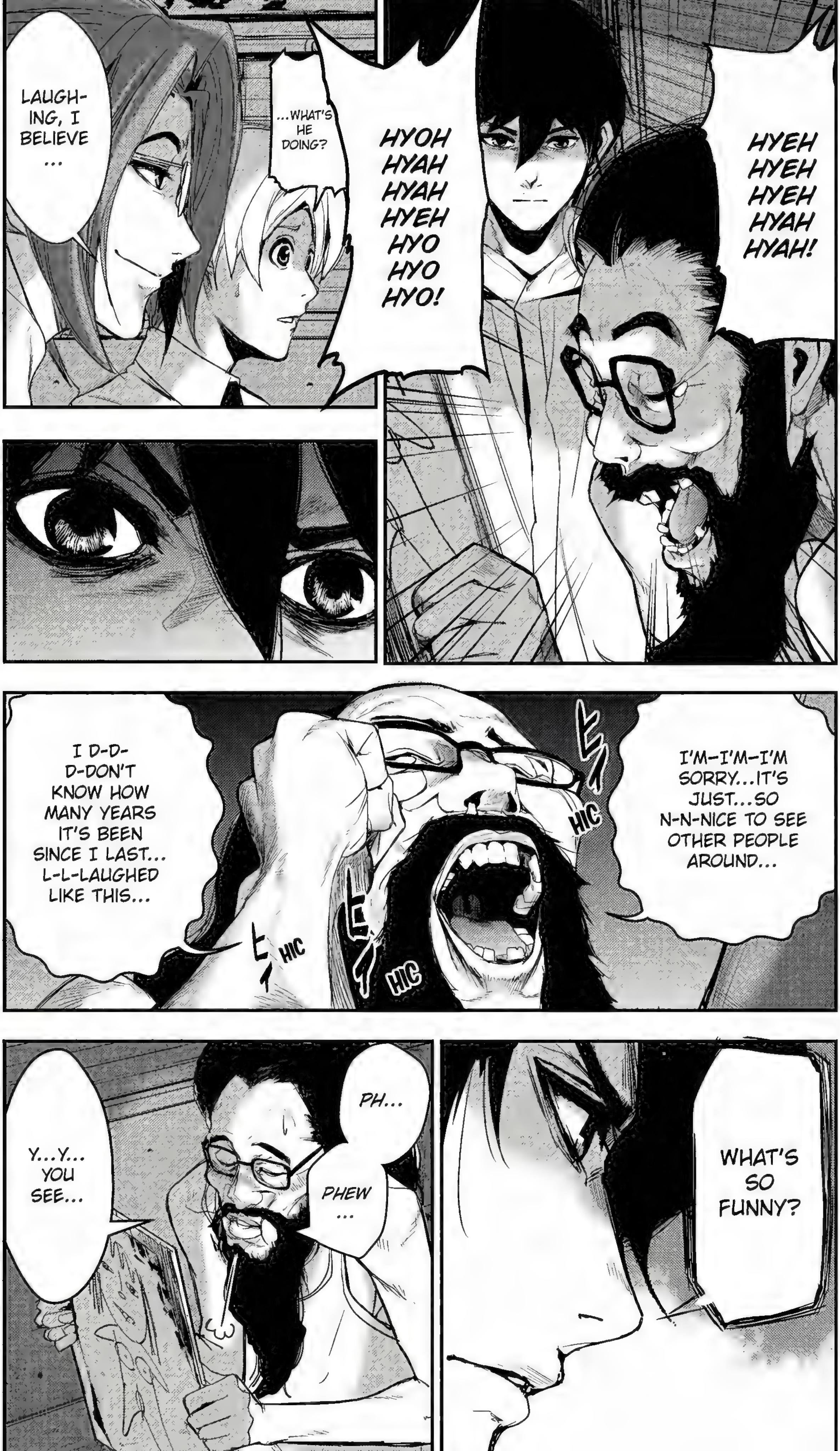

G-G-GIVE IT BACK!
M-M-M-MY MEAT... YOUR LIVES... EVERYTHING!!
G-G-G-GIVE IT BACK, RIGHT N... NOW!!
COME ON!
G... GIVE IT!
...ALL RIGHT, OLD MAN...
EASY, EASY!
FWIP
MASTER,
I HAVE A QUESTION! YOU'VE BEEN HIDING IN THE CEILING FOR A VERY LONG TIME, HAVEN'T YOU? WITHOUT GETTING CAUGHT, TOO!
OF-OF-OF COURSE I HAVE!
IT'S WORKING...
WOW! AND *THAT* WOULD MEAN,
OH, MASTER,
CLAP

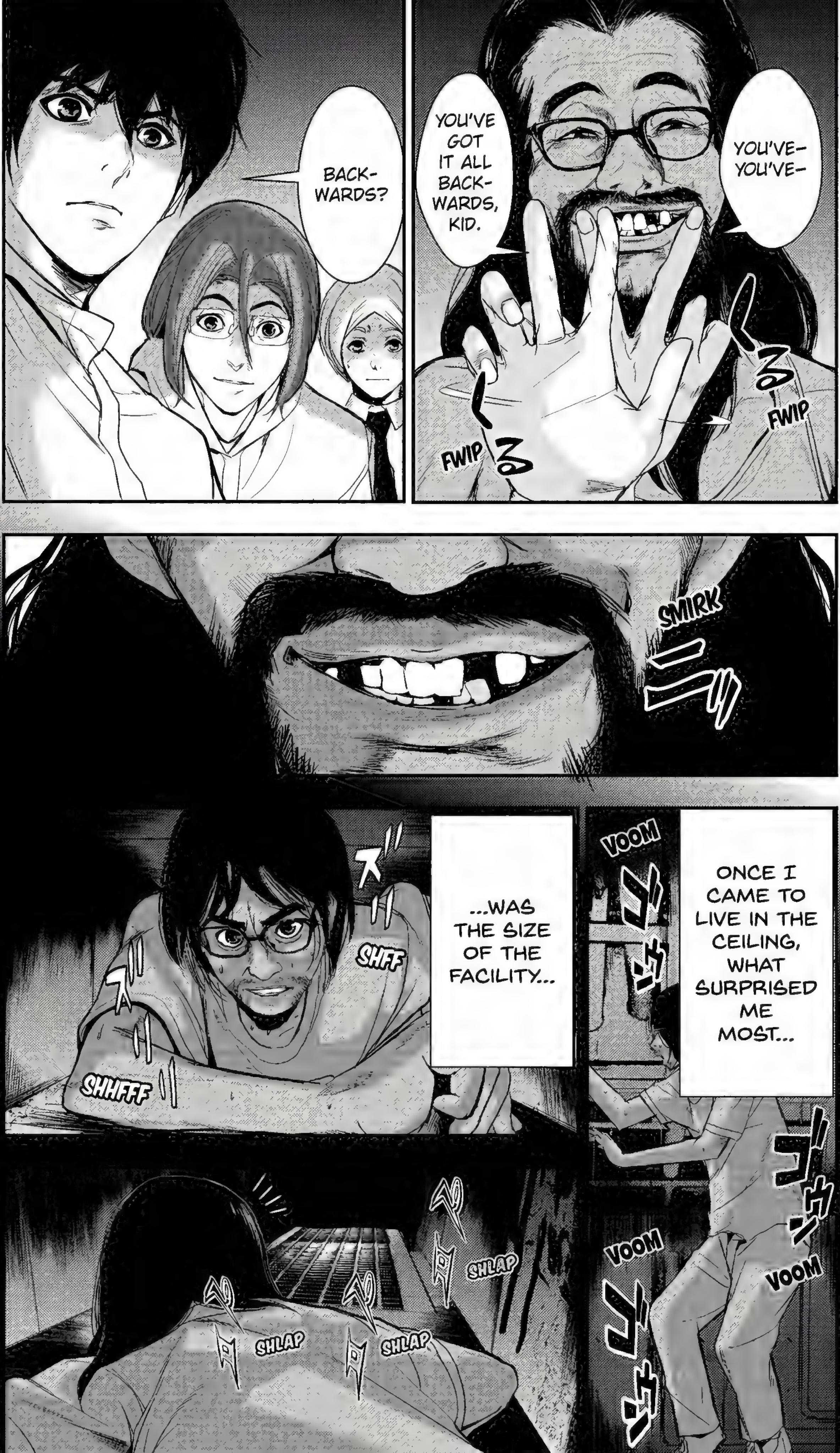

THAT, IF NOTHING ELSE, THE *SIZE* OF THIS FACILITY SERVES AS EVIDENCE...
...THAT IT IS, INDEED, USED FOR THAT PURPOSE!
Y-Y-Y-YEAH! THAT'S THE T-TICKET!
FWSH
FWP
HEH
YOU GOT A POINT THERE...
JUST HOW BIG *IS* THIS PLACE, ANYWAY?
I'D SAY IT'S ABOUT 1,650 FEET DEEP, SUGAR!
HUH?

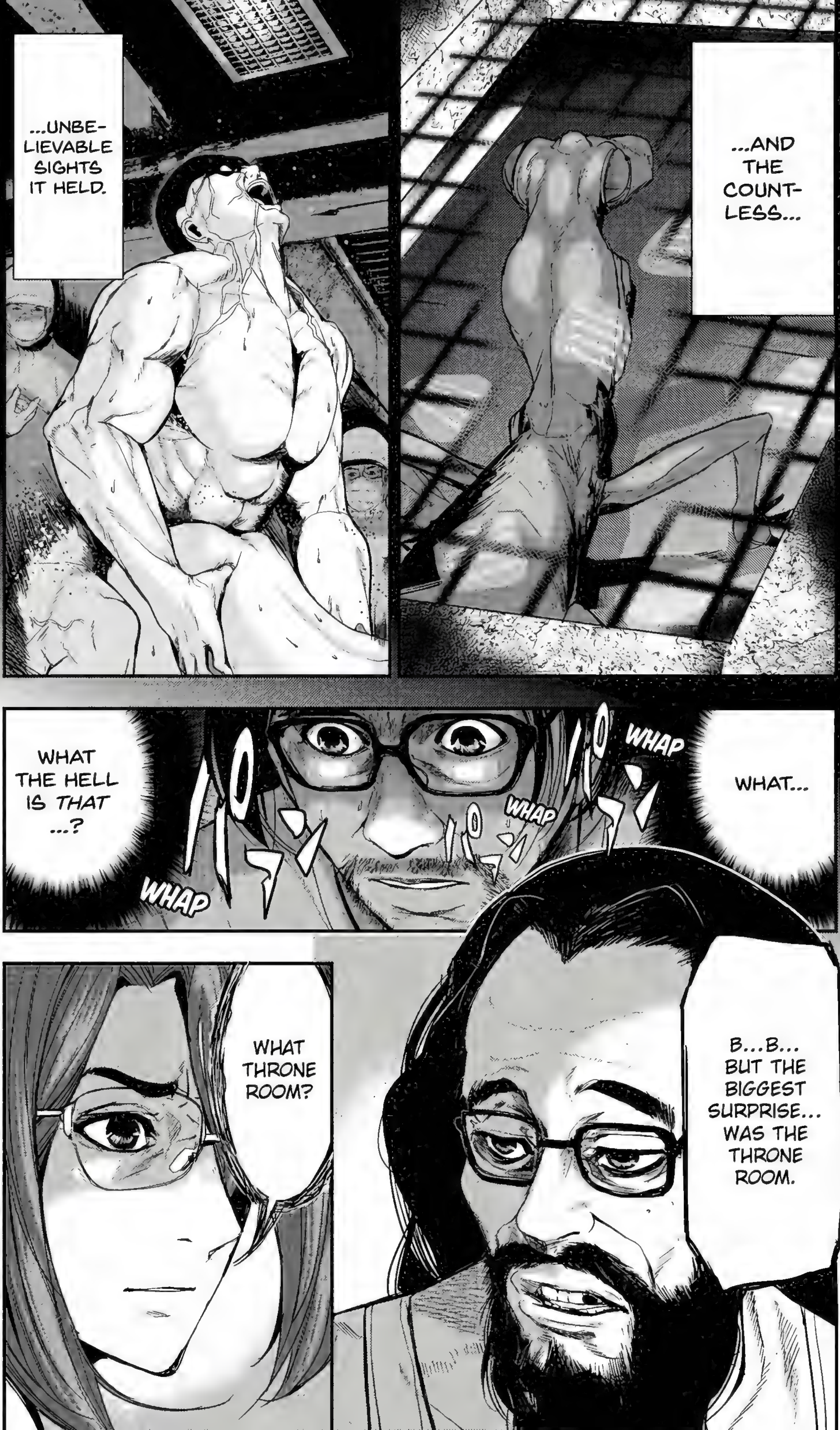

IN SCANDINAVIA, THEY DEPOSIT THEIR SPENT FUEL IN FACILITIES...
...CONSTRUCTED ABOUT 1,500 FEET UNDERGROUND!
H... HUH?
WITH THAT IN MIND, 1,650 OR SO IS MY GUESS.
I COULDN'T TELL YOU HOW MANY HECTARES WIDE IT IS...

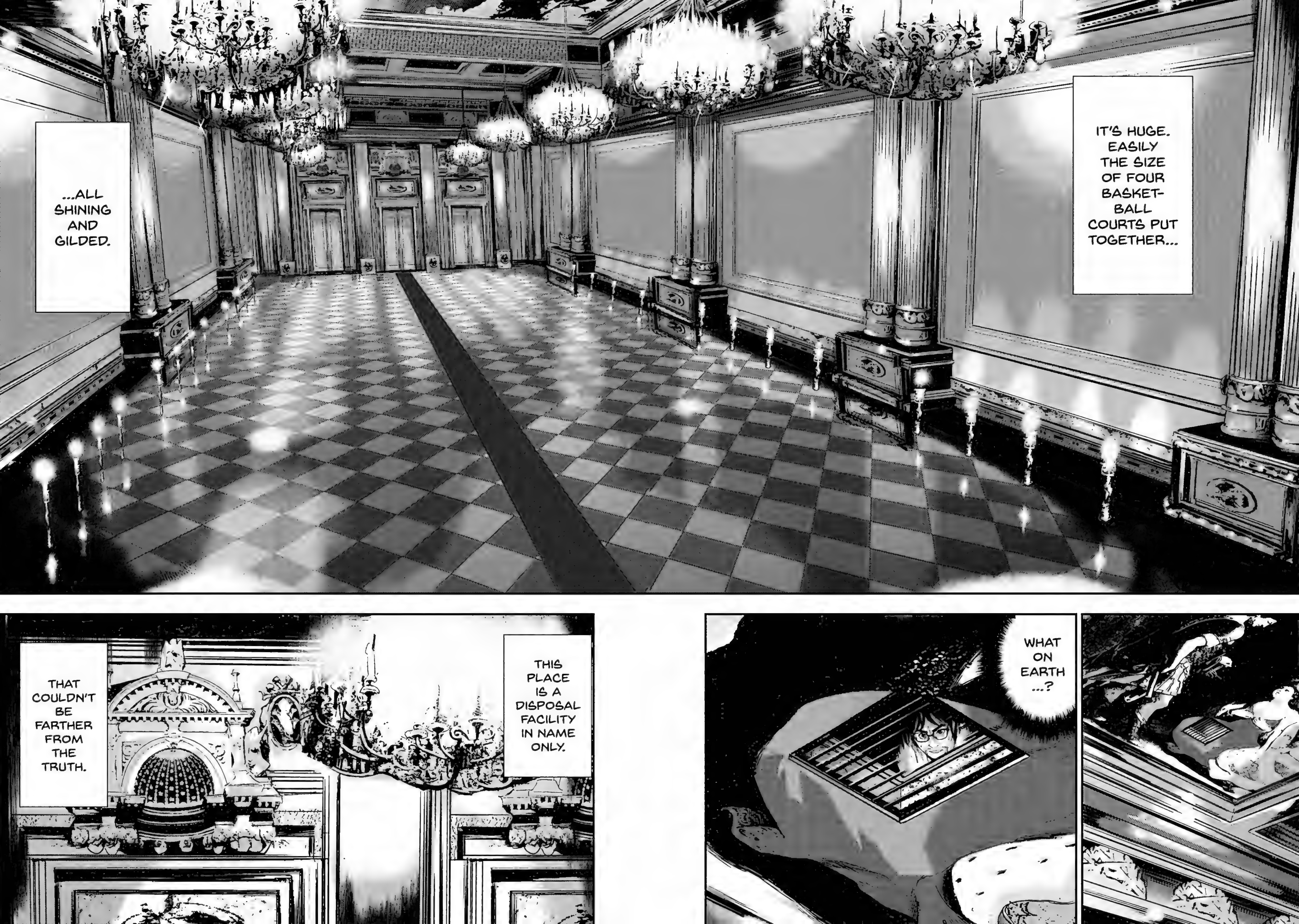

WHAT IN THE...?
NOW THIS IS INTERESTING!
HE'S BEEN DOWN HERE SO LONG HE'S ACTUALLY DEVELOPED A SPLIT PERSONALITY!
...BUT IF THEY'RE EXCAVATING LATERALLY, THERE'S NO TELLING HOW BIG IT IS!
FWSHH
AM I SPEAKING TO YUUKO-SAN NOW?
YEP!
SURE ARE!
HOW DO YOU DO?
I SEE.
I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING, YUUKO...

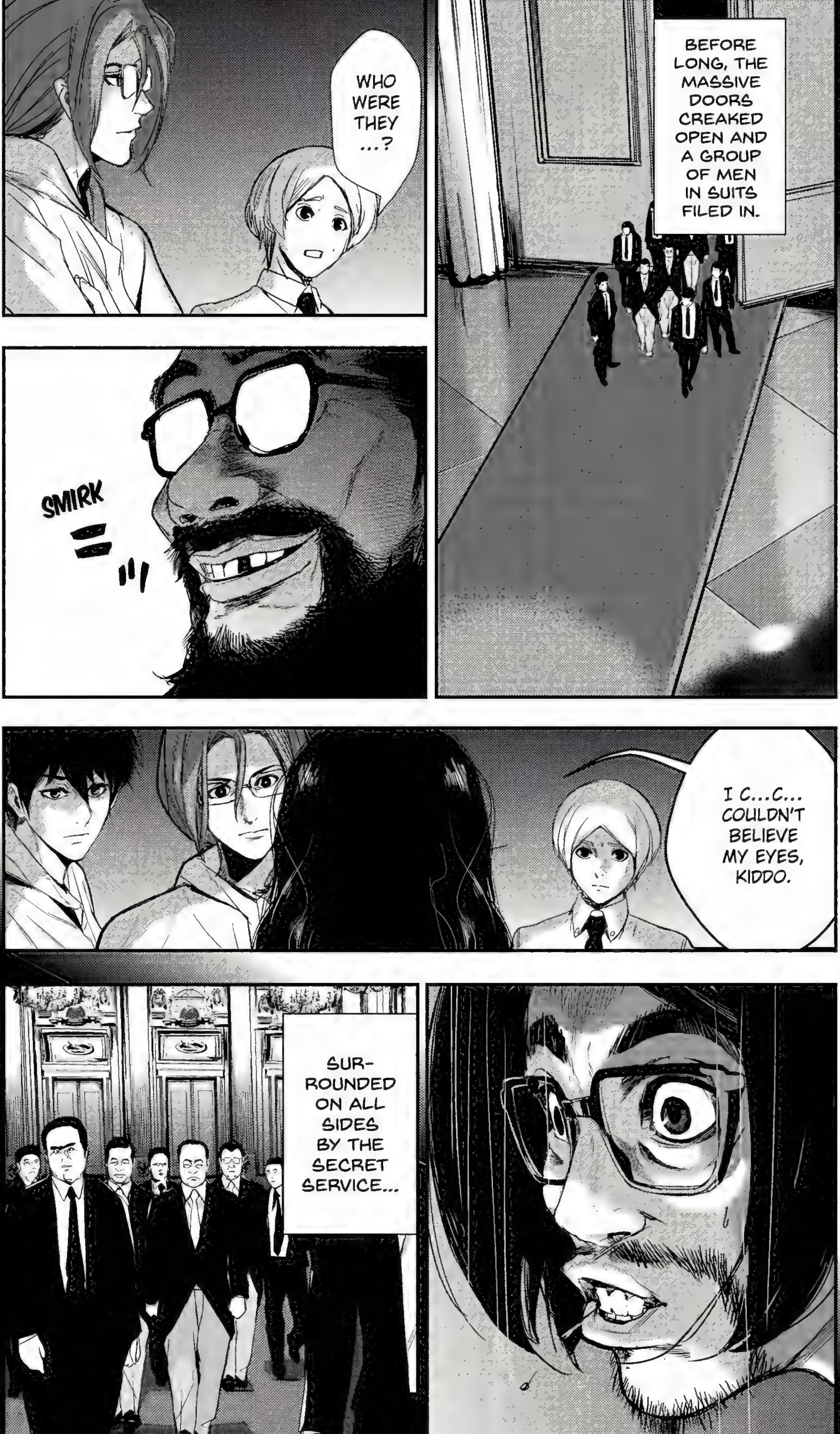

YOU SAW IT, TOO, DIDN'T YOU? THAT BIG-ASS MANTIS.
THE MAN-EATER.
YES...
...I DID.
WHAT DO YOU THINK IT IS?
WHY DO YOU THINK THEY'RE RAISING SOMETHING SO DANGEROUS HERE?
...RAISING ...?
HYEH ...
HYEH HYEH!

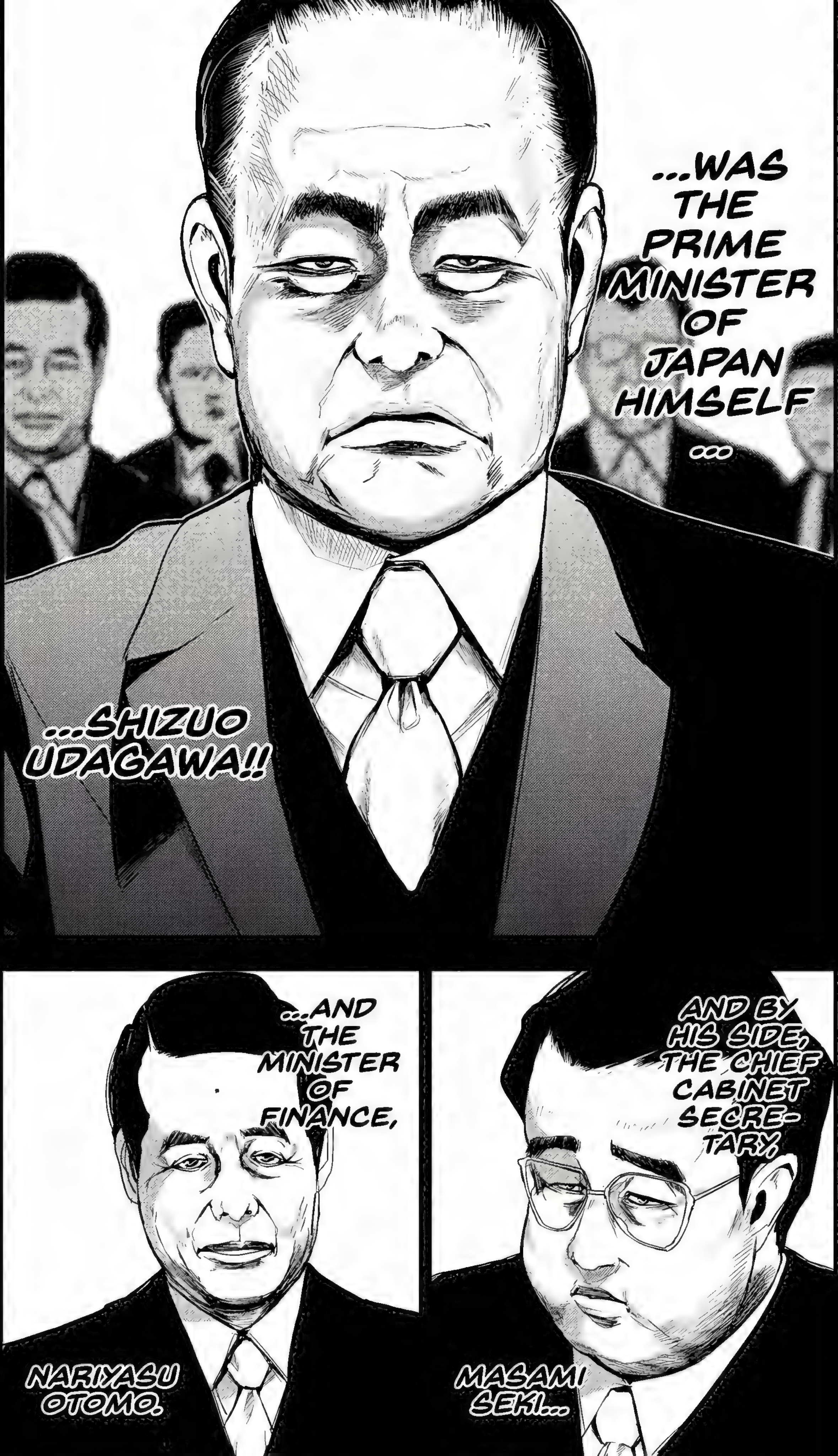

HYEH HYEH HYEH HYAH HYAH!
HYOH HYAH HYAH HYEH HYO HYO HYO!
...WHAT'S HE DOING?
LAUGHING, I BELIEVE...
I'M–I'M–I'M SORRY...IT'S JUST...SO N-N-NICE TO SEE OTHER PEOPLE AROUND...
HIC
HIC
I D-D-D-DON'T KNOW HOW MANY YEARS IT'S BEEN SINCE I LAST... L-L-LAUGHED LIKE THIS...
HIC
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
PH...
PHEW...
Y...Y... YOU SEE...

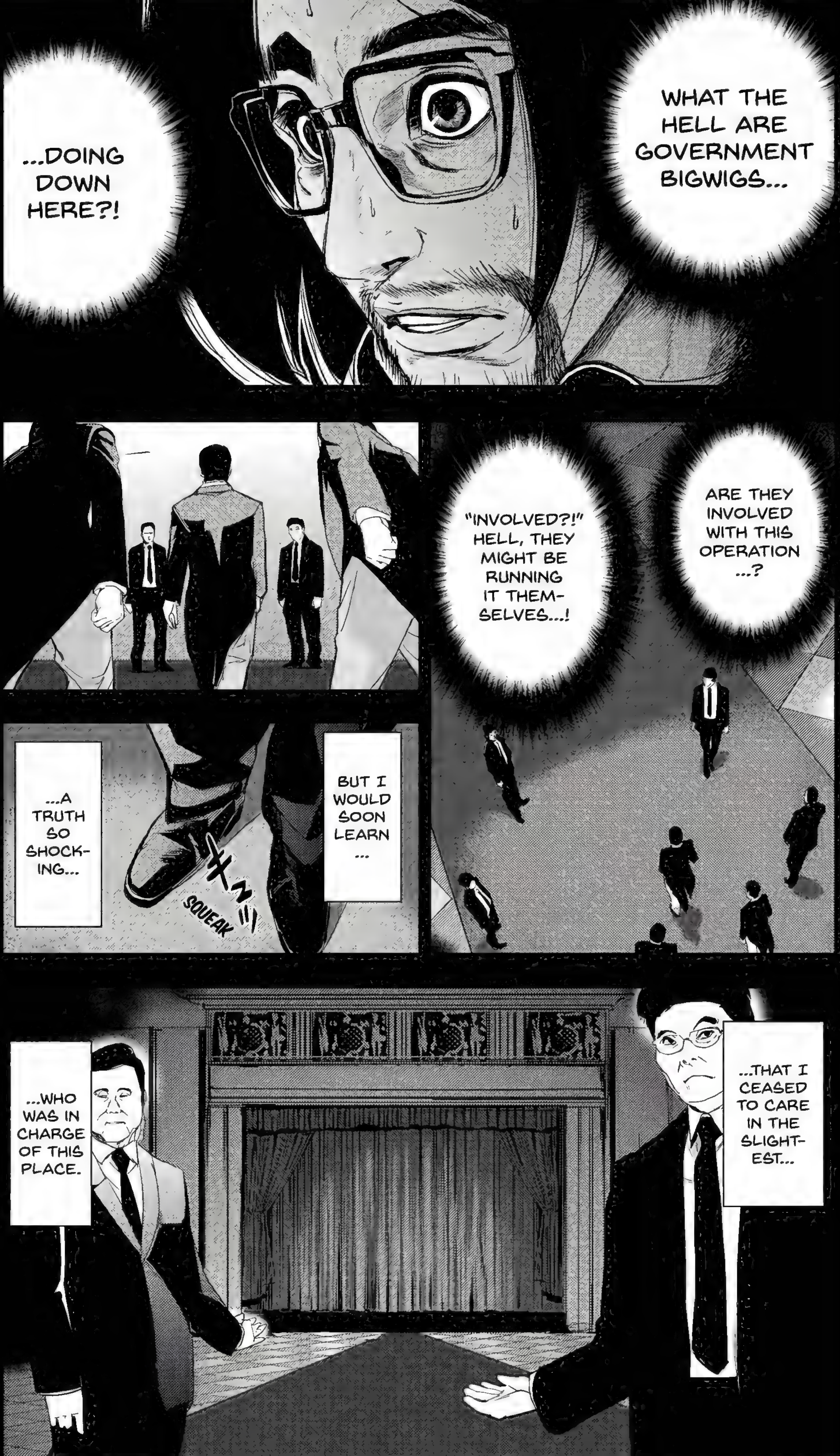

YOU'VE- YOU'VE-
YOU'VE GOT IT ALL BACKWARDS, KID.
くる FWIP
くる FWIP
BACKWARDS?
SMIRK
ニヤ
ONCE I CAME TO LIVE IN THE CEILING, WHAT SURPRISED ME MOST...
VOOM
ゴウン
...WAS THE SIZE OF THE FACILITY...
ズ
SHFF
ズ
SHHFFF
ゴウン
VOOM
VOOM
ゴウン
ペタ SHLAP
ペタ SHLAP
ペタ SHLAP

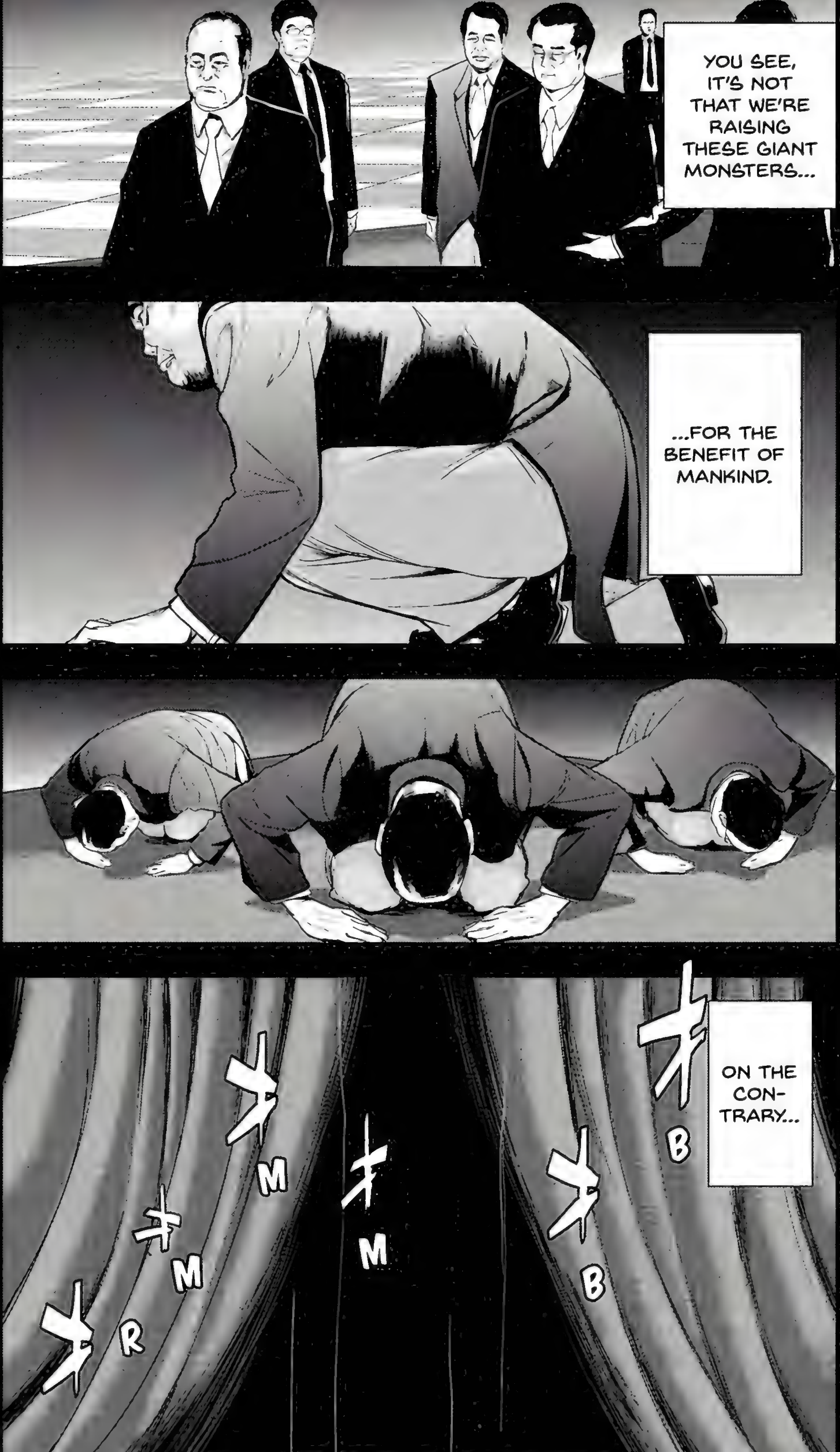

...AND THE COUNTLESS...
...UNBELIEVABLE SIGHTS IT HELD.
WHAP
WHAT...
WHAP
WHAT THE HELL IS *THAT* ...?
WHAP
B...B... BUT THE BIGGEST SURPRISE... WAS THE THRONE ROOM.
WHAT THRONE ROOM?

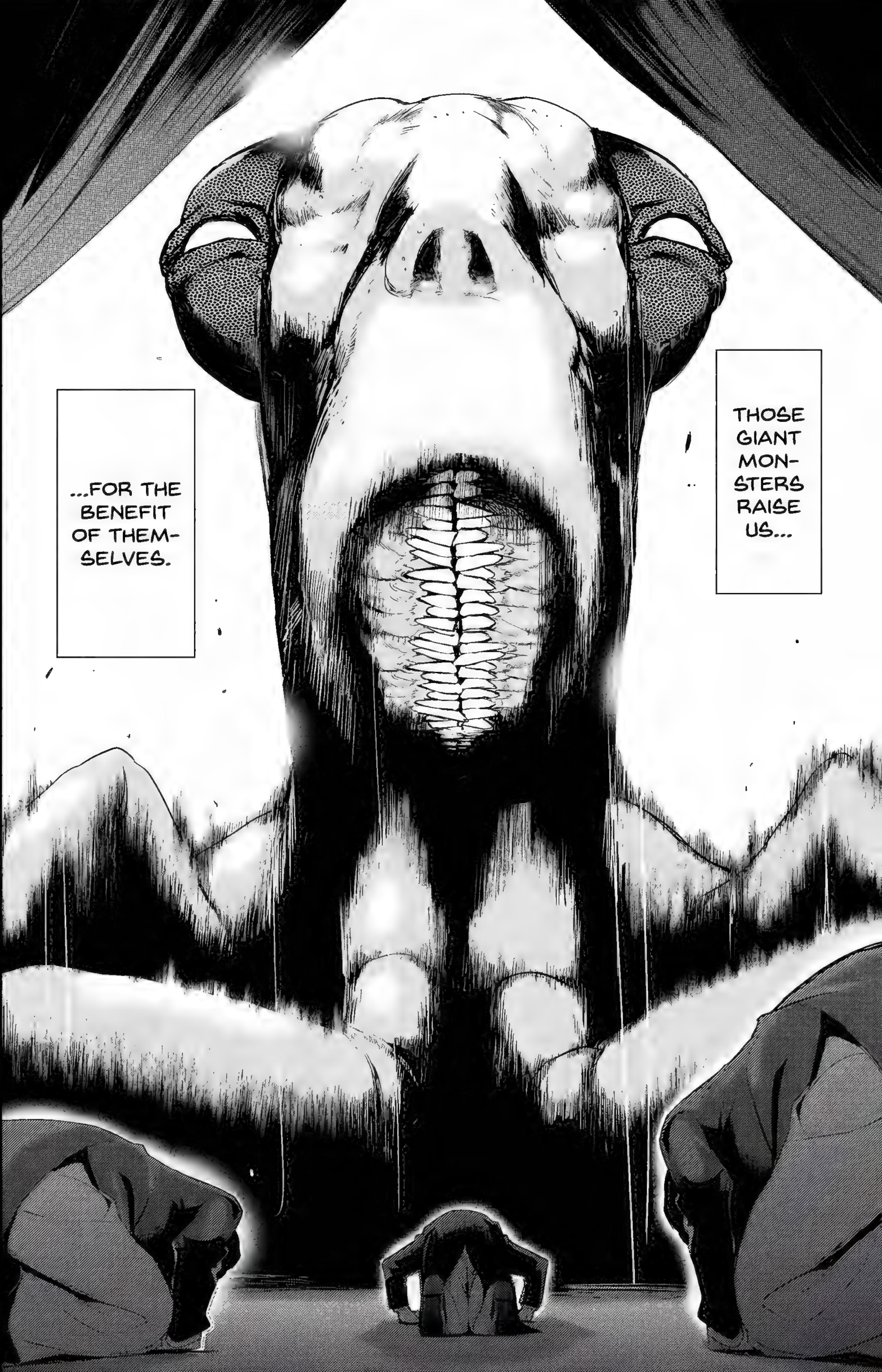

IT'S HUGE. EASILY THE SIZE OF FOUR BASKETBALL COURTS PUT TOGETHER...
...ALL SHINING AND GILDED.
WHAT ON EARTH ...?
THIS PLACE IS A DISPOSAL FACILITY IN NAME ONLY.
THAT COULDN'T BE FARTHER FROM THE TRUTH.

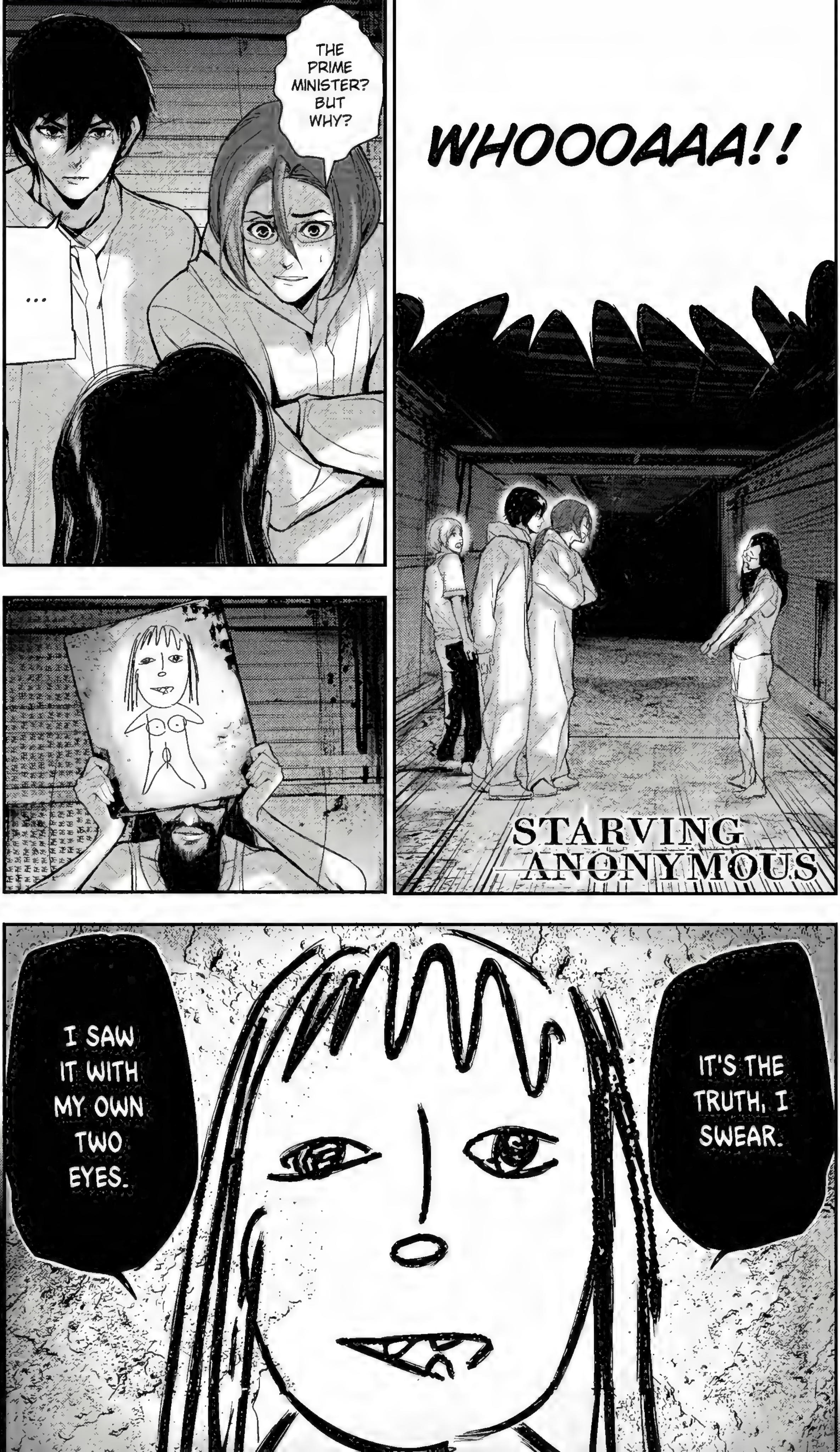

WHO WERE THEY ...?
SMIRK
BEFORE LONG, THE MASSIVE DOORS CREAKED OPEN AND A GROUP OF MEN IN SUITS FILED IN.
I C...C... COULDN'T BELIEVE MY EYES, KIDDO.
SURROUNDED ON ALL SIDES BY THE SECRET SERVICE...


...WAS THE PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN HIMSELF...
...SHIZUO UDAGAWA!!
AND BY HIS SIDE, THE CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY,
MASAMI SEKI...
...AND THE MINISTER OF FINANCE,
NARIYASU OTOMO.

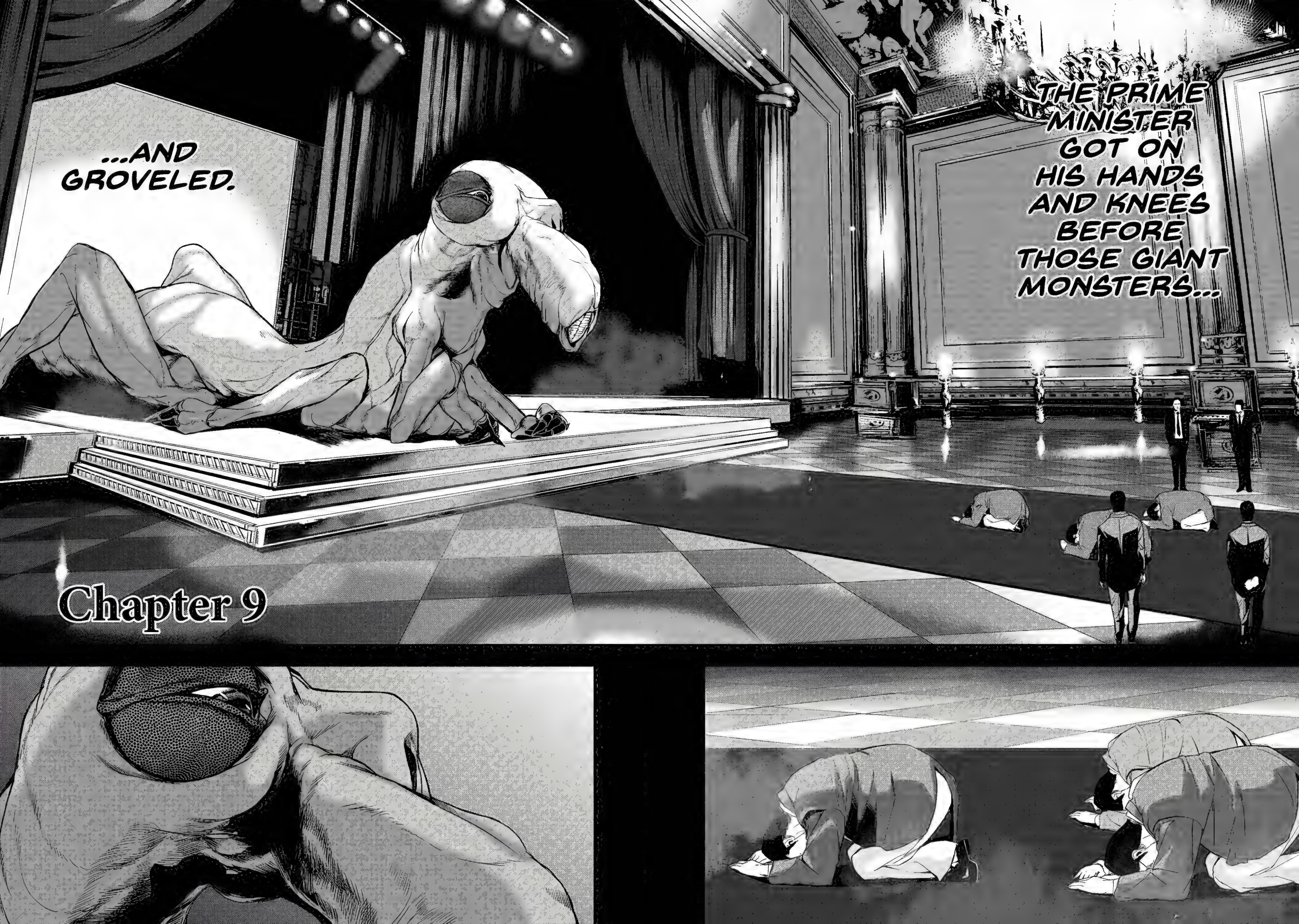

WHAT THE HELL ARE GOVERNMENT BIGWIGS...
...DOING DOWN HERE?!
ARE THEY INVOLVED WITH THIS OPERATION ...?
"INVOLVED?!" HELL, THEY MIGHT BE RUNNING IT THEMSELVES...!
BUT I WOULD SOON LEARN ...
SQUEAK
...A TRUTH SO SHOCKING...
...THAT I CEASED TO CARE IN THE SLIGHTEST...
...WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THIS PLACE.

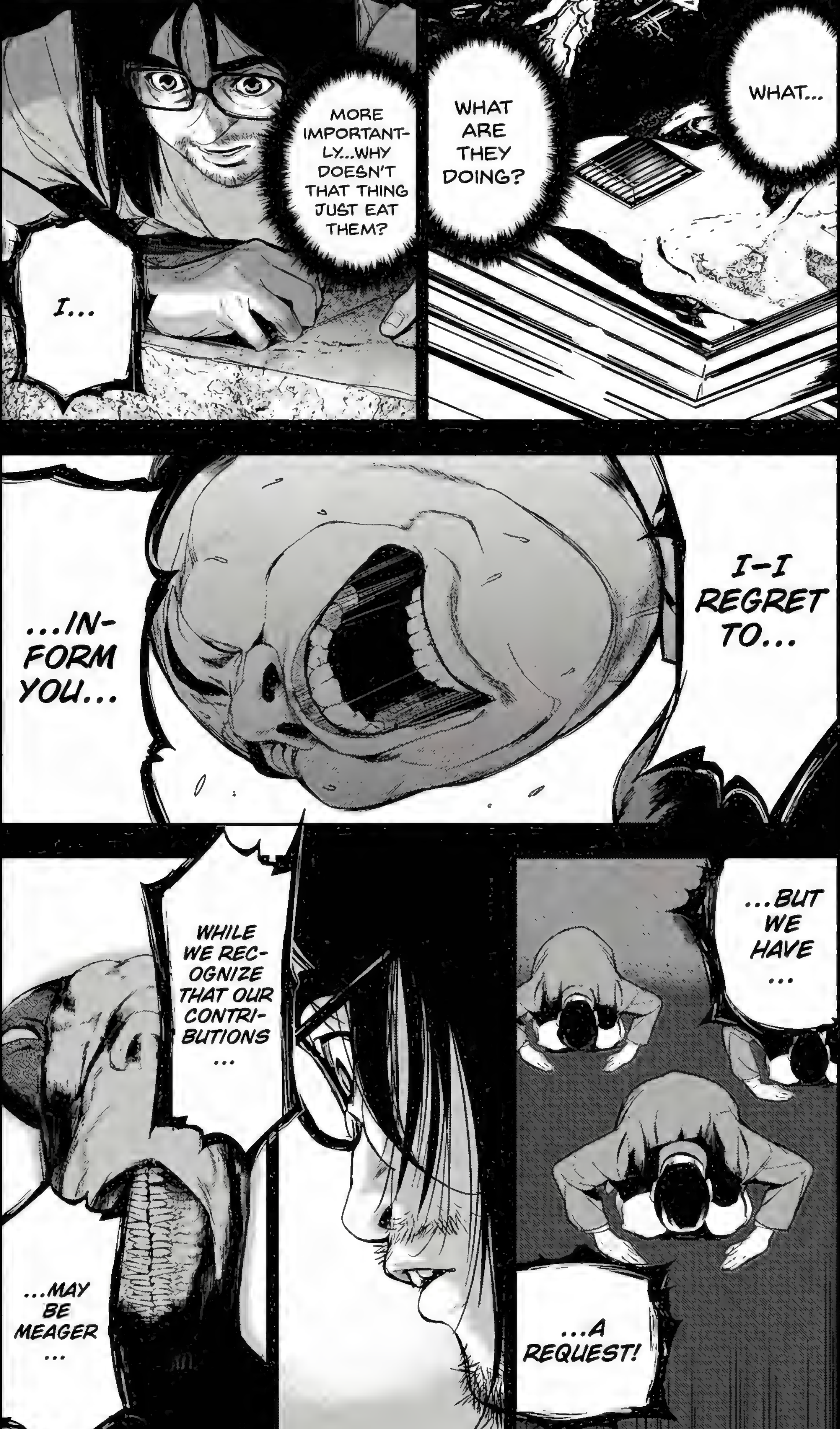

YOU SEE, IT'S NOT THAT WE'RE RAISING THESE GIANT MONSTERS...
...FOR THE BENEFIT OF MANKIND.
ON THE CONTRARY...
R
M
M
M
B
B

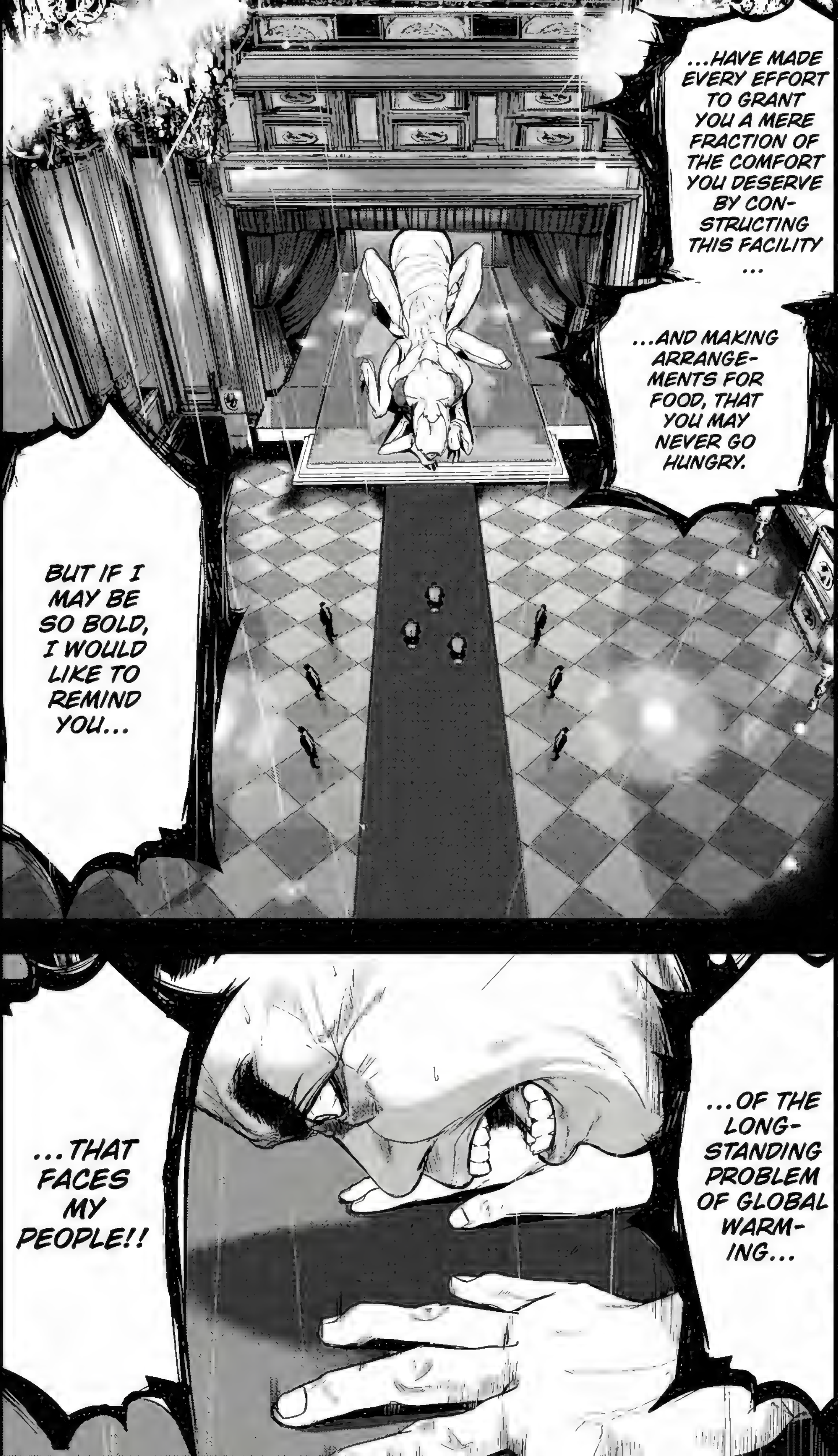

THOSE GIANT MONSTERS RAISE US...
...FOR THE BENEFIT OF THEMSELVES.

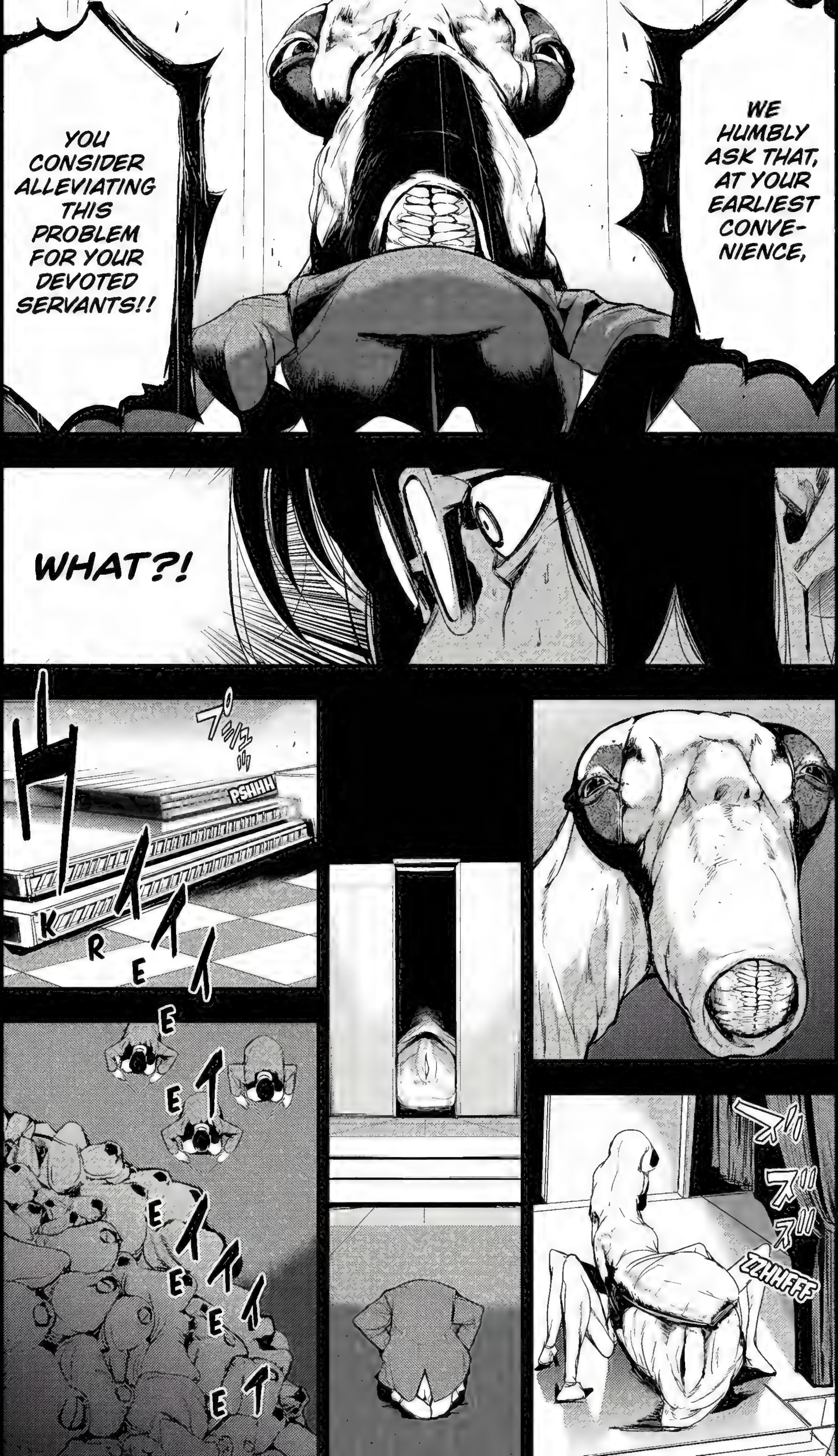

WHOOOAAA!!
STARVING ANONYMOUS
THE PRIME MINISTER? BUT WHY?
...
IT'S THE TRUTH, I SWEAR.
I SAW IT WITH MY OWN TWO EYES.

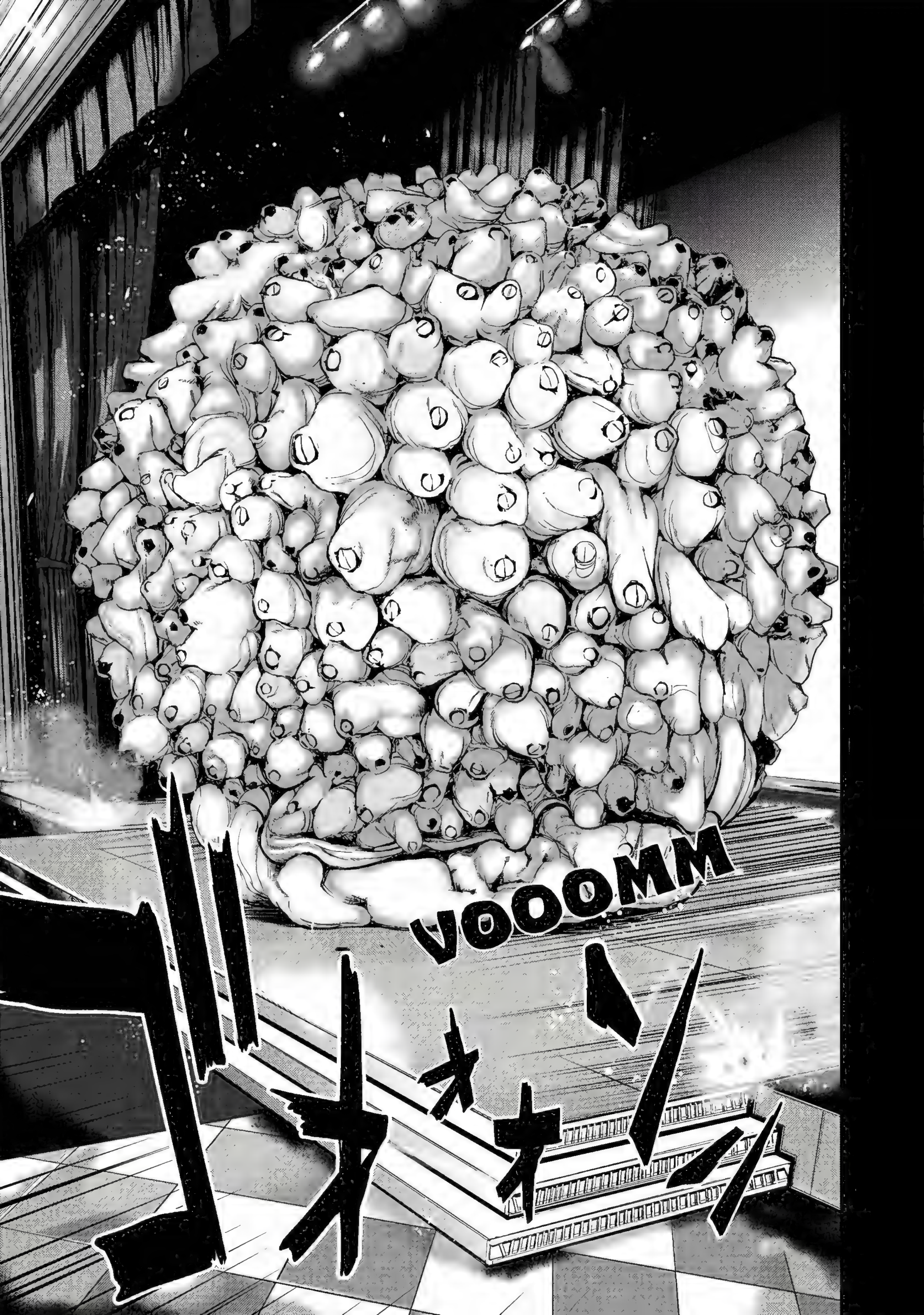
Chapter 9

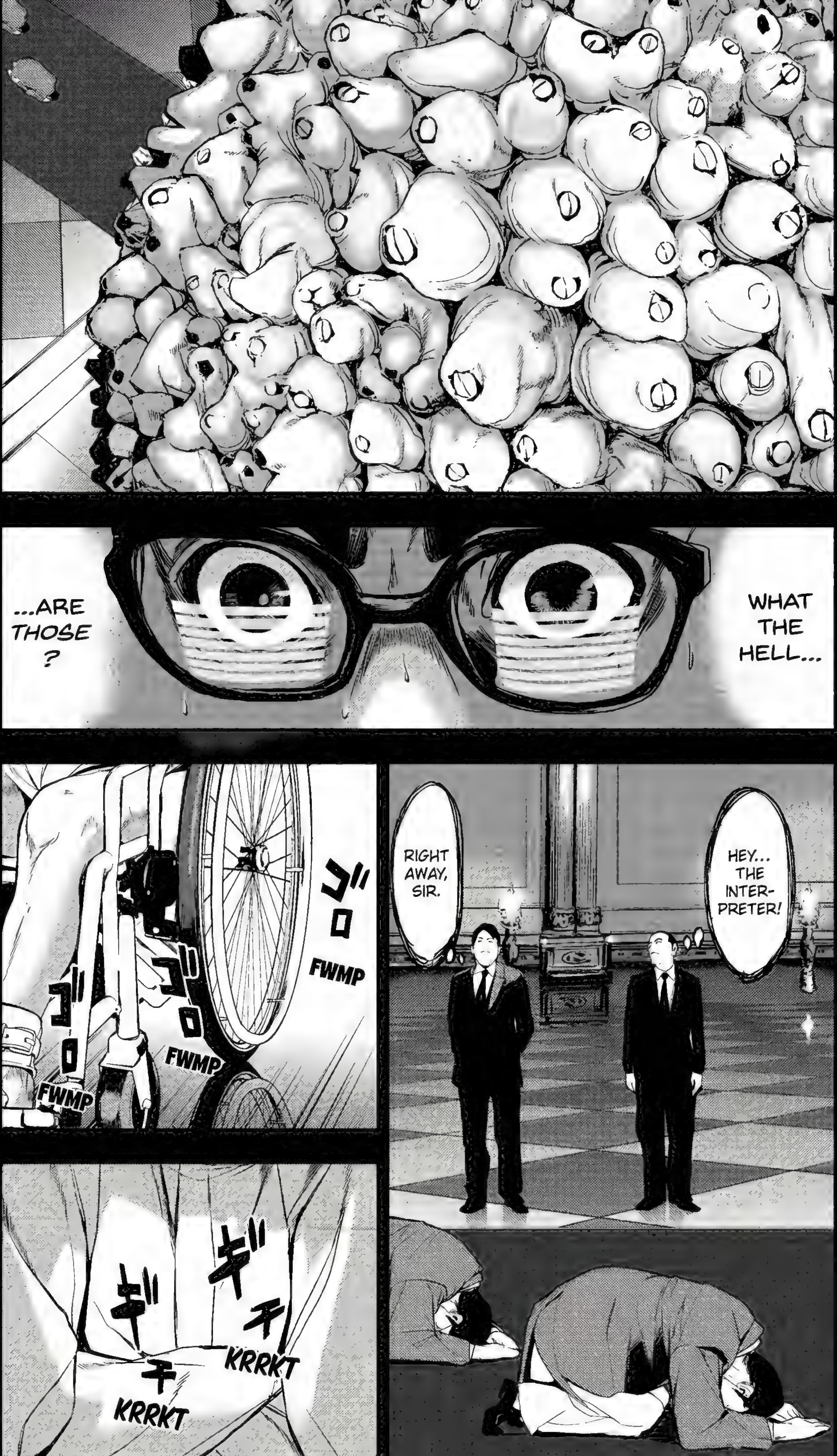

THE PRIME MINISTER GOT ON HIS HANDS AND KNEES BEFORE THOSE GIANT MONSTERS...
...AND GROVELED.

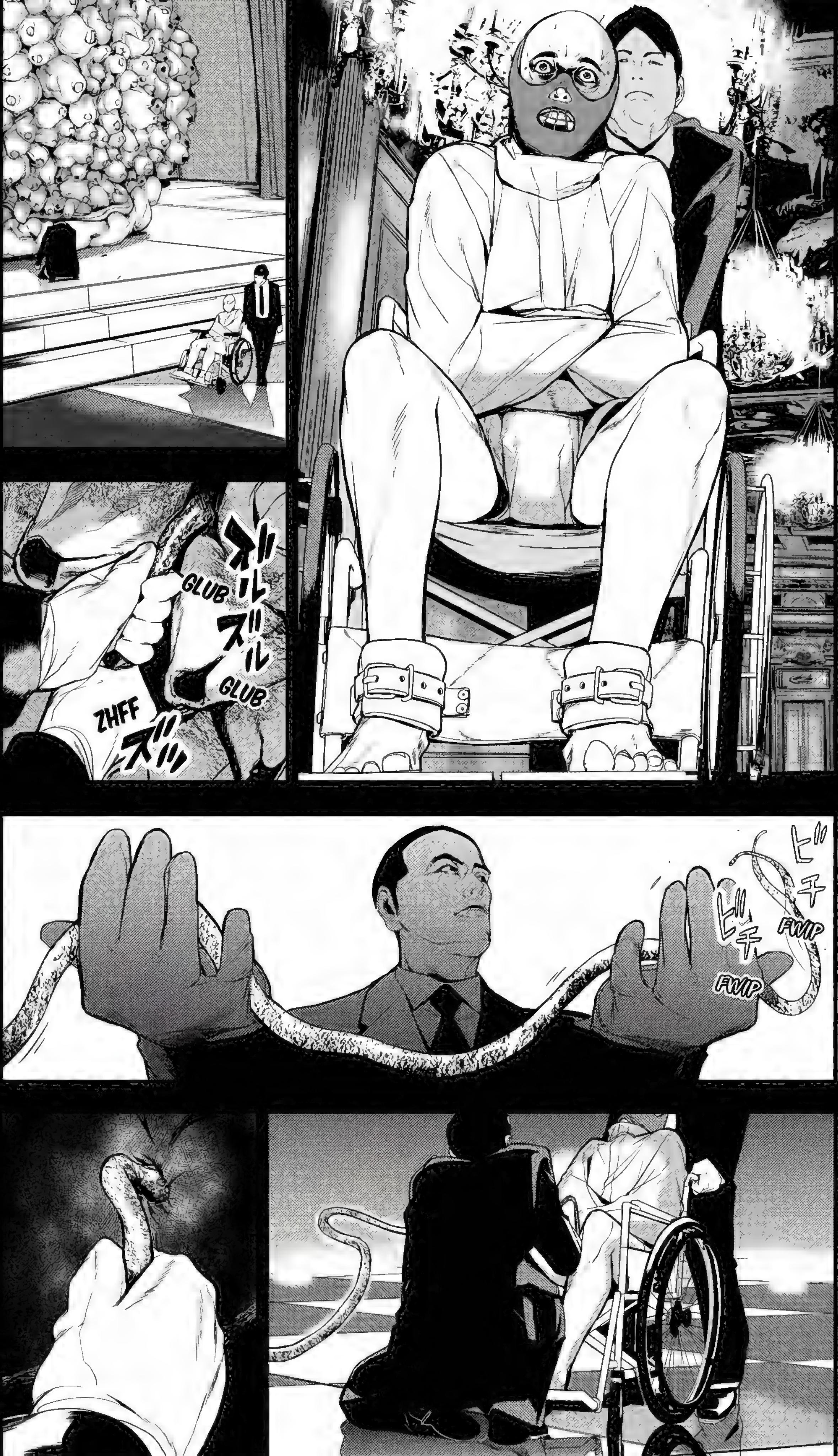

WHAT...
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
MORE IMPORTANTLY...WHY DOESN'T THAT THING JUST EAT THEM?
I...
I-I REGRET TO...
...INFORM YOU...
WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT OUR CONTRIBUTIONS...
...MAY BE MEAGER...
...BUT WE HAVE...
...A REQUEST!

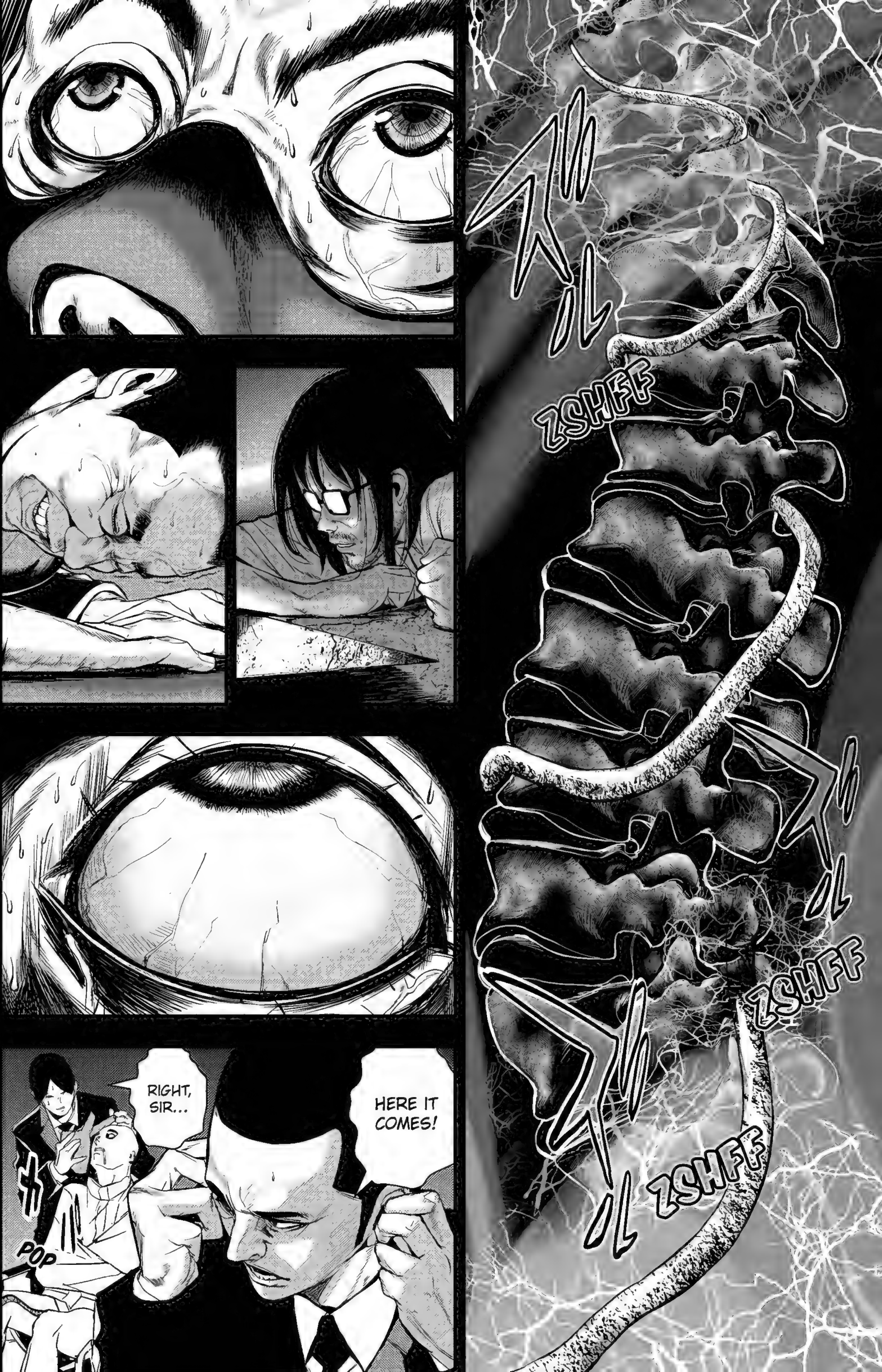

...HAVE MADE EVERY EFFORT TO GRANT YOU A MERE FRACTION OF THE COMFORT YOU DESERVE BY CONSTRUCTING THIS FACILITY...
...AND MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR FOOD, THAT YOU MAY NEVER GO HUNGRY.
BUT IF I MAY BE SO BOLD, I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU...
...OF THE LONG-STANDING PROBLEM OF GLOBAL WARMING...
...THAT FACES MY PEOPLE!!

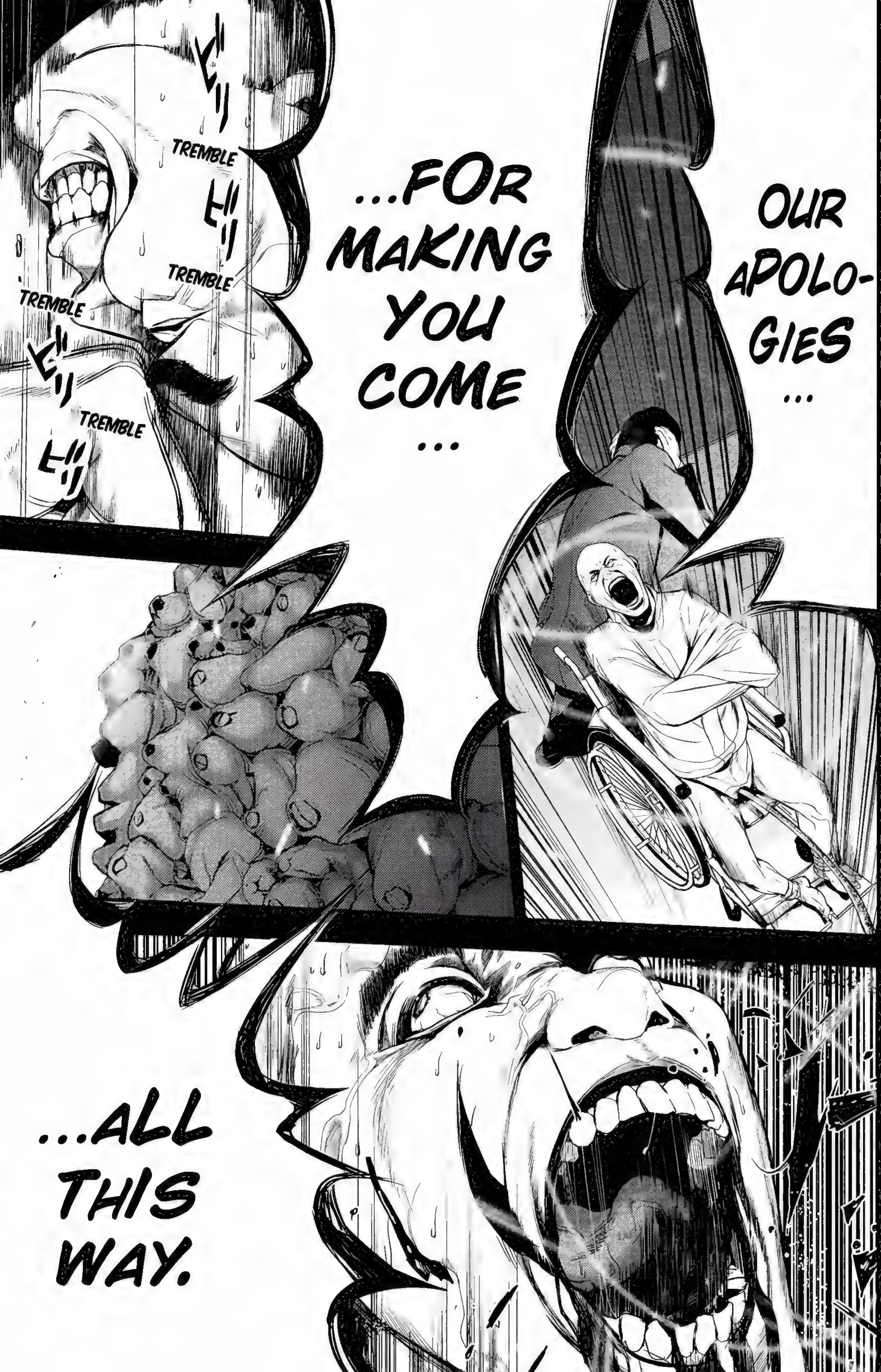

WE HUMBLY ASK THAT, AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE,
YOU CONSIDER ALLEVIATING THIS PROBLEM FOR YOUR DEVOTED SERVANTS!!
WHAT?!
プシュ
PSHHH
KREEEEEEEEET
ズズズ
ZZHHFFF

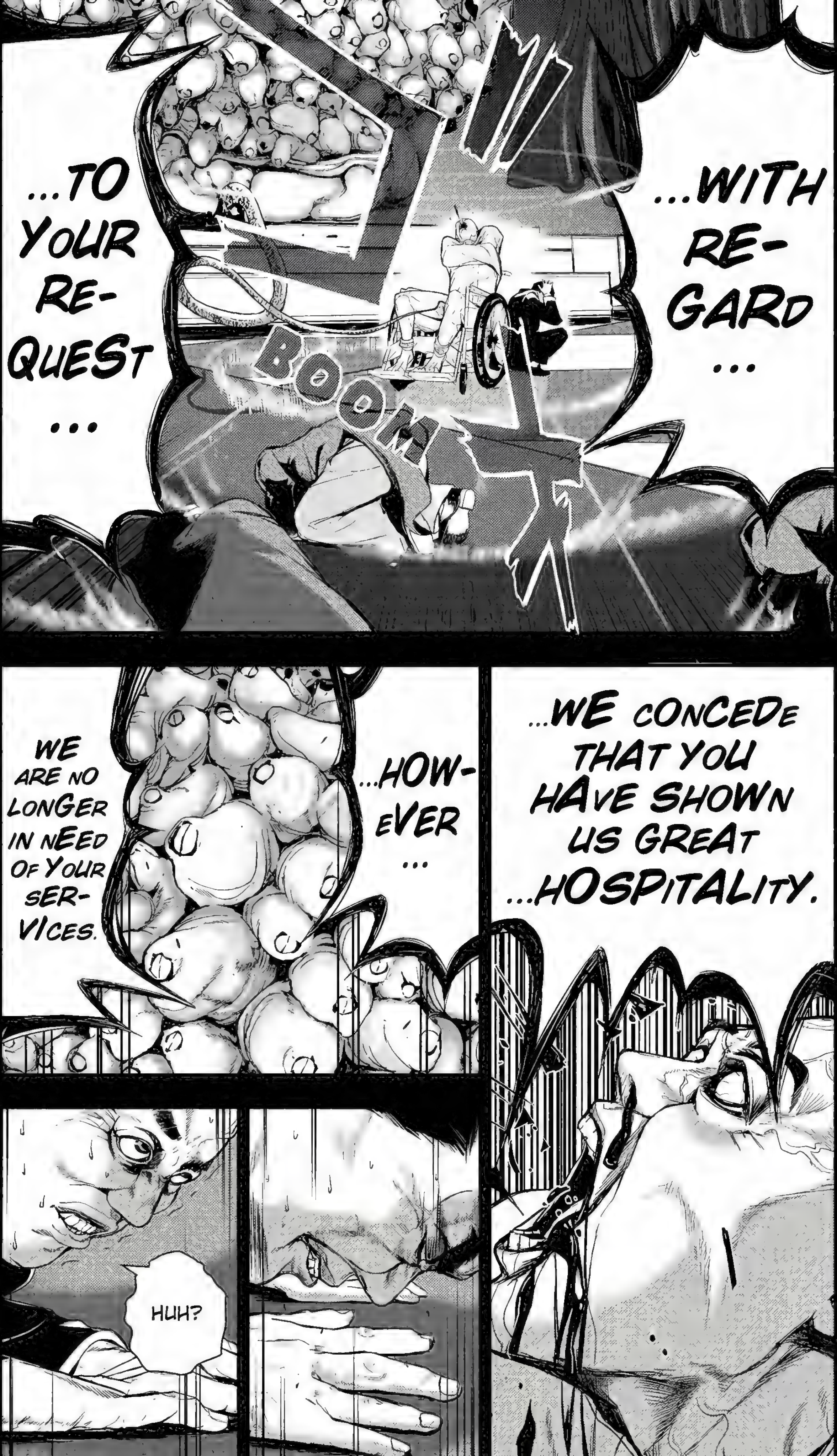

ドォオン
VOOOMM

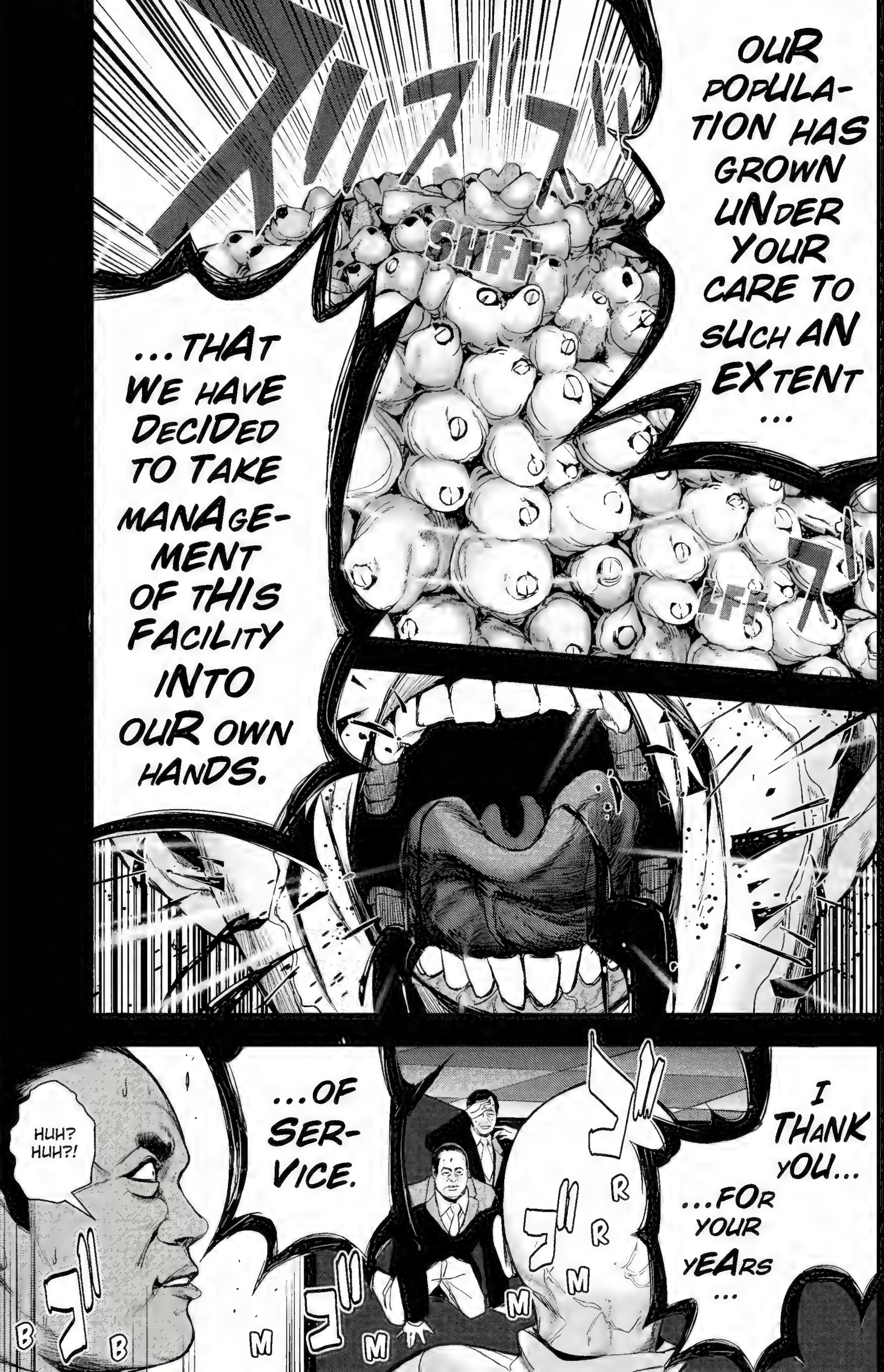

WHAT THE HELL...
...ARE THOSE ?
HEY... THE INTERPRETER!
RIGHT AWAY, SIR.
ゴロ
FWMP
ゴロ
FWMP
ゴロ
FWMP
ギチ
KRRKT
ギチ
KRRKT

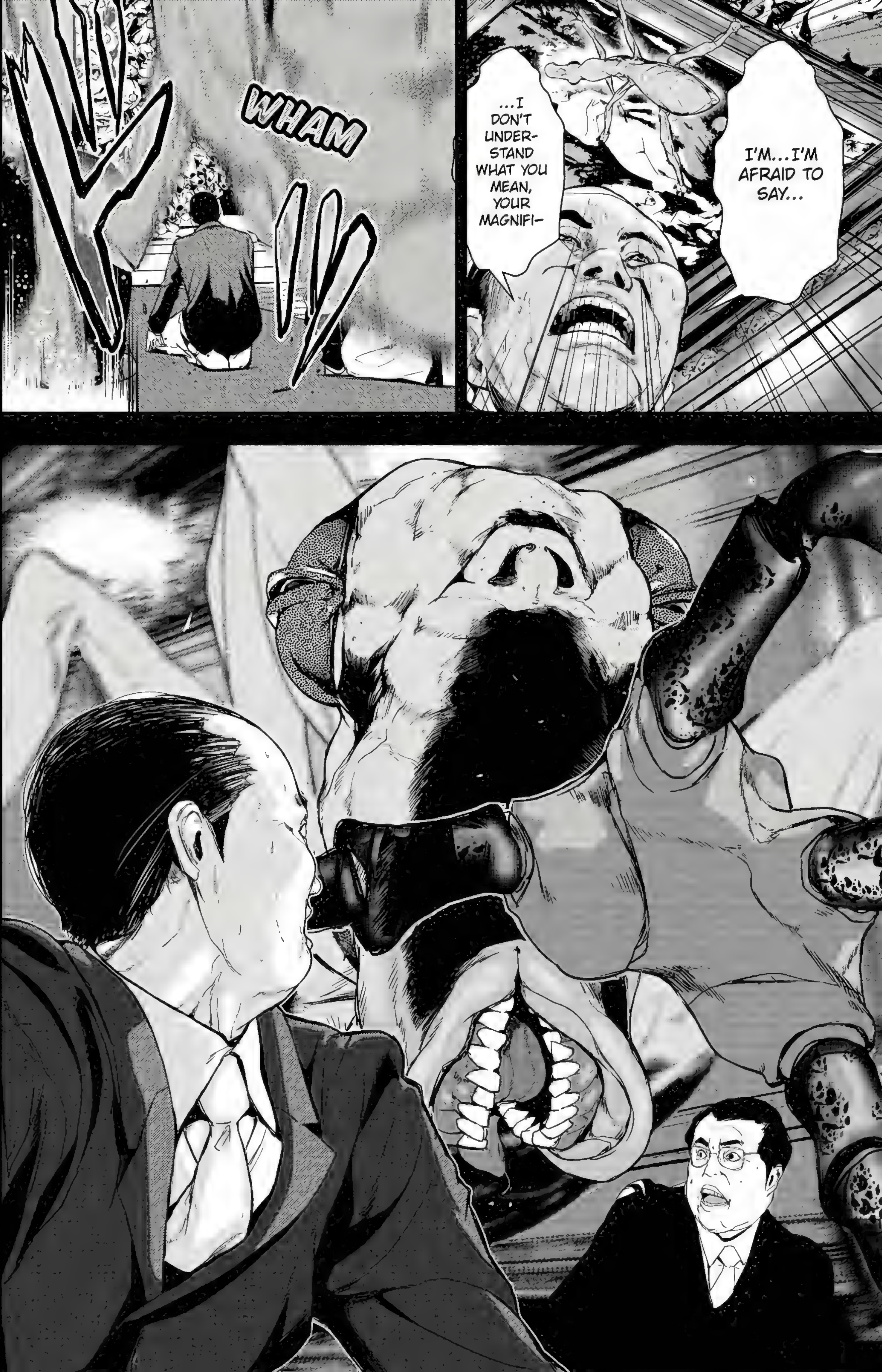

ズルズル
GLUB
GLUB
ズッ
ZHFF
ビチビチ
FWIP
FWIP

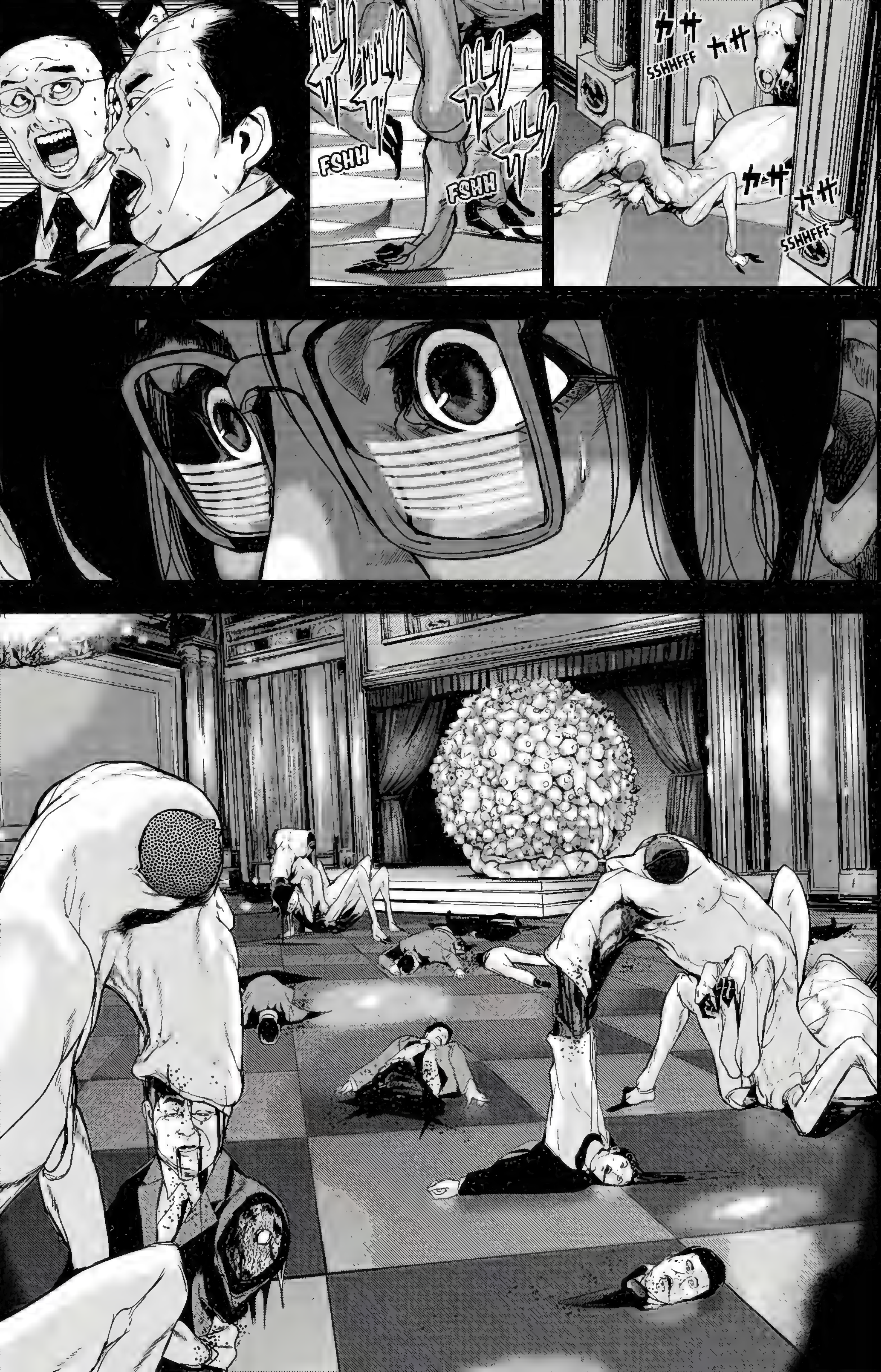

ズル
ZSHFF
ズル
ZSHFF
ZSHFF
HERE IT COMES!
RIGHT, SIR...
POP

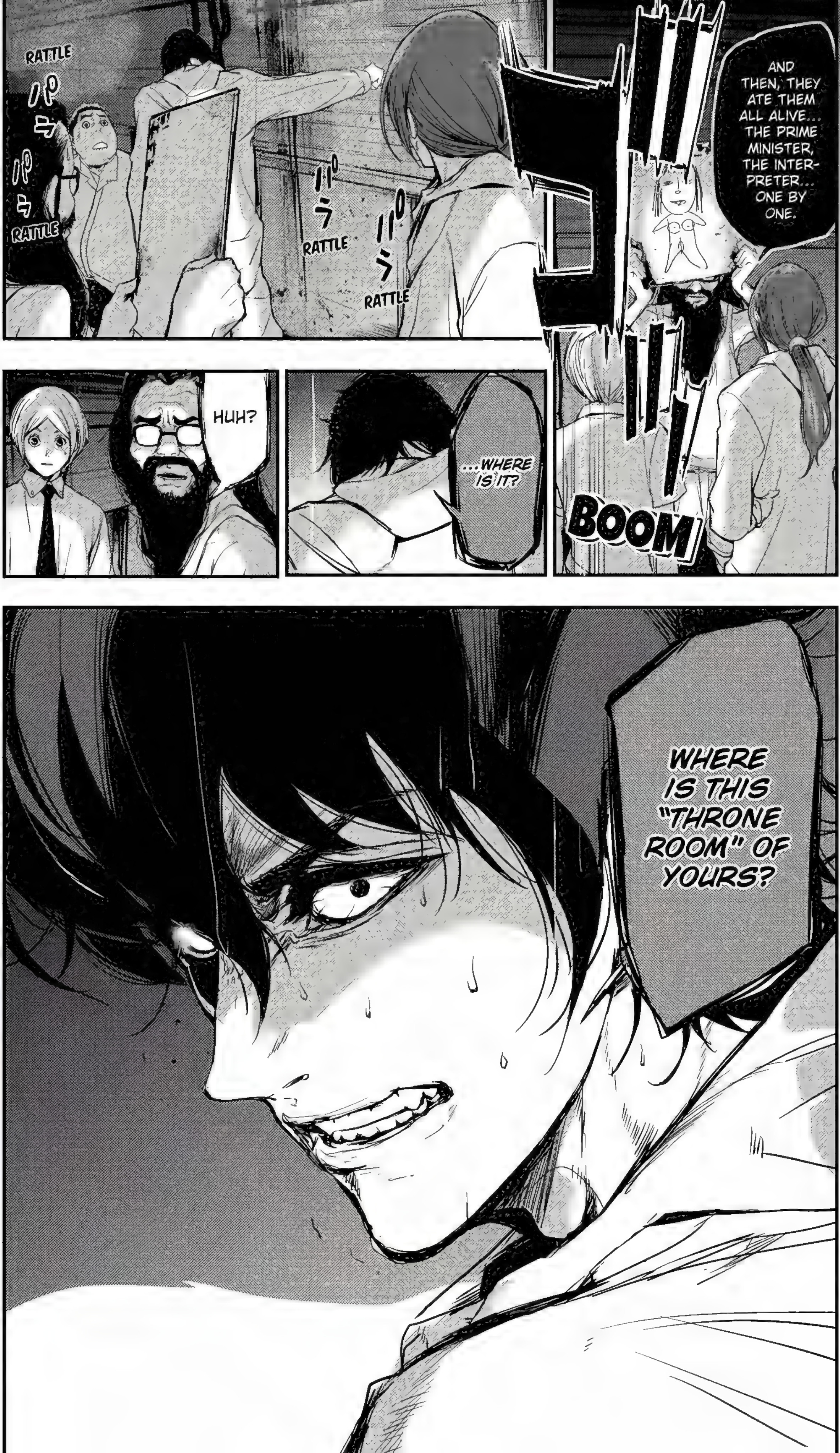

OUR APOLOGIES...
...FOR MAKING YOU COME...
ビリ
TREMBLE
ビリ
TREMBLE
ビリ
TREMBLE
ビリ
TREMBLE
...ALL THIS WAY.

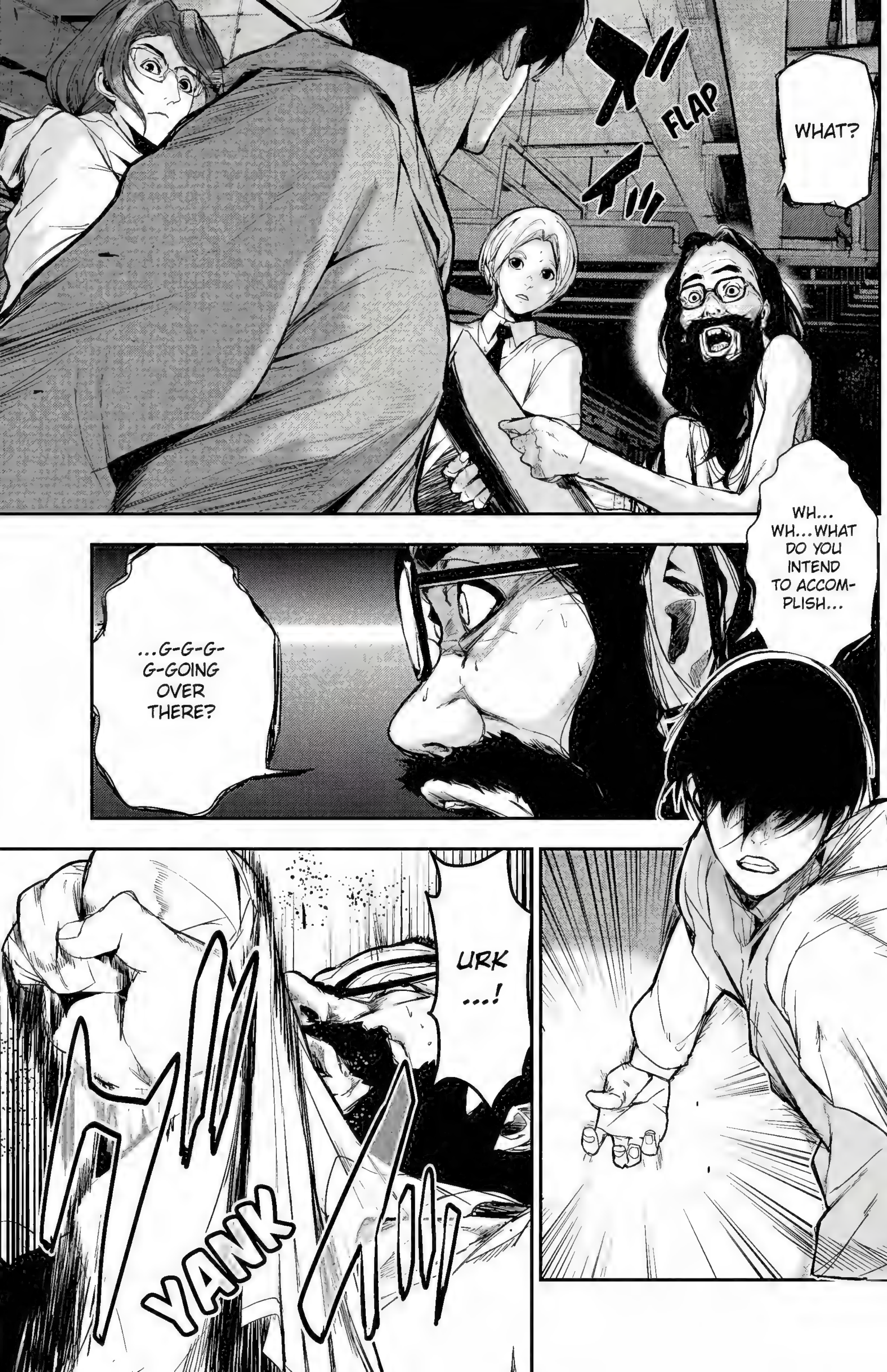

...WITH REGARD...
...TO YOUR REQUEST...
BOOM
...WE CONCEDE THAT YOU HAVE SHOWN US GREAT ...HOSPITALITY.
...HOWEVER...
WE ARE NO LONGER IN NEED OF YOUR SERVICES.
HUH?

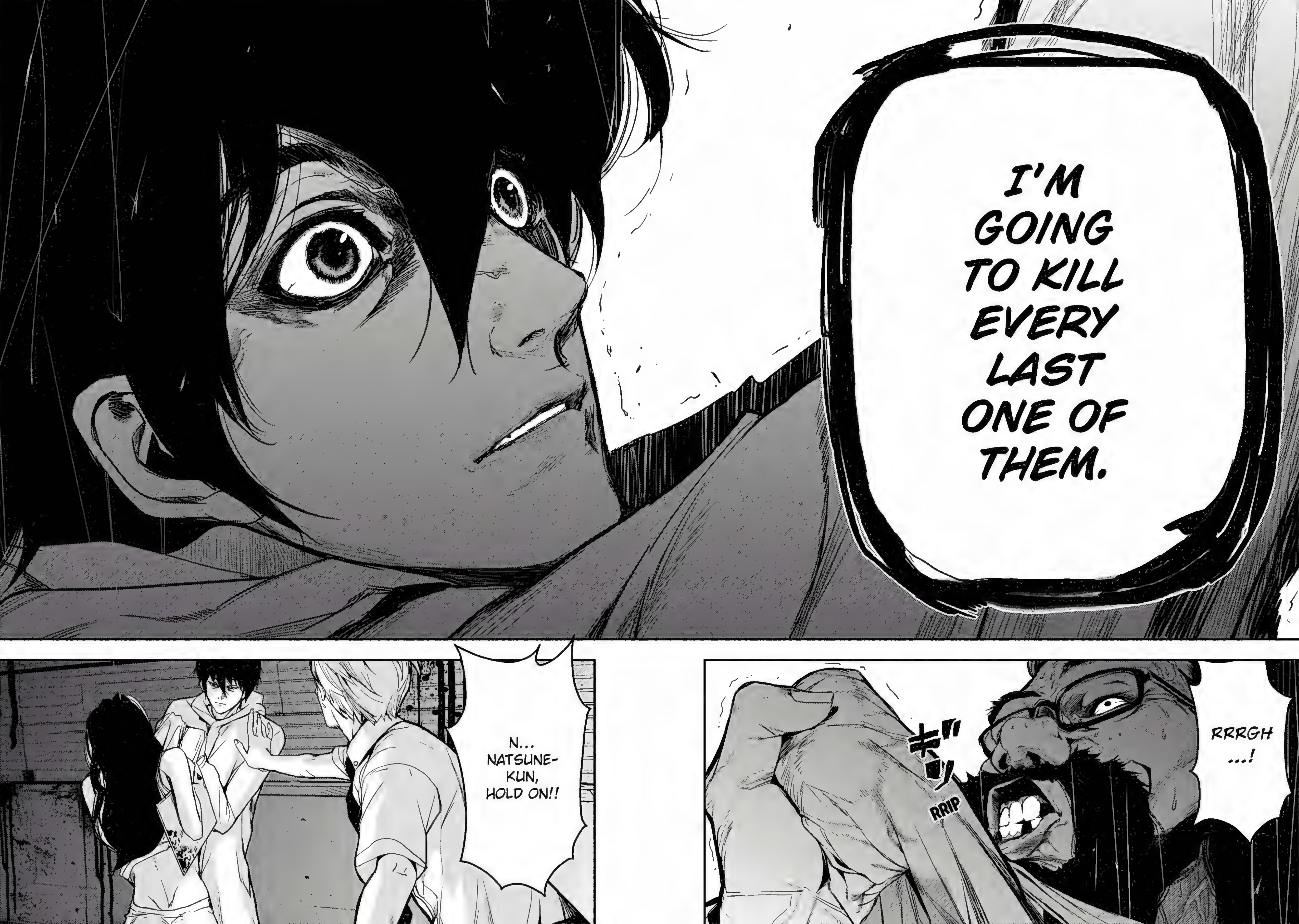

OUR POPULATION HAS GROWN UNDER YOUR CARE TO SUCH AN EXTENT...
SHFF
...THAT WE HAVE DECIDED TO TAKE MANAGEMENT OF THIS FACILITY INTO OUR OWN HANDS.
LFF
I THANK YOU...
...FOR YOUR YEARS...
RRRMMM
...OF SERVICE.
HUH? HUH?!
BBMMMM

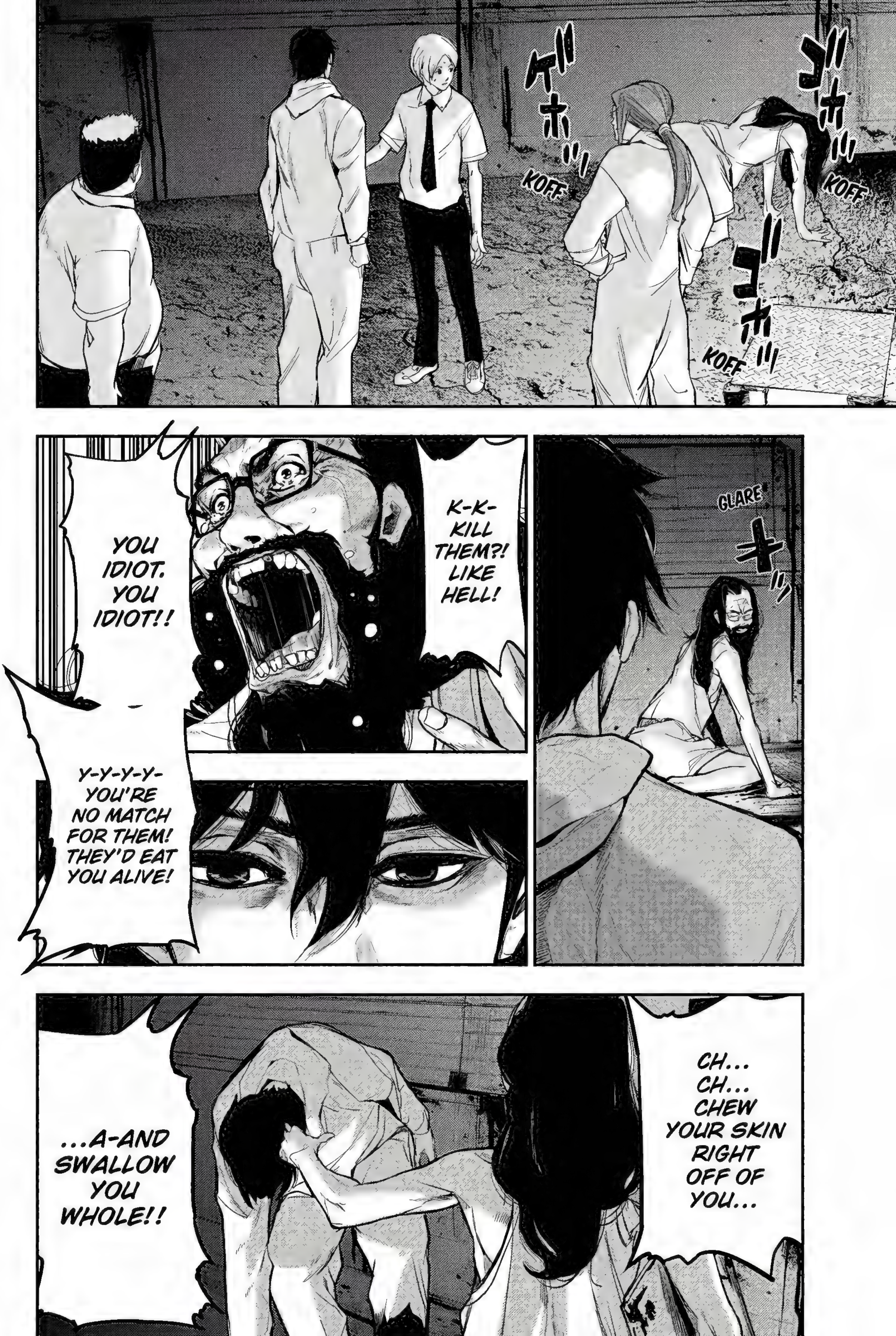

I'M...I'M AFRAID TO SAY...
...I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MEAN, YOUR MAGNIFI–
WHAM

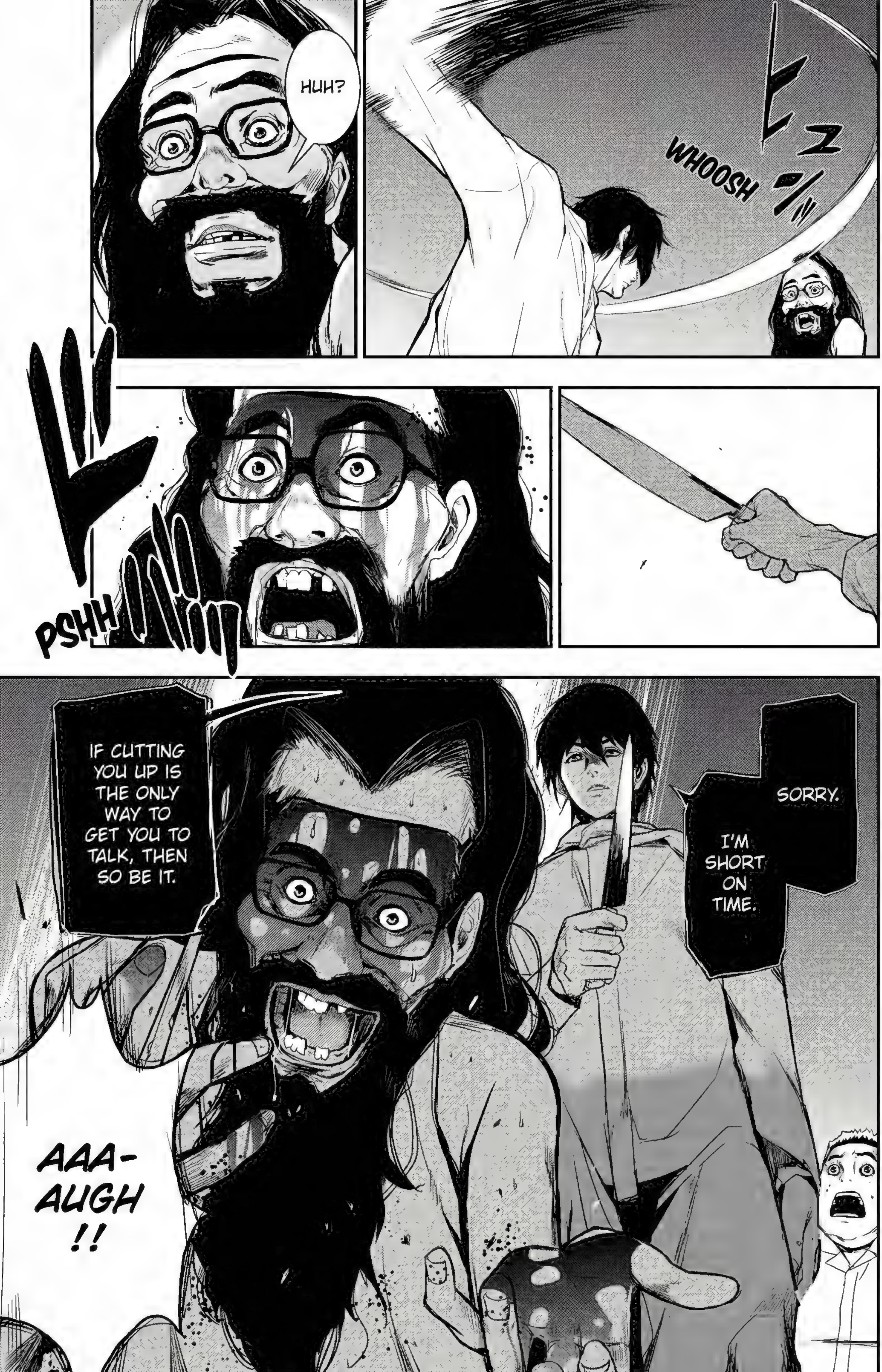

カサ
SSHHFFF
カサ
カサ
カサ
SSHHFFF
FSHH
FSHH

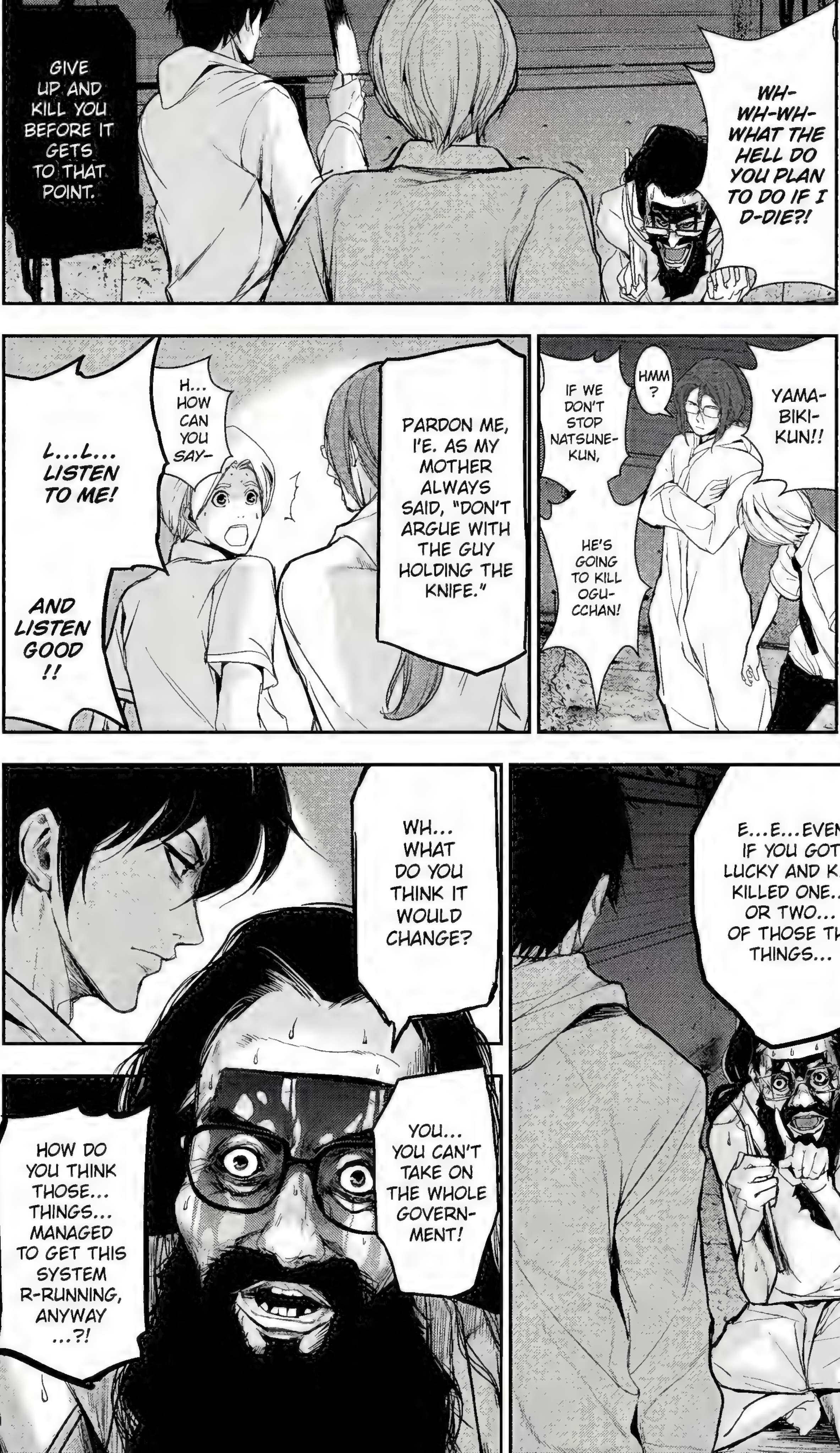

AND THEN, THEY ATE THEM ALL ALIVE... THE PRIME MINISTER, THE INTERPRETER... ONE BY ONE.
BOOM
RATTLE
パラ
RATTLE
パラ
RATTLE
パラ
RATTLE
パラ
...WHERE IS IT?
HUH?
WHERE IS THIS "THRONE ROOM" OF YOURS?

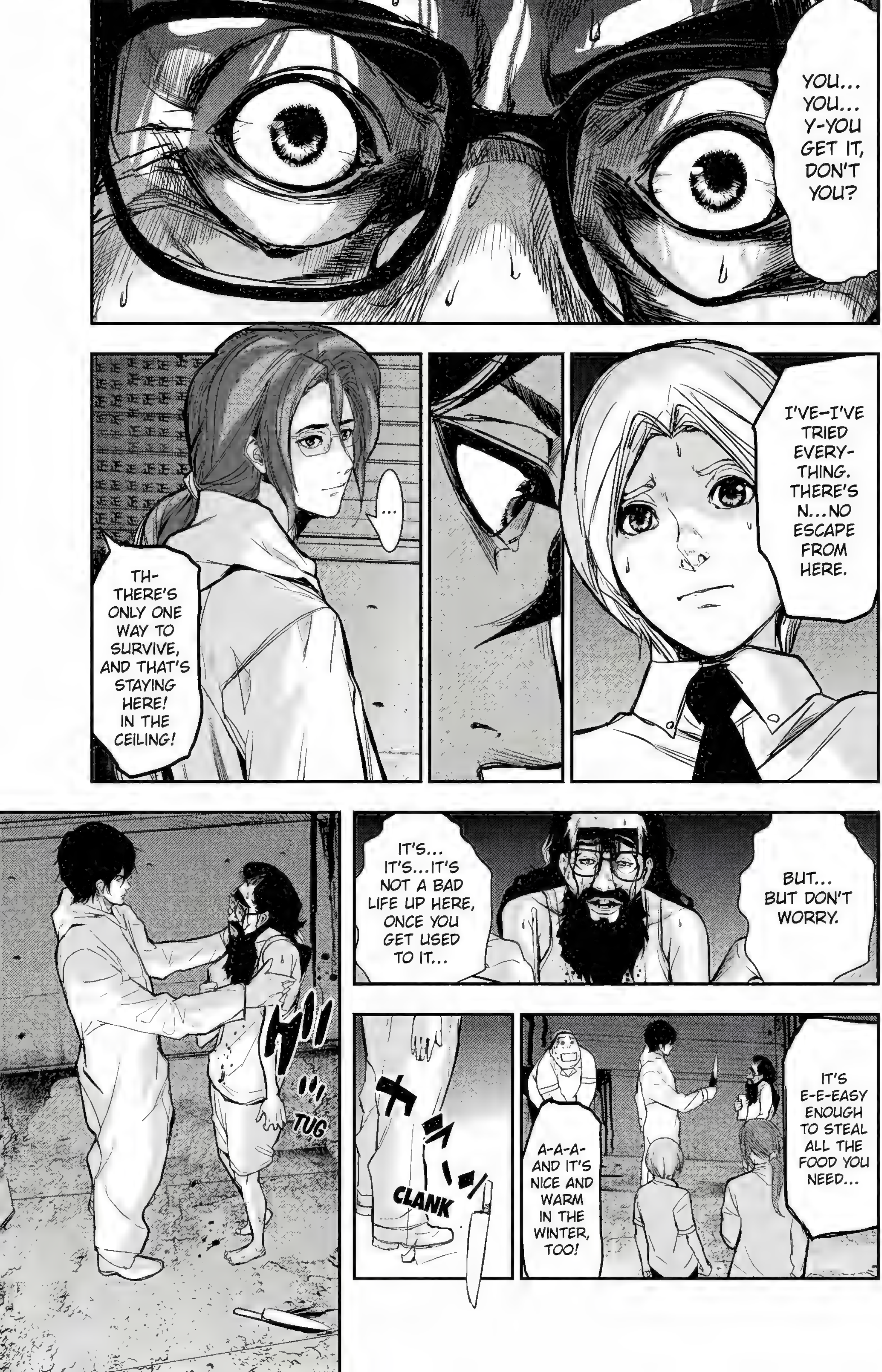

FLAP
WHAT?
WH... WH...WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO ACCOMPLISH...
...G-G-G-G-GOING OVER THERE?
URK ...!
YANK

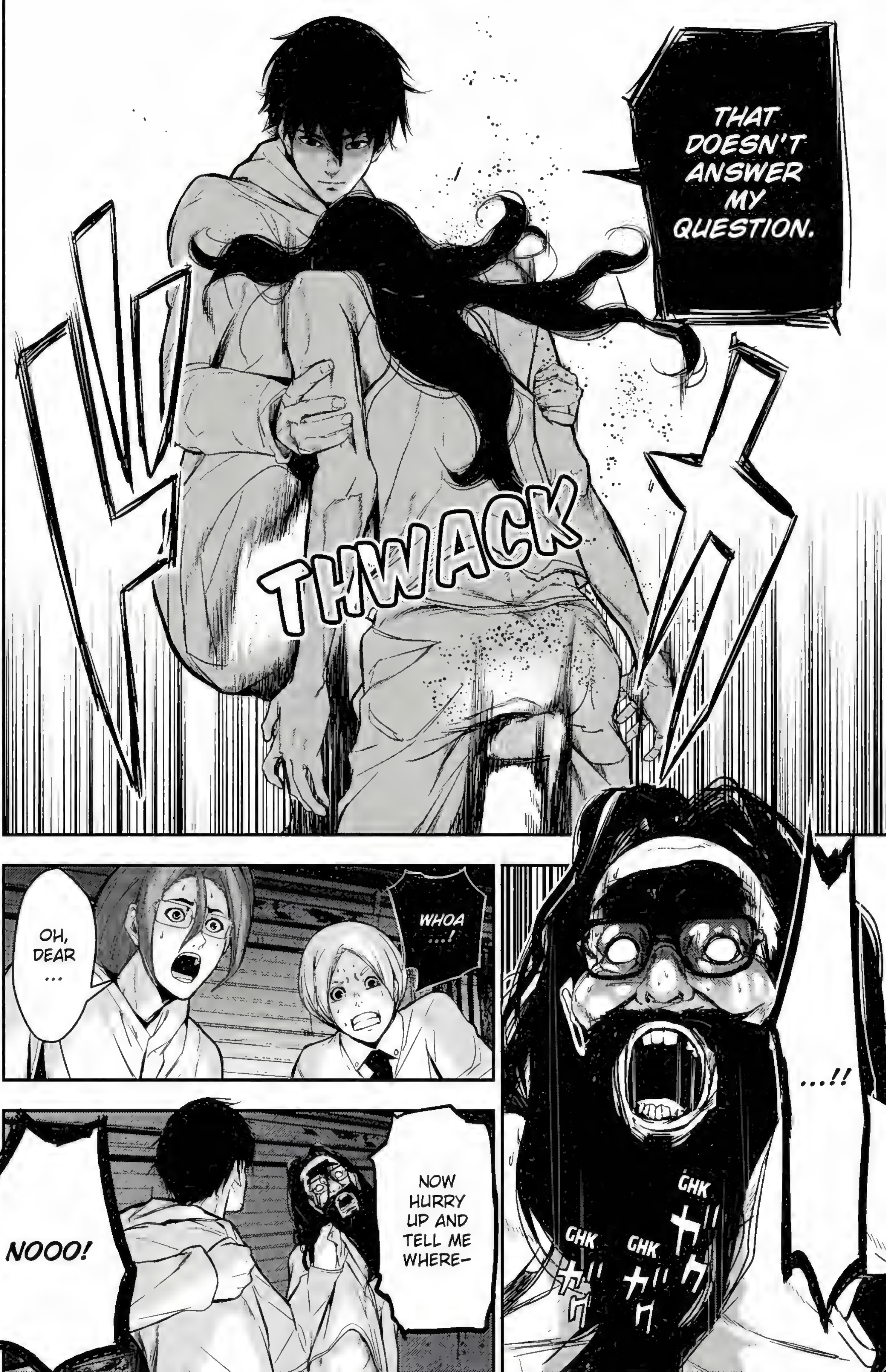

I'M GOING TO KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM.
RRRGH ...!
ギリ
RRIP
N... NATSUNE-KUN, HOLD ON!!

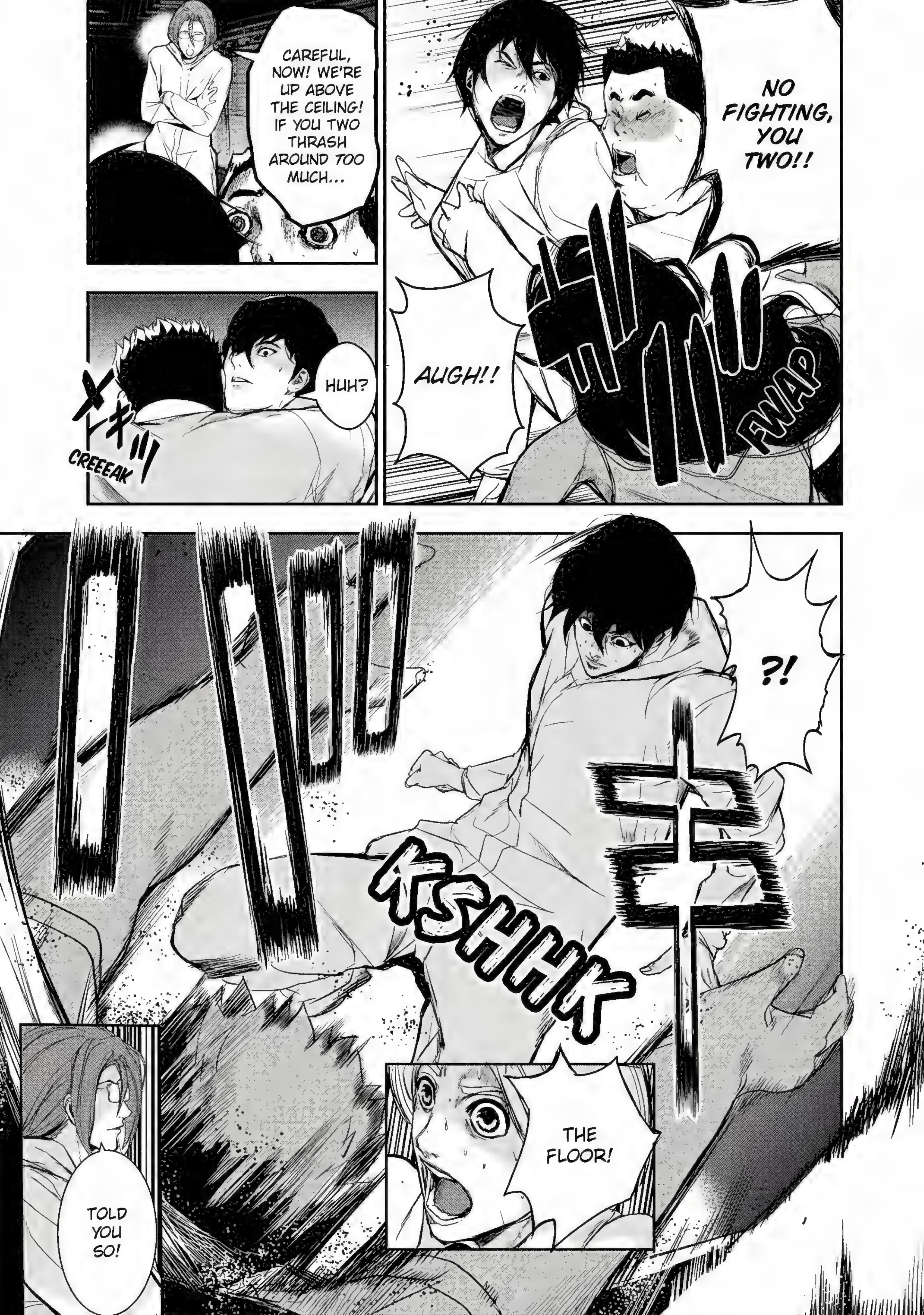

ゴホッ
KOFF
ゴホッ
KOFF
ゲホッ
KOFF
GLARE
キッ
K-K-KILL THEM?! LIKE HELL!
YOU IDIOT. YOU IDIOT!!
Y-Y-Y-Y-YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR THEM! THEY'D EAT YOU ALIVE!
CH... CH... CHEW YOUR SKIN RIGHT OFF OF YOU...
...A-AND SWALLOW YOU WHOLE!!

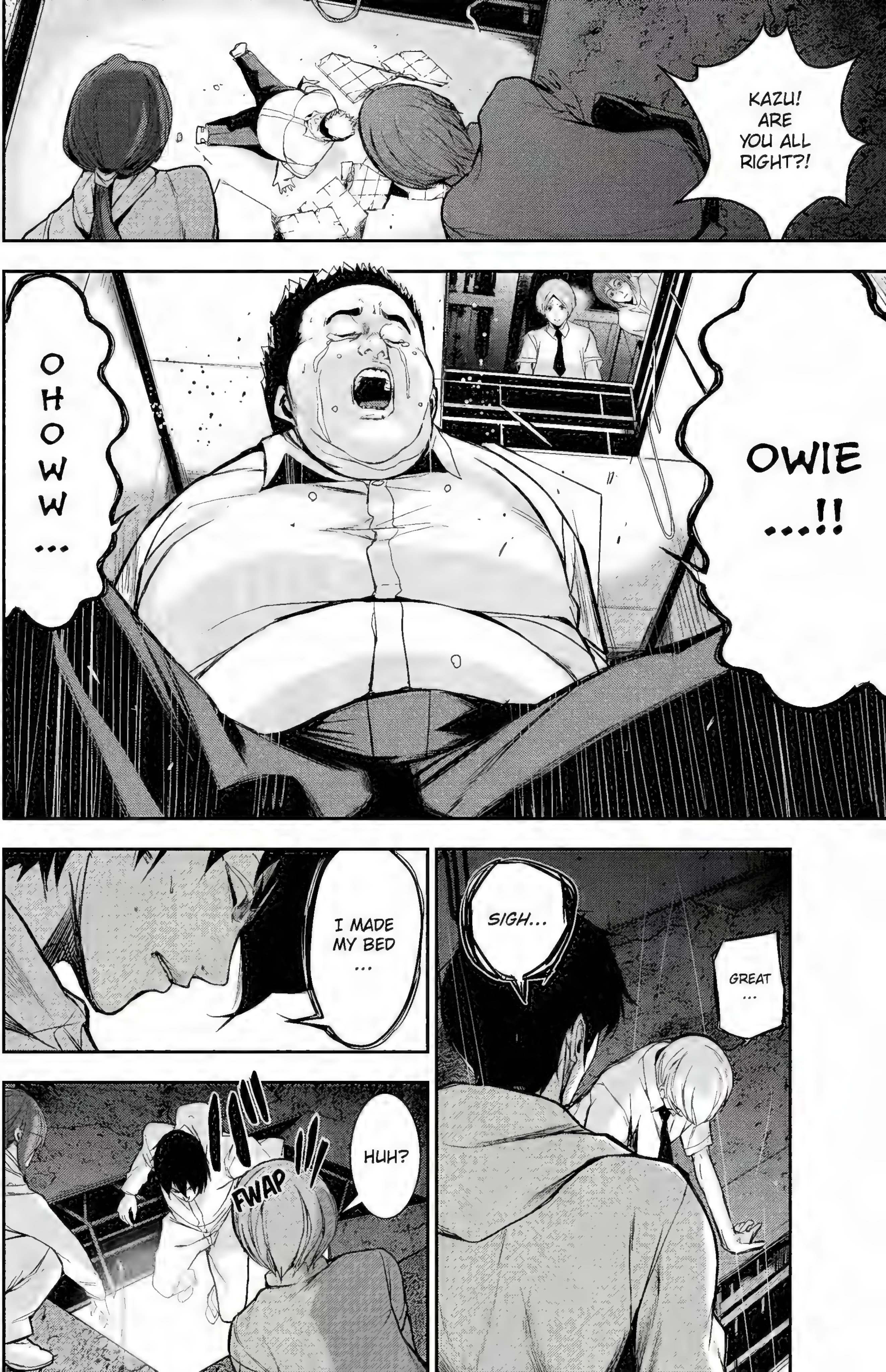

WHOOSH
HUH?
PSHH
SORRY.
I'M SHORT ON TIME.
IF CUTTING YOU UP IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET YOU TO TALK, THEN SO BE IT.
AAA-AUGH!!

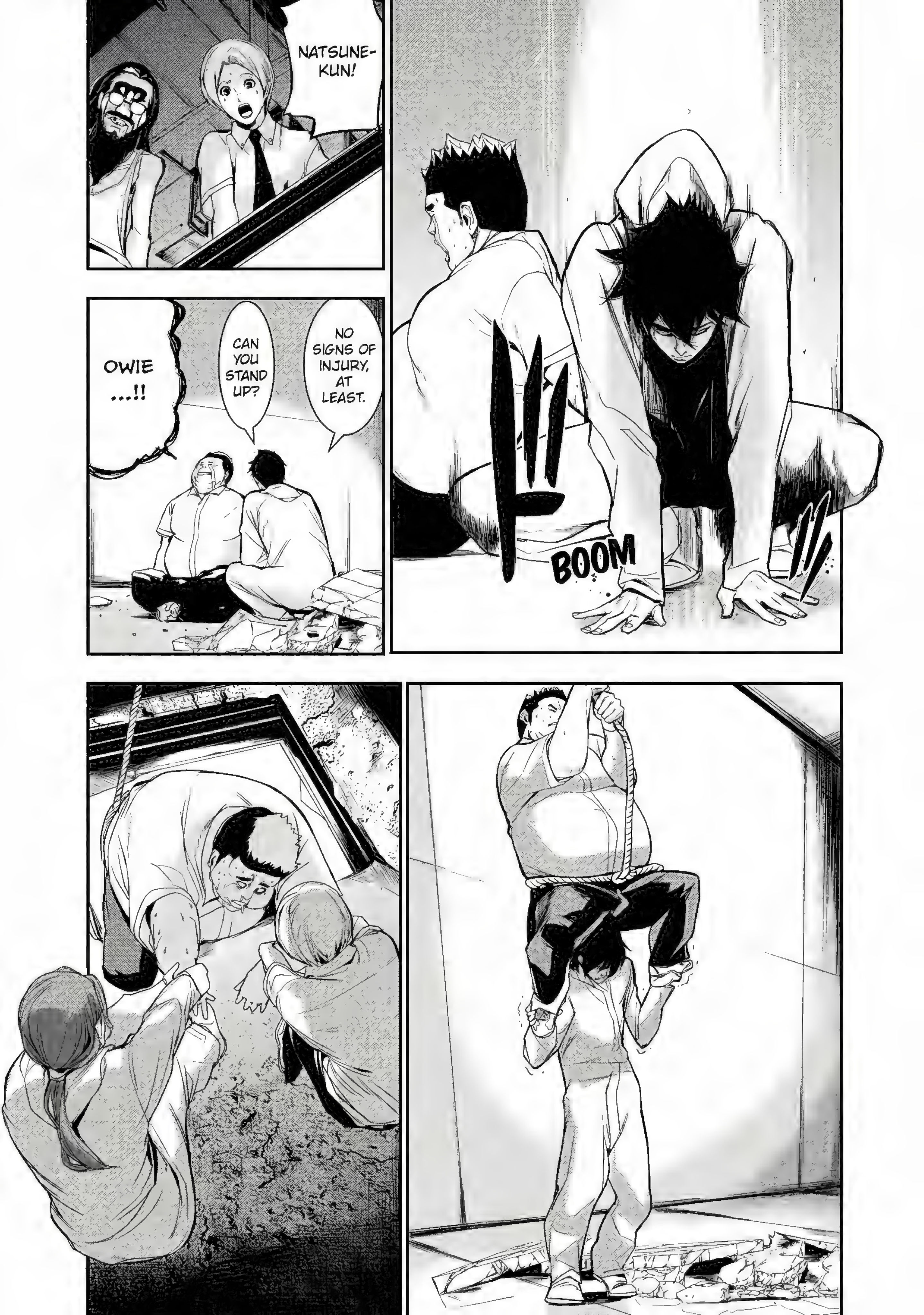

WH-WH-WH-WHAT THE HELL DO YOU PLAN TO DO IF I D-DIE?!
GIVE UP AND KILL YOU BEFORE IT GETS TO THAT POINT.
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!!
HMM?
IF WE DON'T STOP NATSUNE-KUN,
HE'S GOING TO KILL OGU-CCHAN!
PARDON ME, I'E. AS MY MOTHER ALWAYS SAID, "DON'T ARGUE WITH THE GUY HOLDING THE KNIFE."
H... HOW CAN YOU SAY-
L...L... LISTEN TO ME!
AND LISTEN GOOD!!
E...E...EVEN IF YOU GOT LUCKY AND K... KILLED ONE... OR TWO... OF THOSE TH-THINGS...
WH... WHAT DO YOU THINK IT WOULD CHANGE?
YOU... YOU CAN'T TAKE ON THE WHOLE GOVERN-MENT!
HOW DO YOU THINK THOSE... THINGS... MANAGED TO GET THIS SYSTEM R-RUNNING, ANYWAY...?!

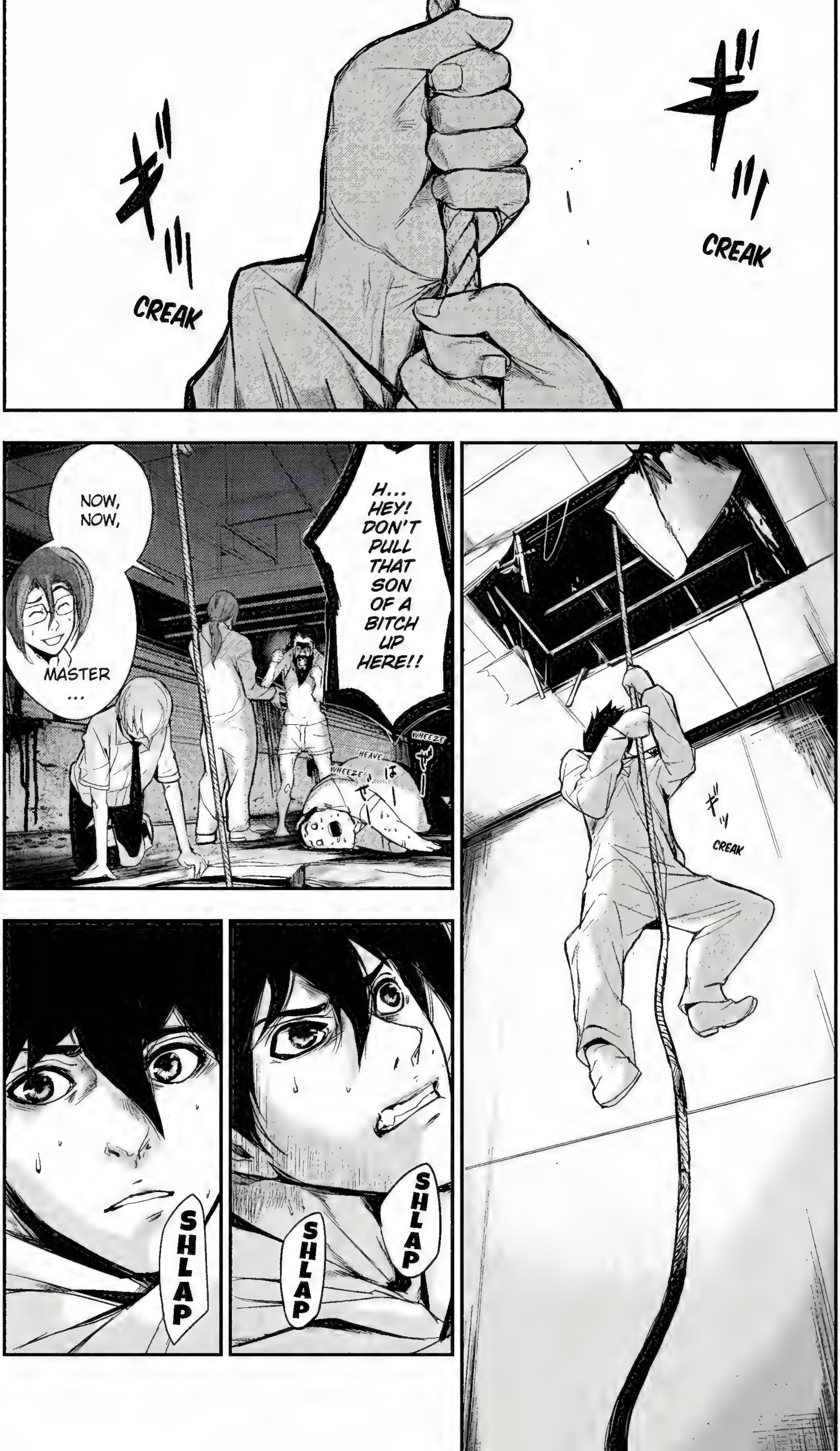

YOU... YOU... Y-YOU GET IT, DON'T YOU?
I'VE-I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING. THERE'S N...NO ESCAPE FROM HERE.
...
TH- THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO SURVIVE, AND THAT'S STAYING HERE! IN THE CEILING!
BUT... BUT DON'T WORRY.
IT'S... IT'S...IT'S NOT A BAD LIFE UP HERE, ONCE YOU GET USED TO IT...
IT'S E-E-EASY ENOUGH TO STEAL ALL THE FOOD YOU NEED...
A-A-A-AND IT'S NICE AND WARM IN THE WINTER, TOO!
CLANK
TUG

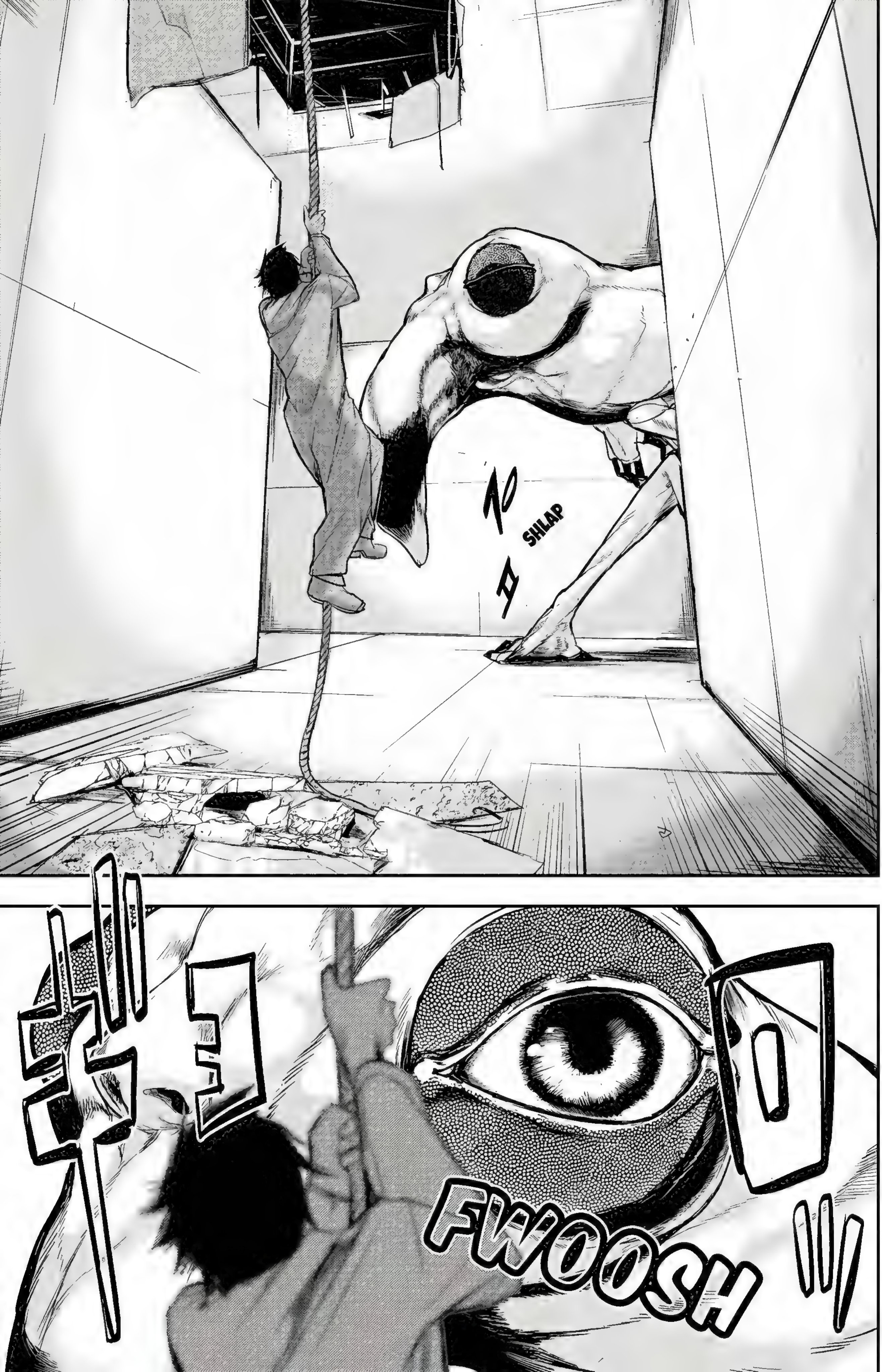

THAT DOESN'T ANSWER MY QUESTION.
THWACK
...!!
GHK GHK GHK
WHOA ...!
OH, DEAR ...
NOW HURRY UP AND TELL ME WHERE–
NOOO!

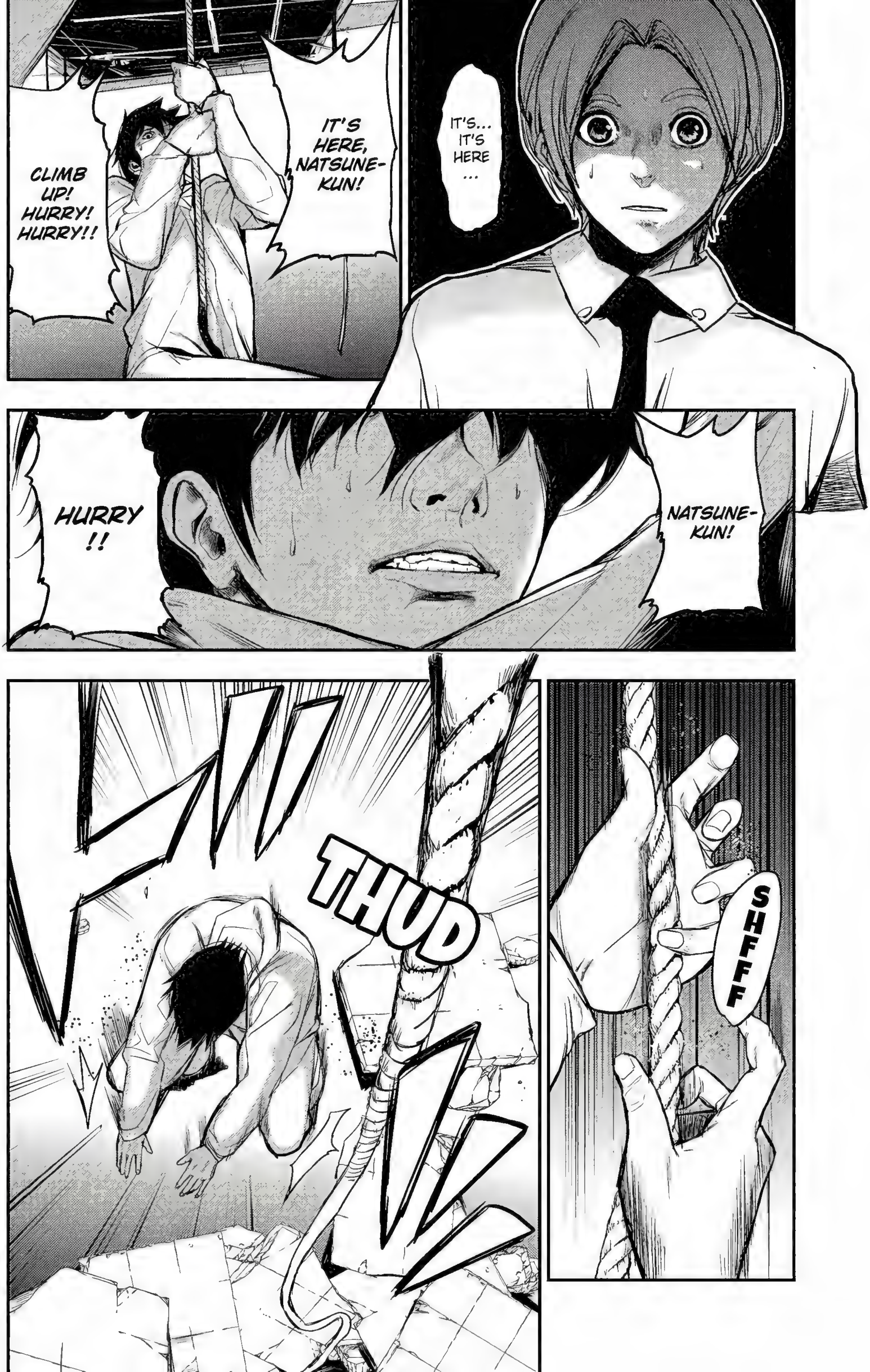

NO FIGHTING, YOU TWO!!
AUGH!!
FWAP
CAREFUL, NOW! WE'RE UP ABOVE THE CEILING! IF YOU TWO THRASH AROUND *TOO* MUCH...
HUH?
CREEEAK
?!
KSHHK
THE FLOOR!
TOLD YOU SO!

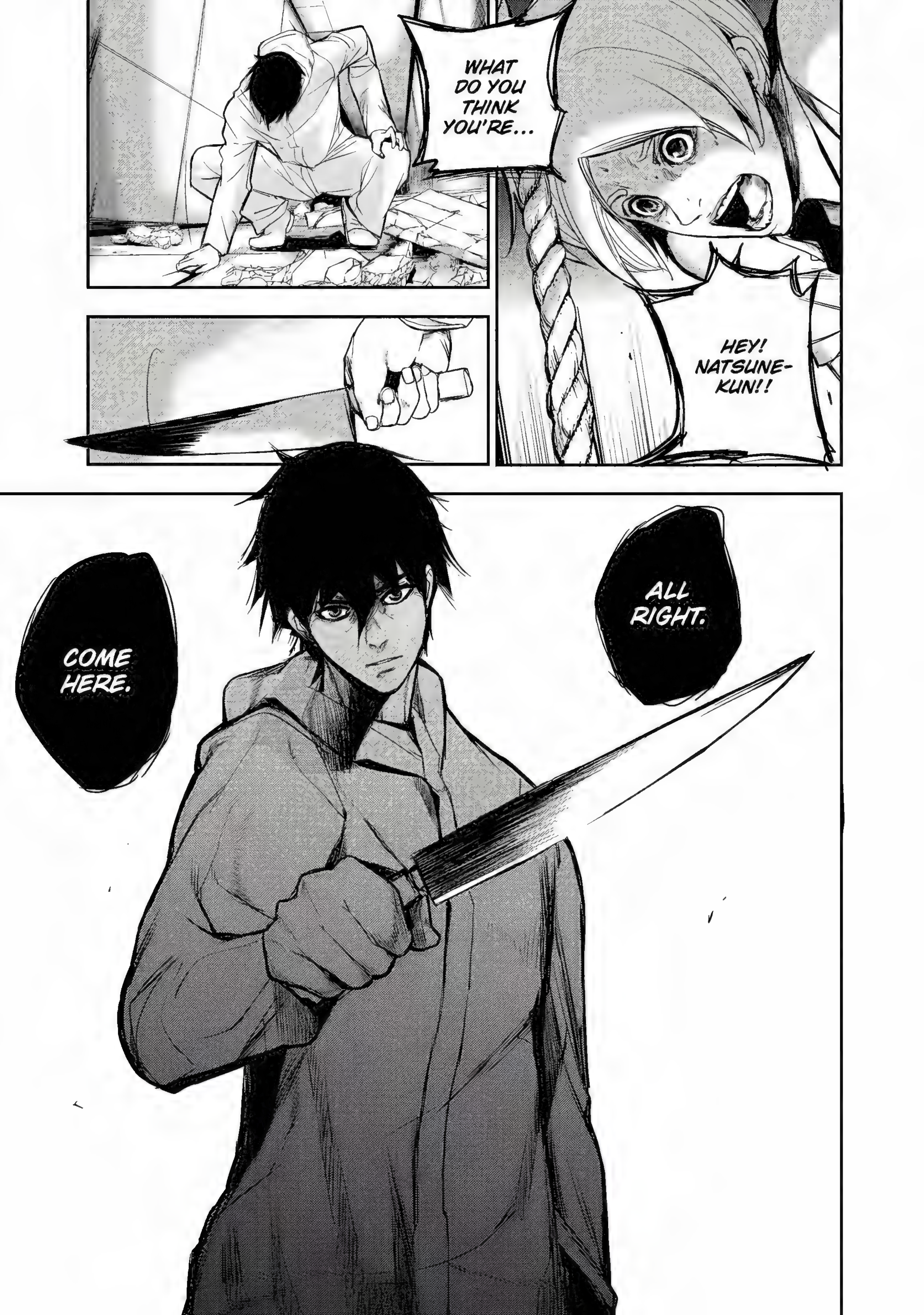

KAZU! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
OWIE ...!!
OHOWW ...
I MADE MY BED ...
SIGH...
GREAT ...
HUH?
FWAP

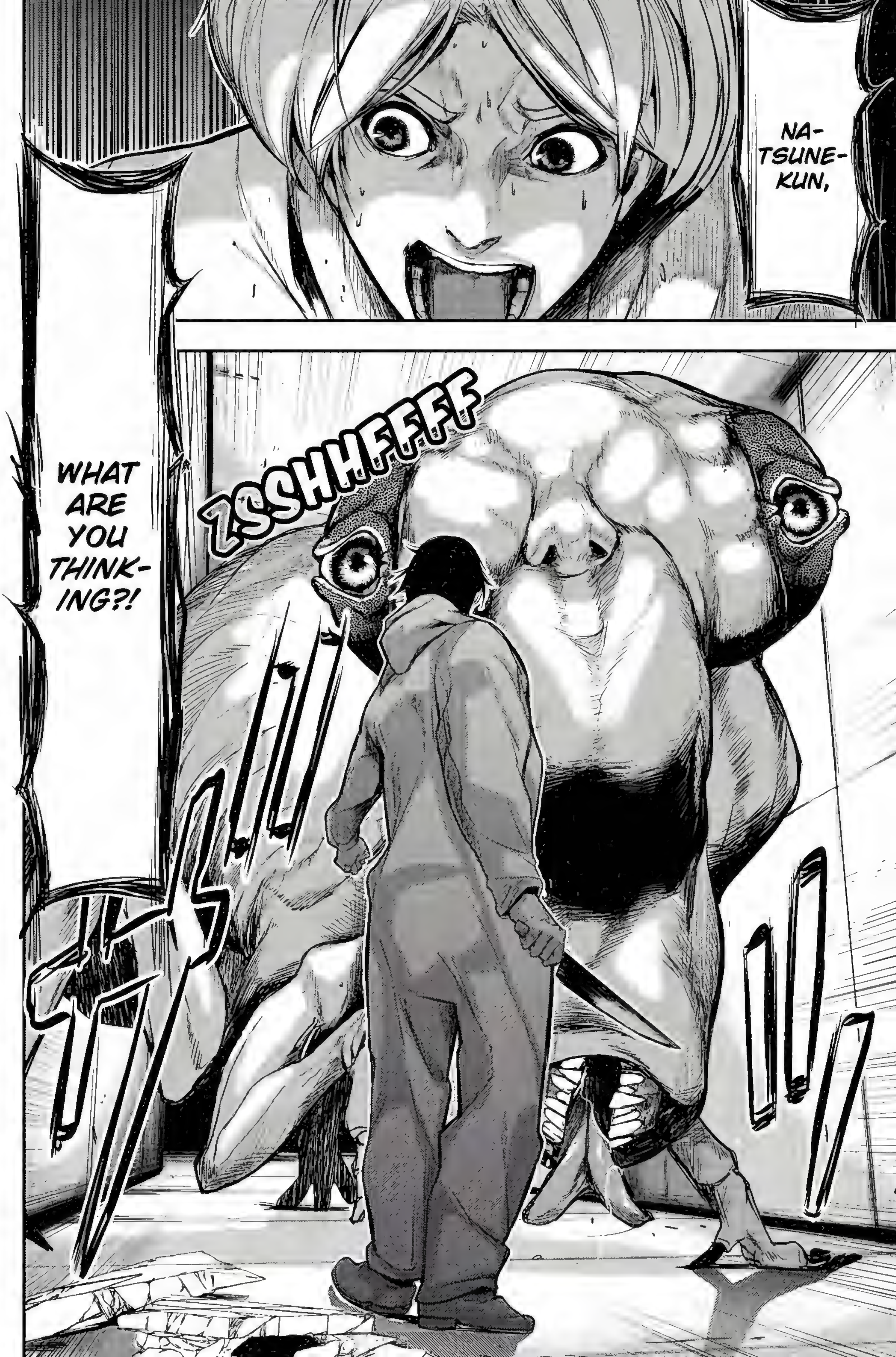

BOOM
NATSUNE-KUN!
NO SIGNS OF INJURY, AT LEAST.
CAN YOU STAND UP?
OWIE ...!!


ギ
CREAK
ギ
CREAK
ギ
CREAK
H… HEY! DON'T PULL THAT SON OF A BITCH UP HERE!!
NOW, NOW, MASTER…
WHEEZE
HEAVE
WHEEZE
SHLAP
SHLAP
SHLAP

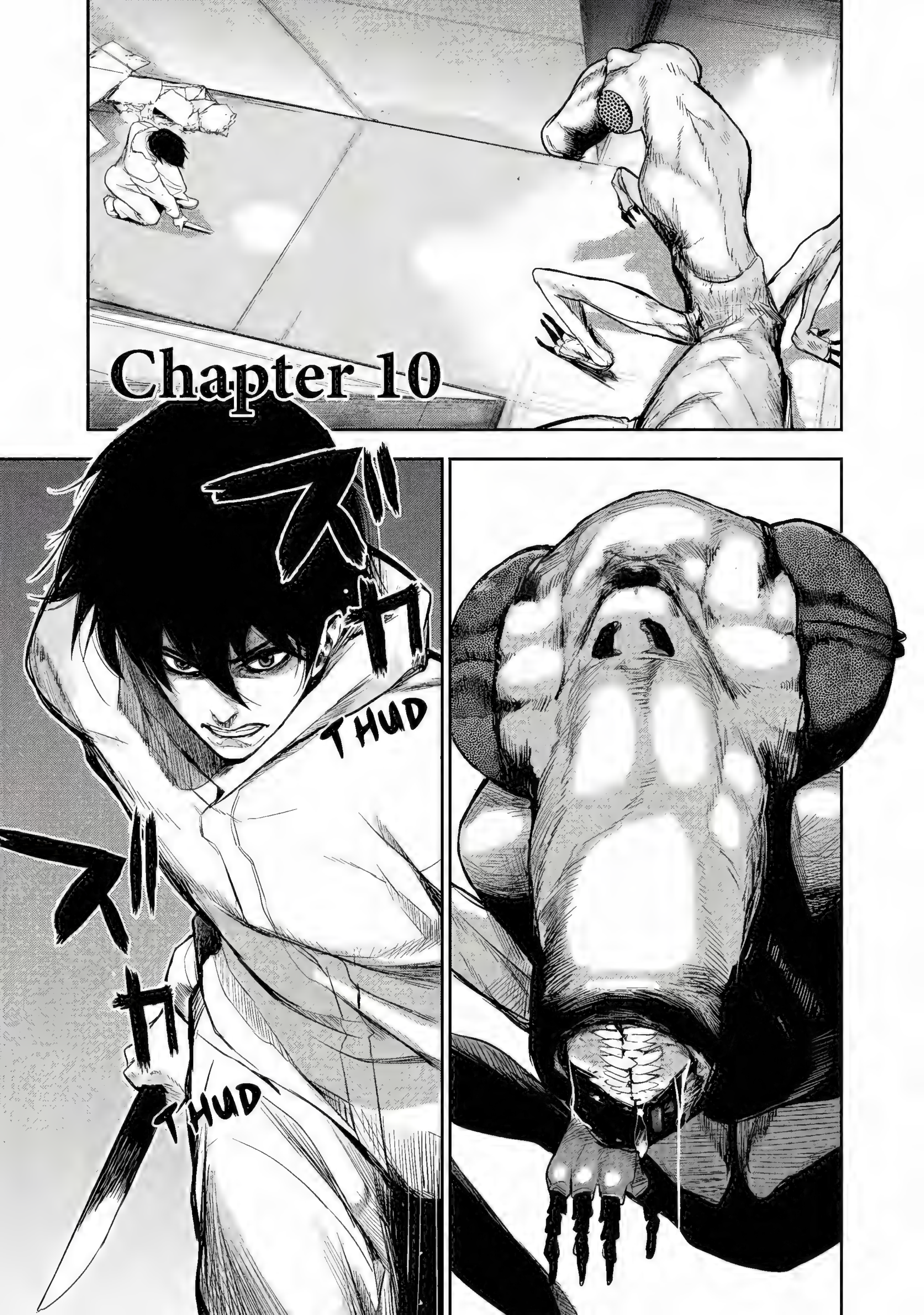

SHLAP
ギョロ
FWOOSH

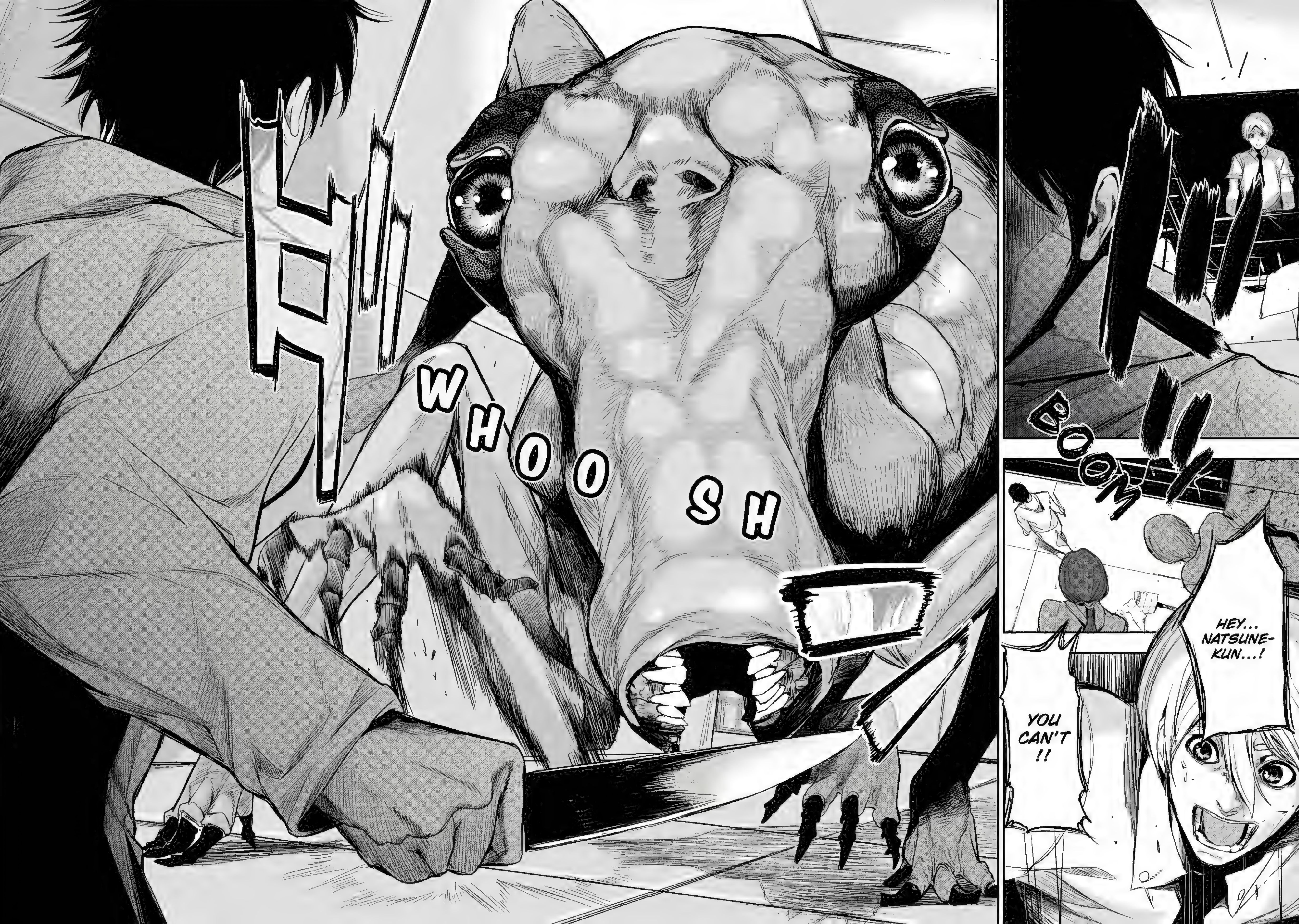

IT'S... IT'S HERE...
IT'S HERE, NATSUNE-KUN!
CLIMB UP! HURRY! HURRY!!
NATSUNE-KUN!
HURRY!!
SHFFF
THUD

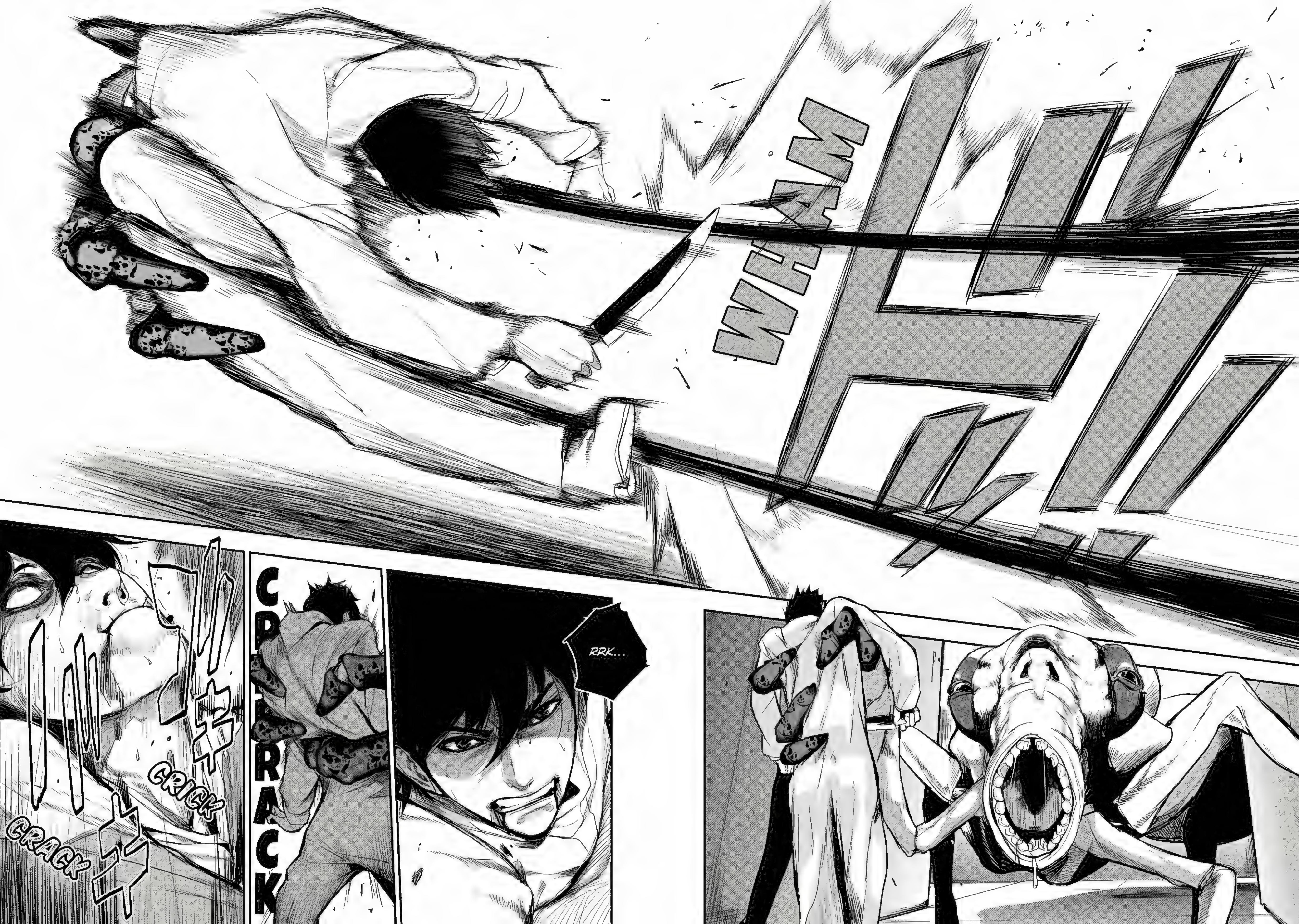

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE...
HEY! NATSUNE-KUN!!
ALL RIGHT.
COME HERE.

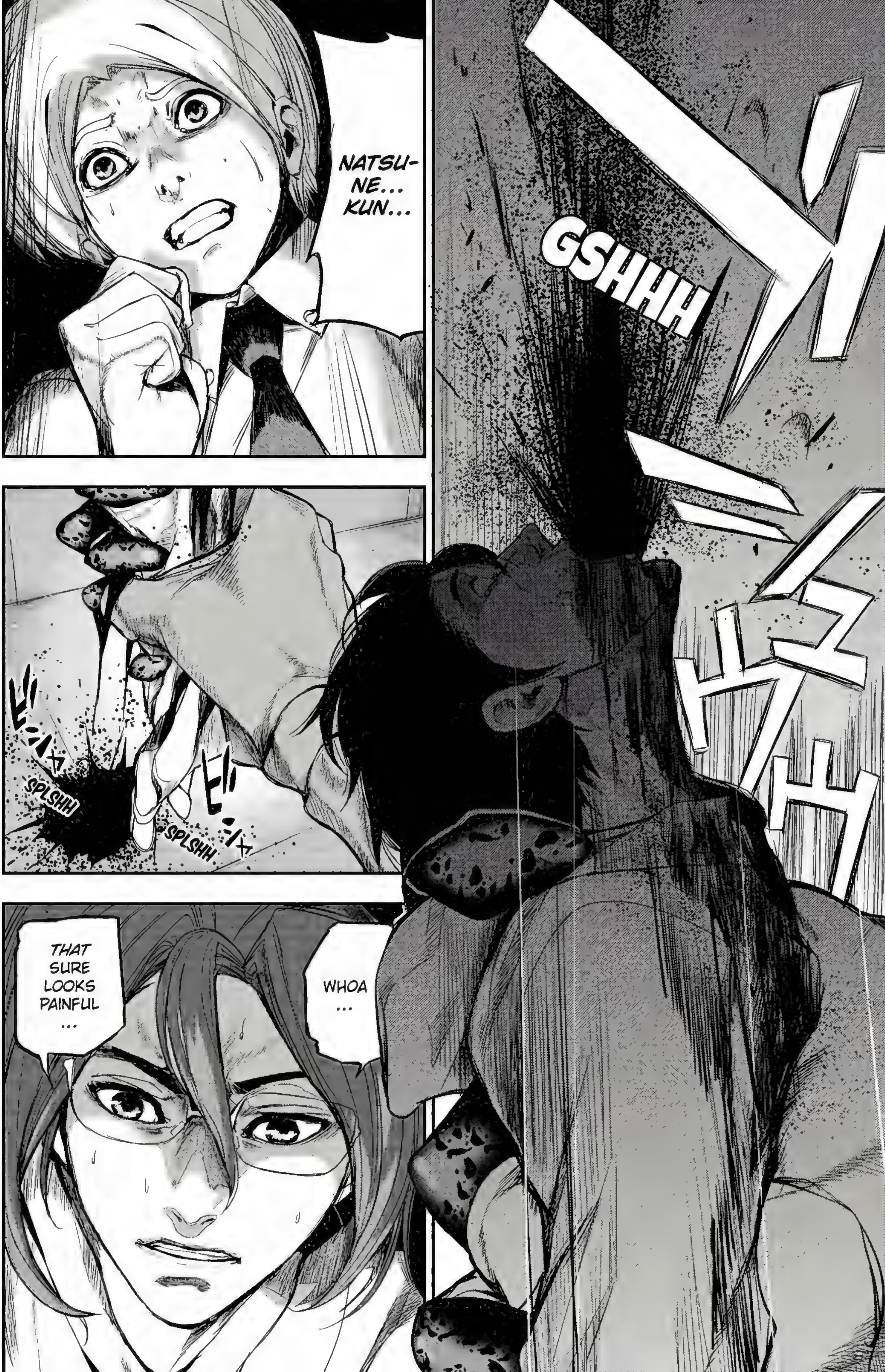

NATSUNE-KUN,
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?!
ZSSHHFFFF

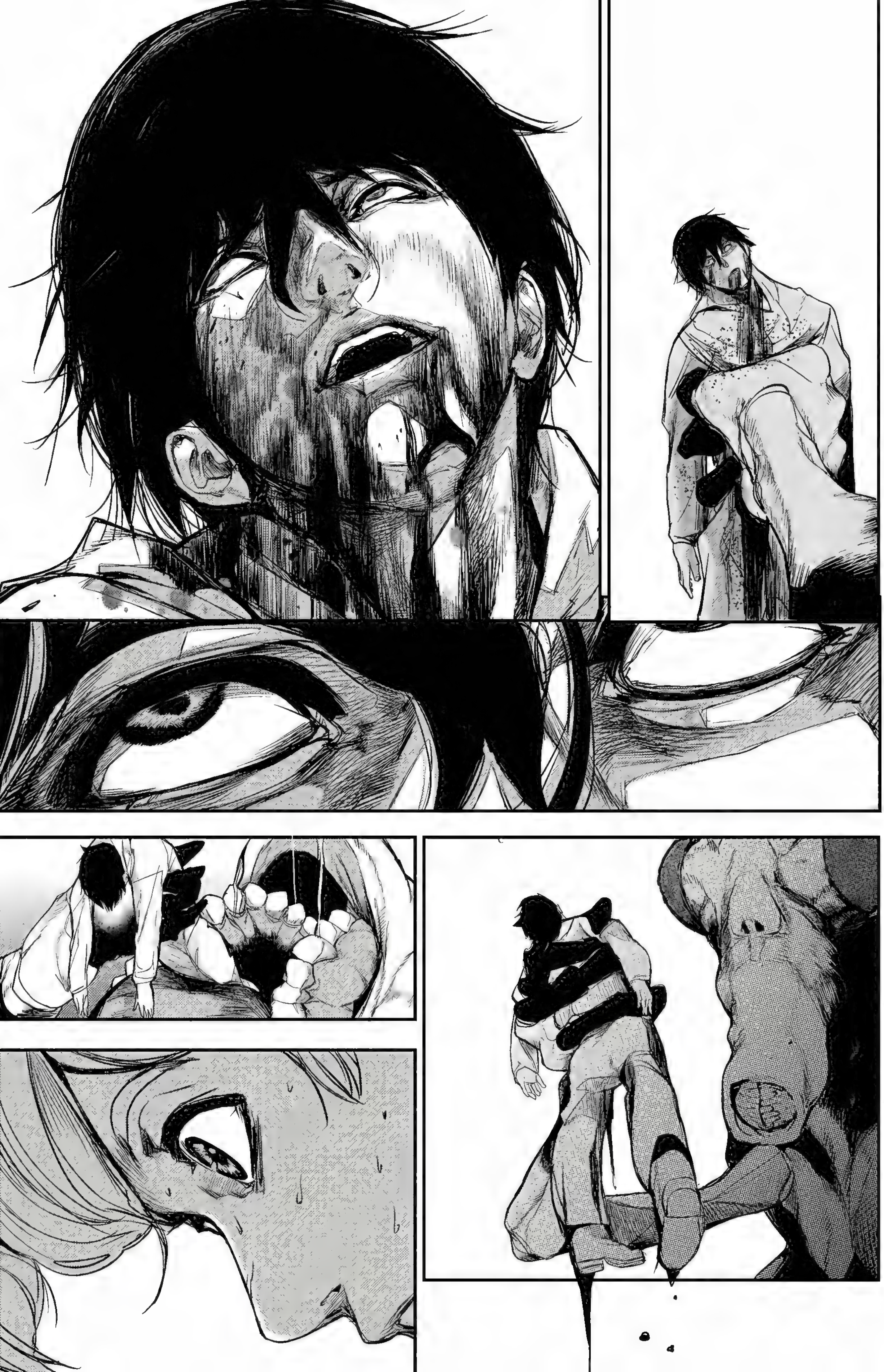
Chapter 10

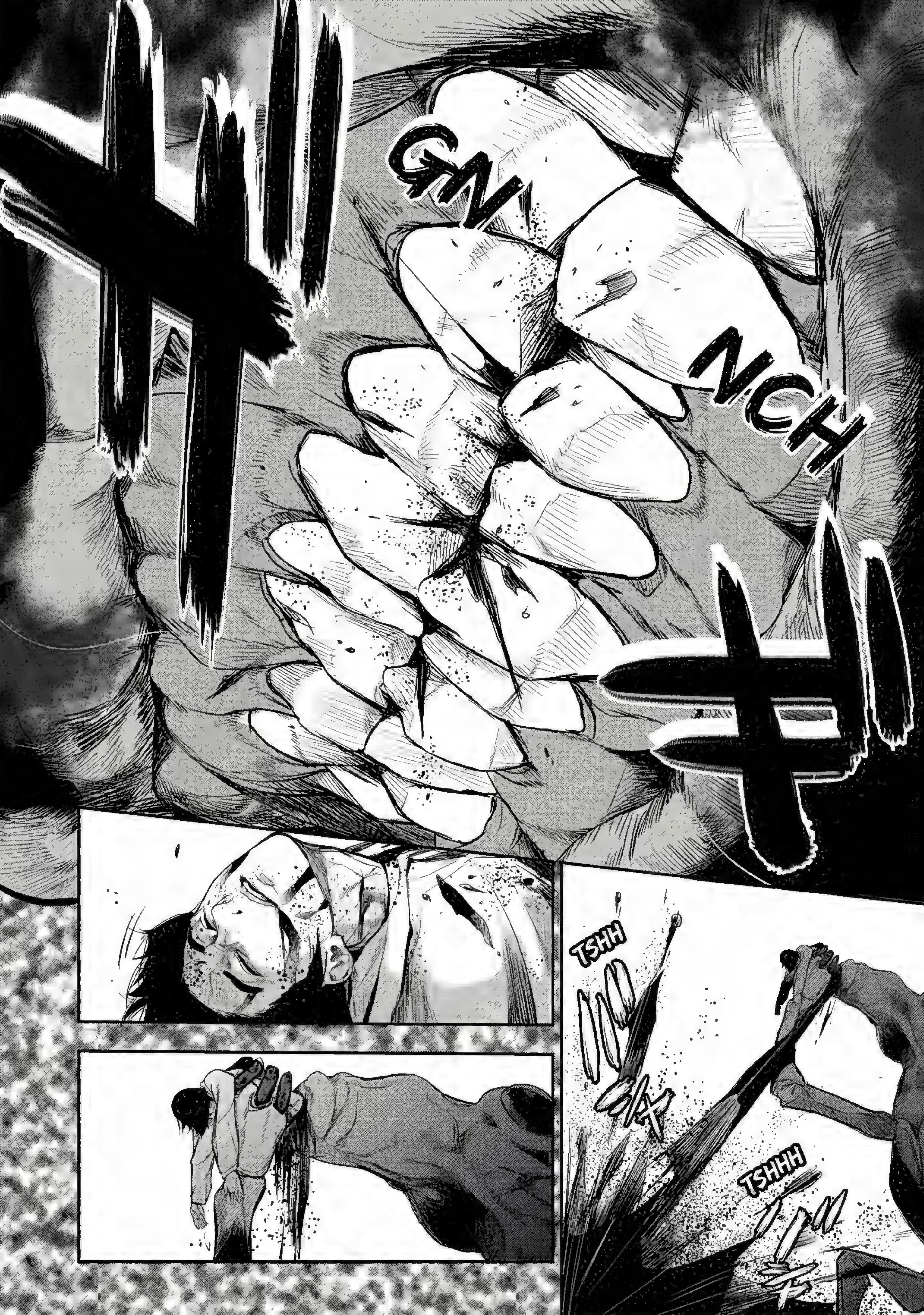

ズガ
THUD
ズガ
THUD

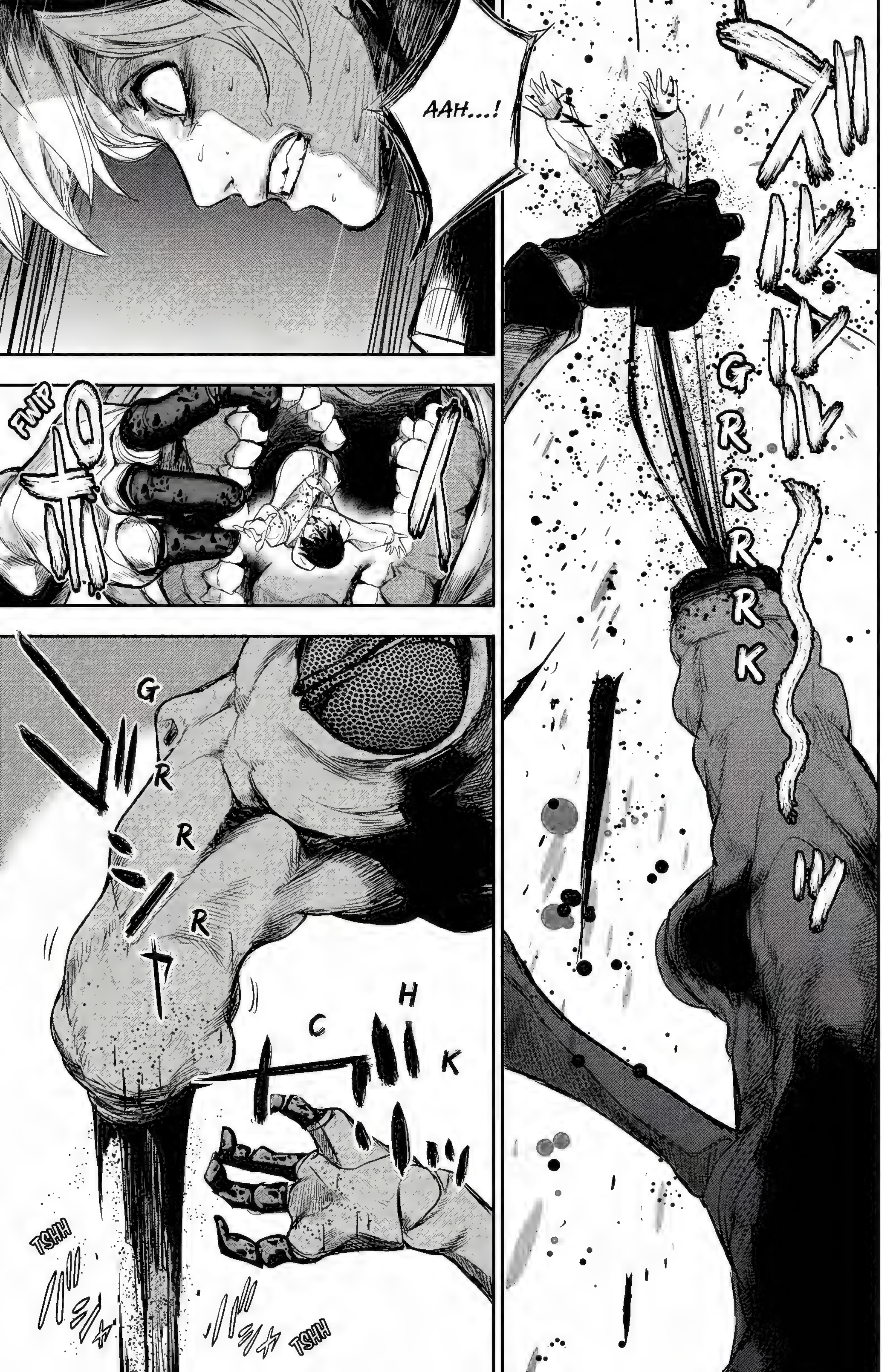

BOOM
HEY... NATSUNE-KUN...!
YOU CAN'T !!
WHOOSH

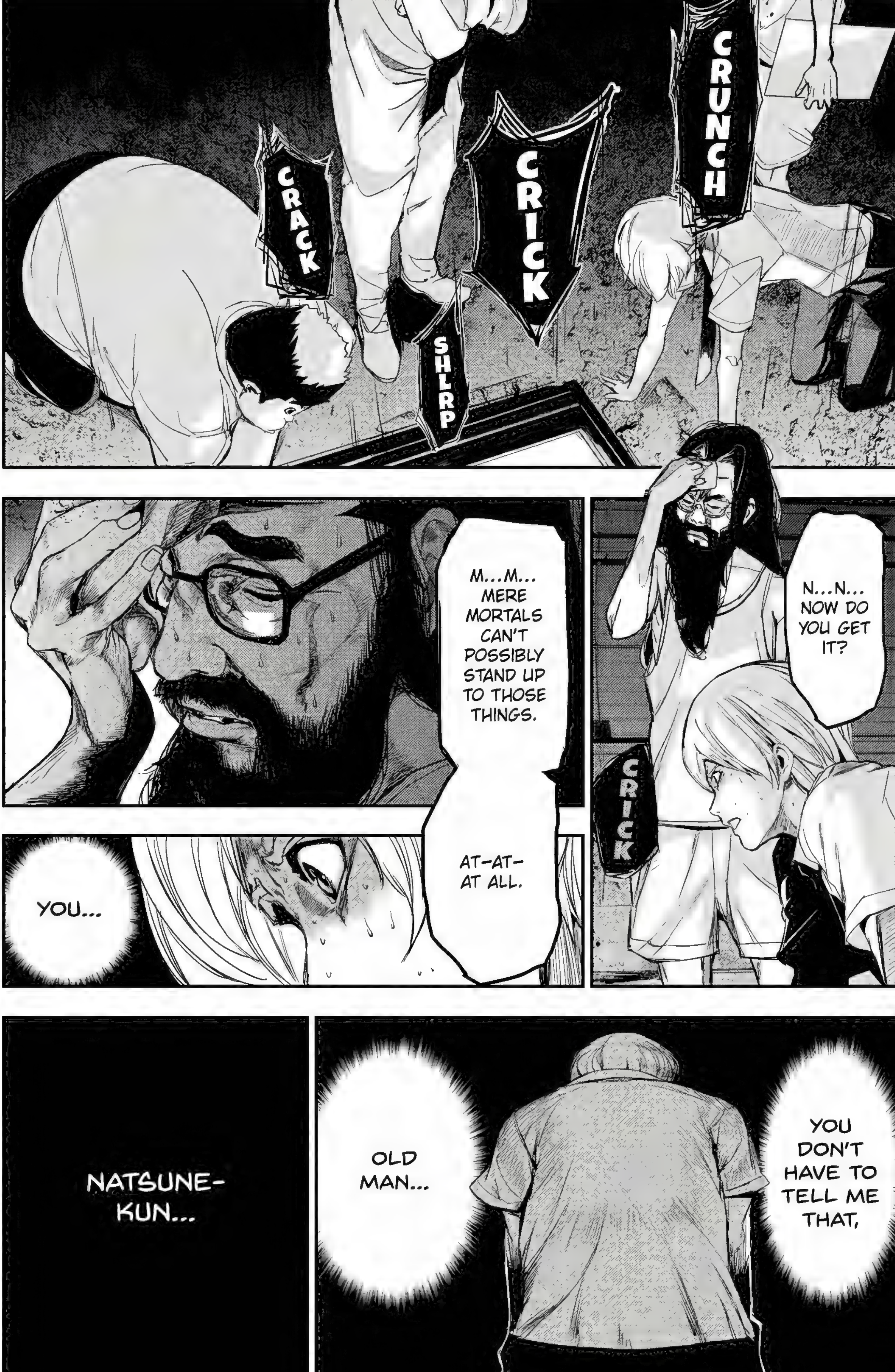

WHAM
RRK...
CRACK
CRICK
CRACK

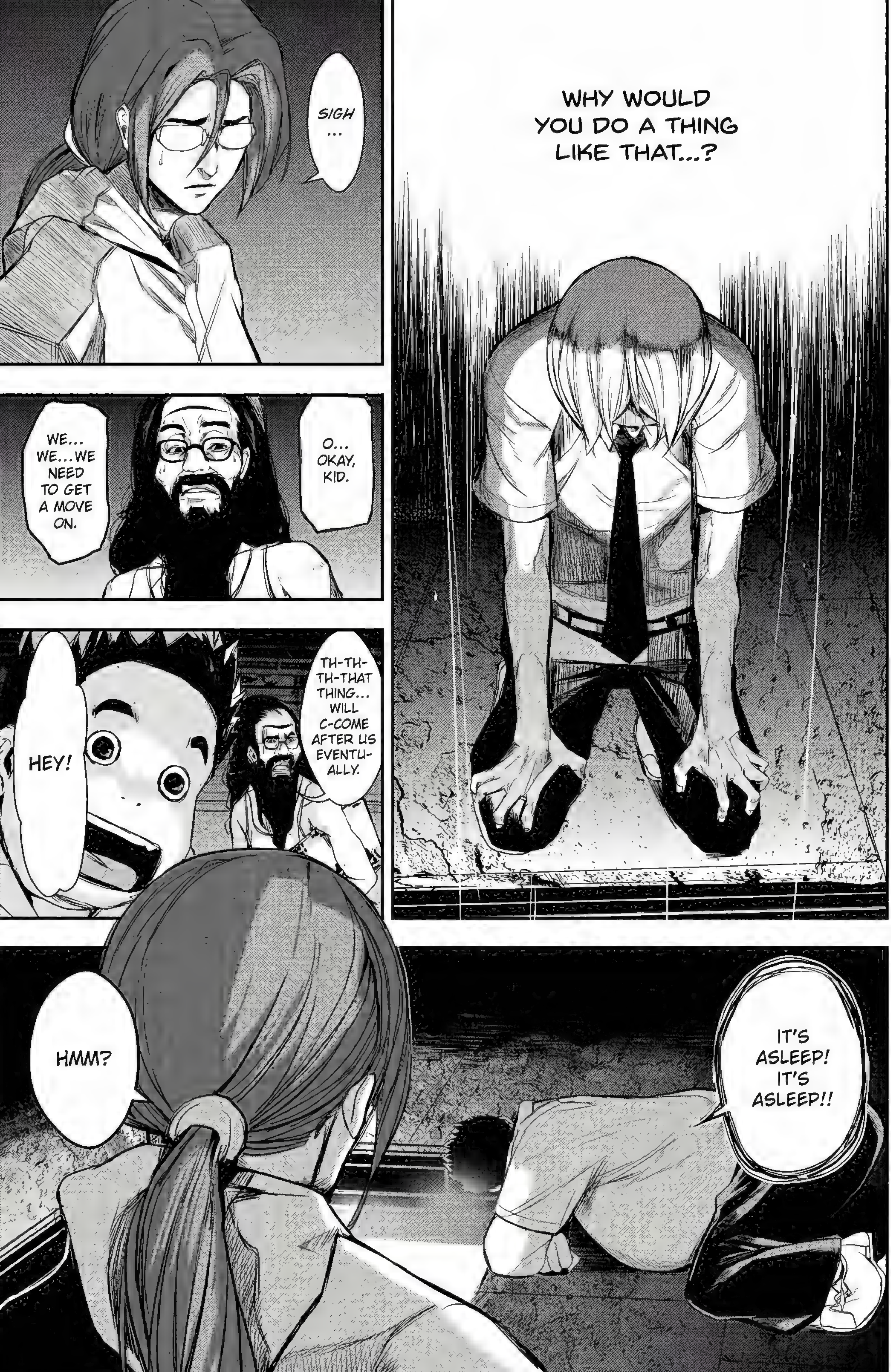

GSHHH
NATSU-NE... KUN...
ビシャ
SPLSHH
ビシャ
SPLSHH
WHOA ...
THAT SURE LOOKS PAINFUL ...

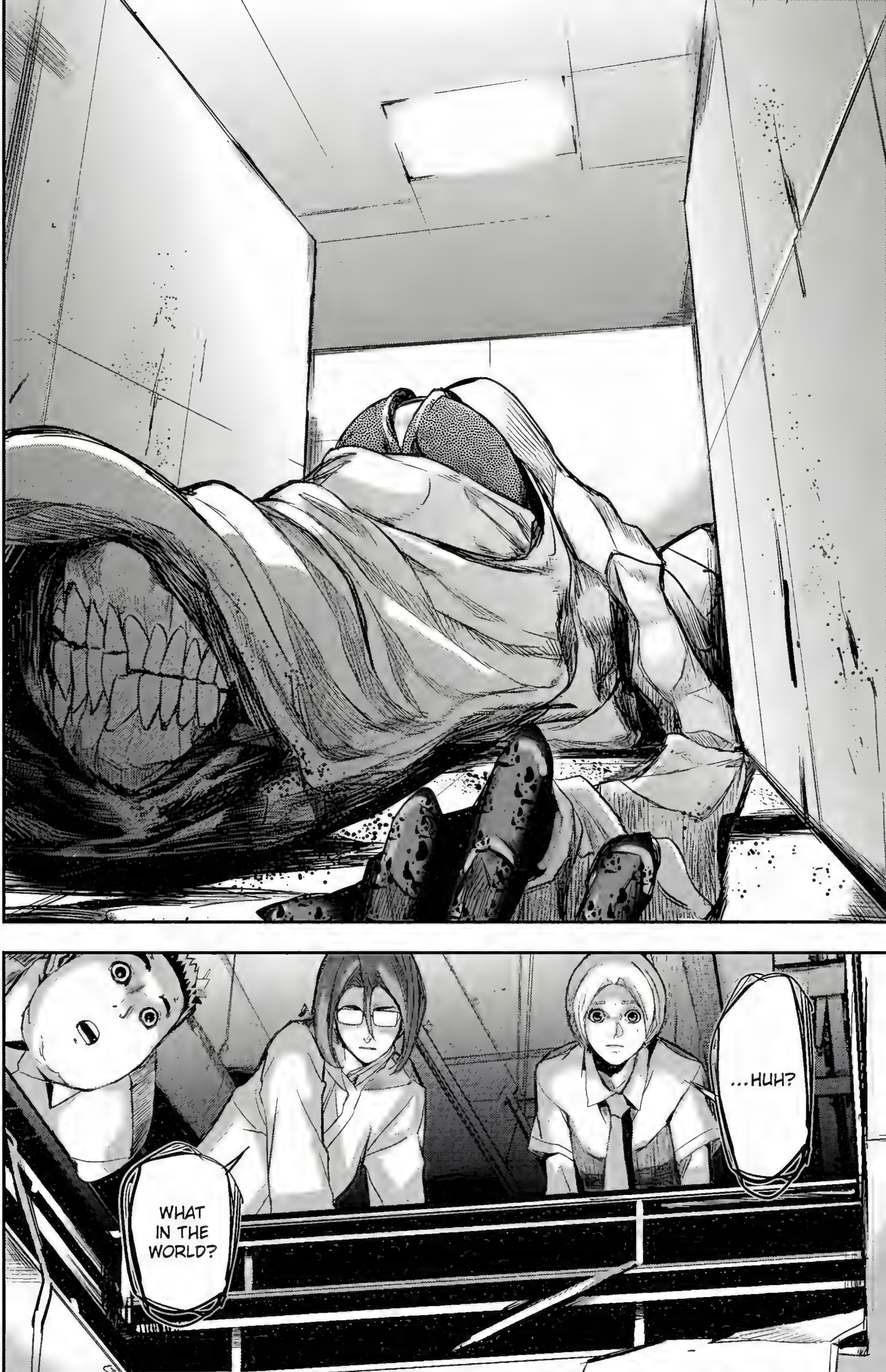


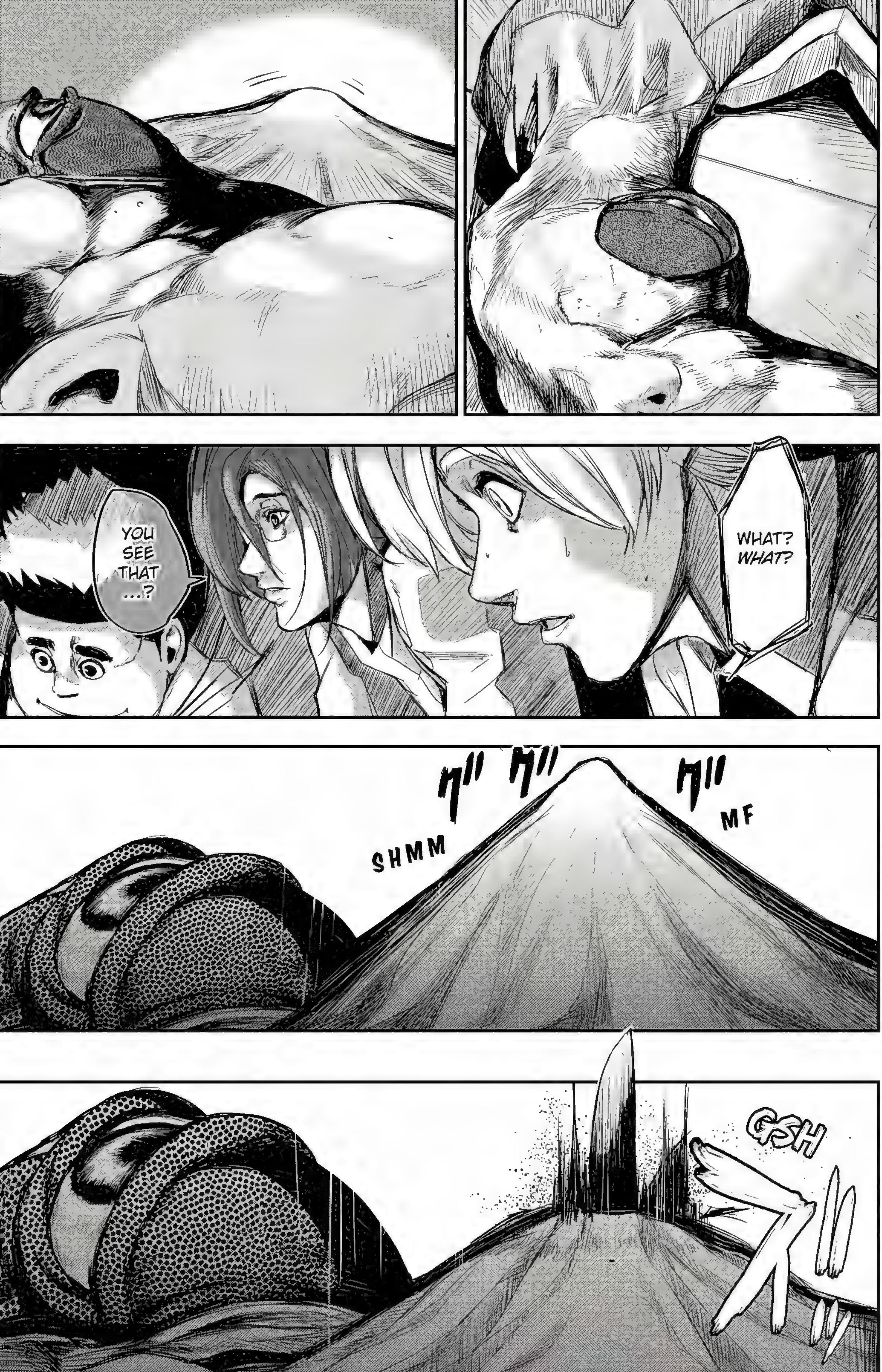

GN
NCH
TSHH
TSHHH

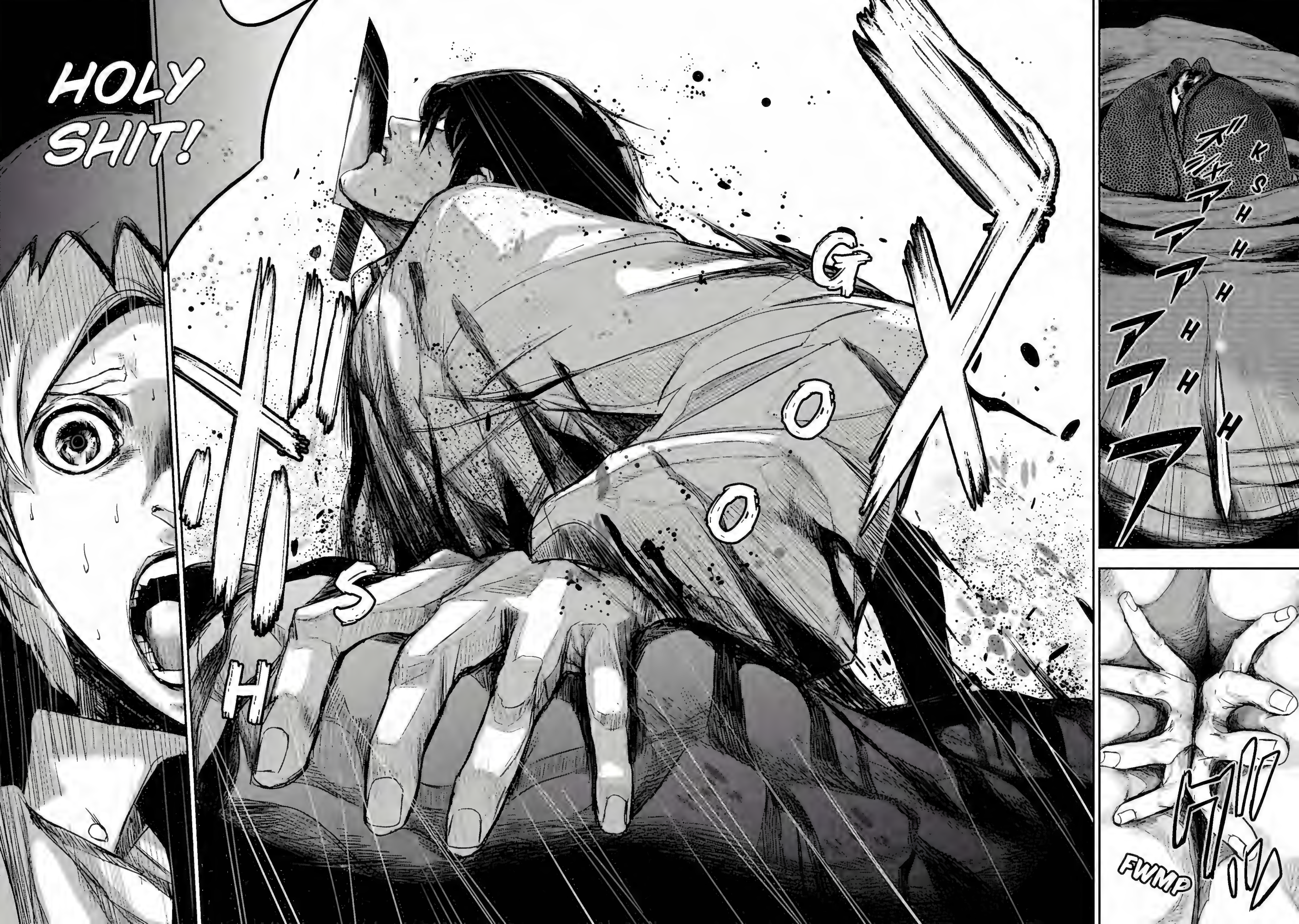

GRRRRK
AAH...!
FWIP
GRRR
CHK
TSHH
TSHH

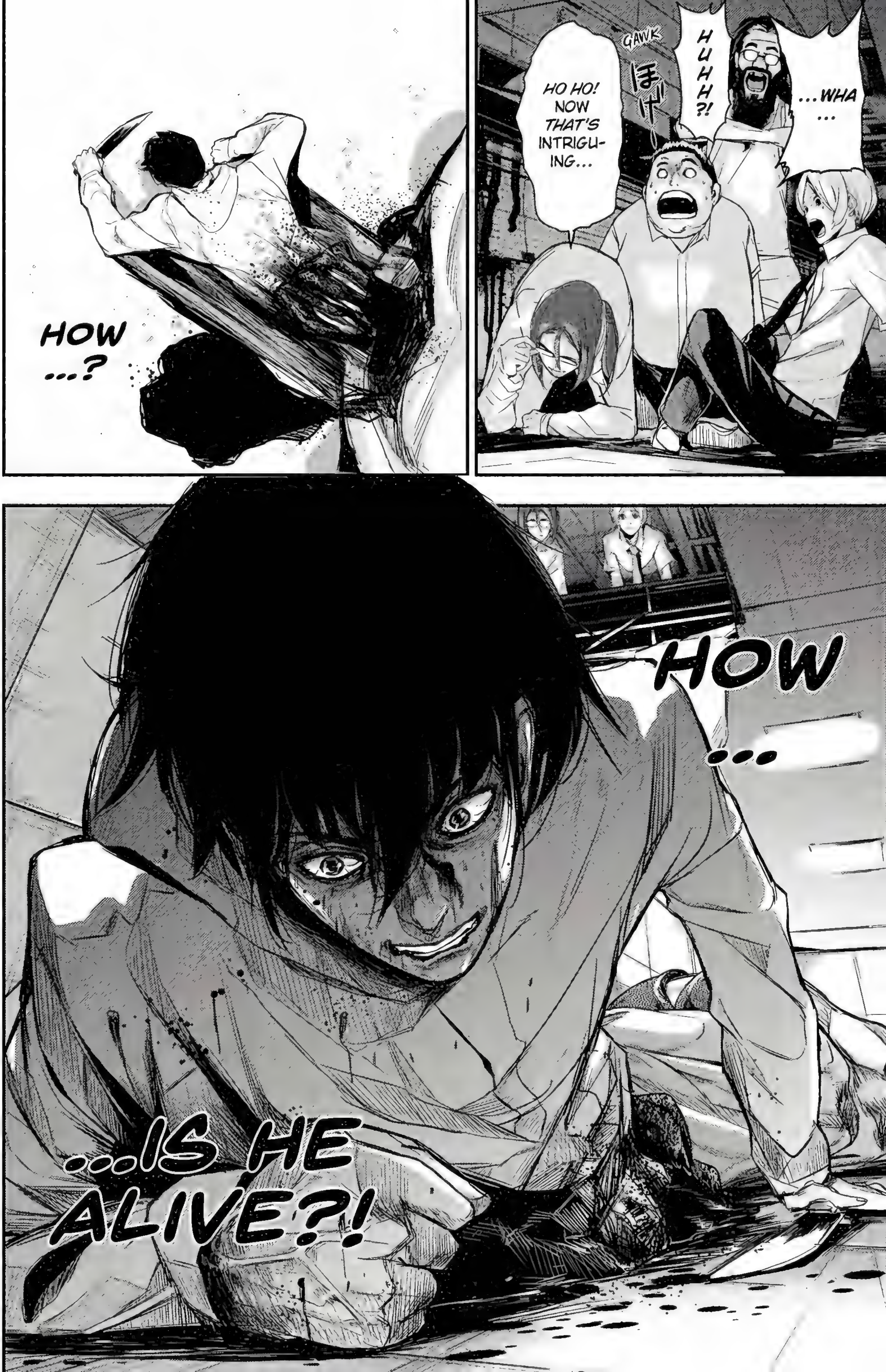

CRUNCH
CRICK
CRACK
SHLRP
N...N... NOW DO YOU GET IT?
CRICK
M...M... MERE MORTALS CAN'T POSSIBLY STAND UP TO THOSE THINGS.
AT-AT-AT ALL.
YOU...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME THAT,
OLD MAN...
NATSUNE-KUN...


WHY WOULD YOU DO A THING LIKE THAT...?
SIGH...
O... OKAY, KID.
WE... WE...WE NEED TO GET A MOVE ON.
TH-TH-TH-THAT THING... WILL C-COME AFTER US EVENTUALLY.
HEY!
IT'S ASLEEP! IT'S ASLEEP!!
HMM?

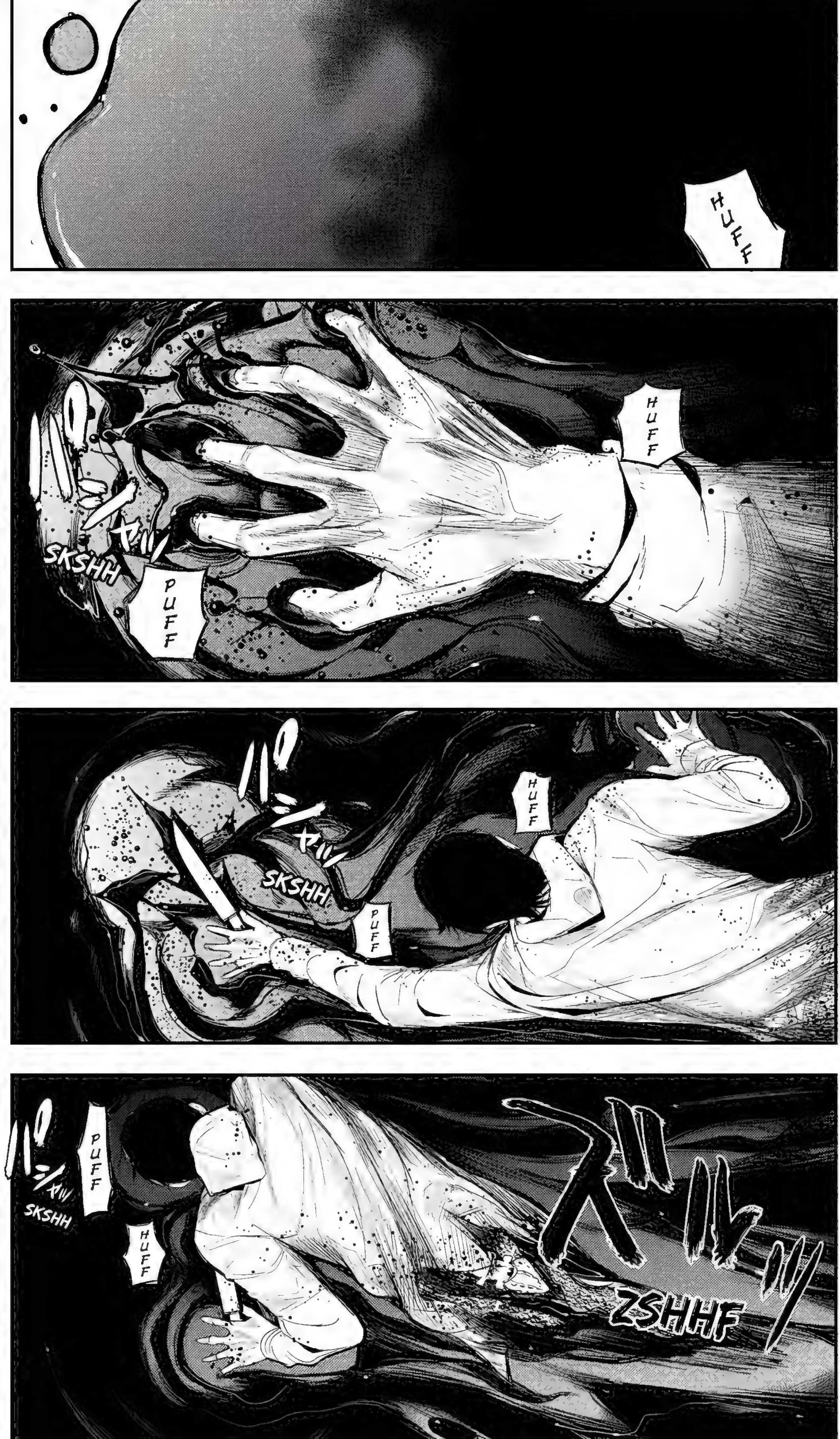

...HUH?
WHAT IN THE WORLD?

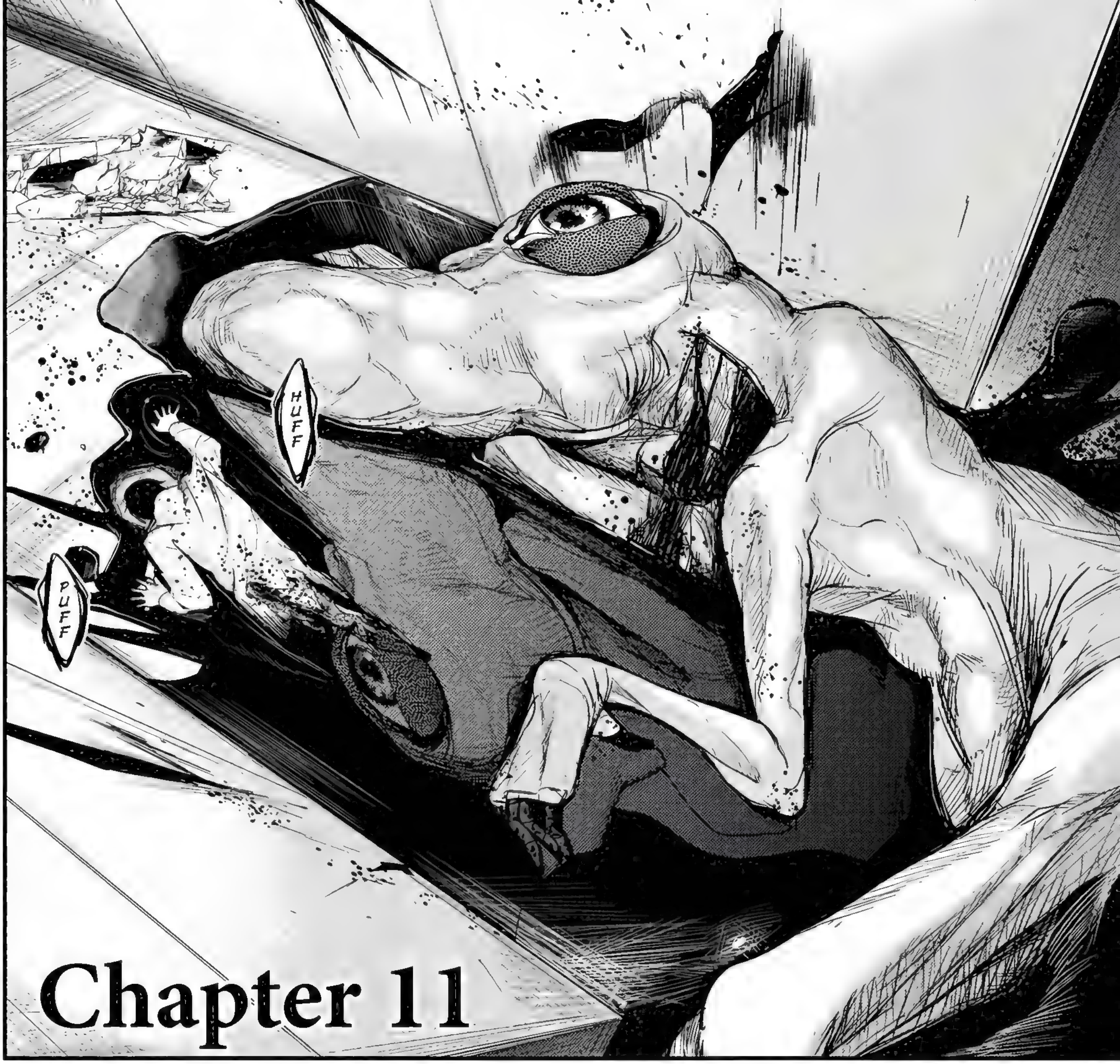

WHAT? WHAT?
YOU SEE THAT ...?
グ"
MF
グ"
グ"
SHMM
GSH


HOLY SHIT!
GOOSH
KSHHHHHH
FWMP

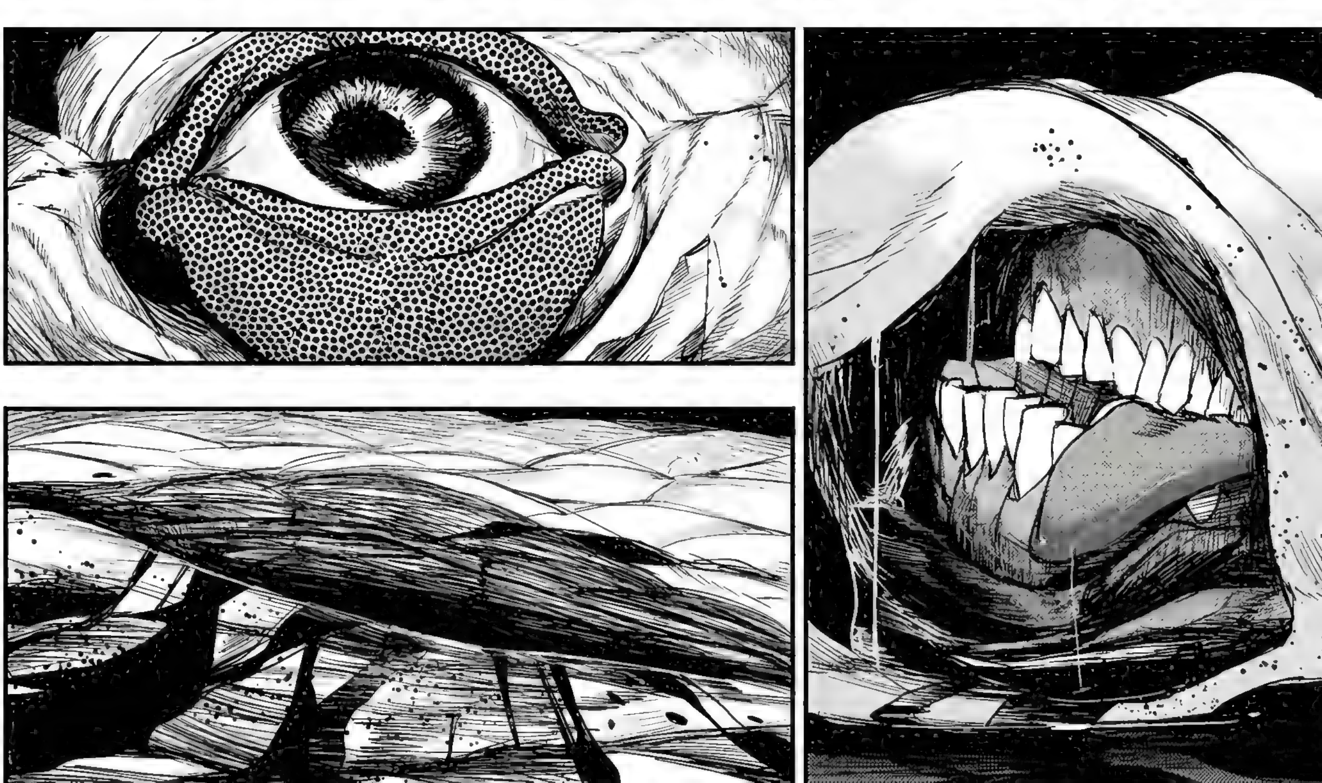

...WHA ...
HUHHH?!
GAWK
ほげ
HO HO! NOW THAT'S INTRIGUING...
HOW ...?
HOW ...
...IS HE ALIVE?!

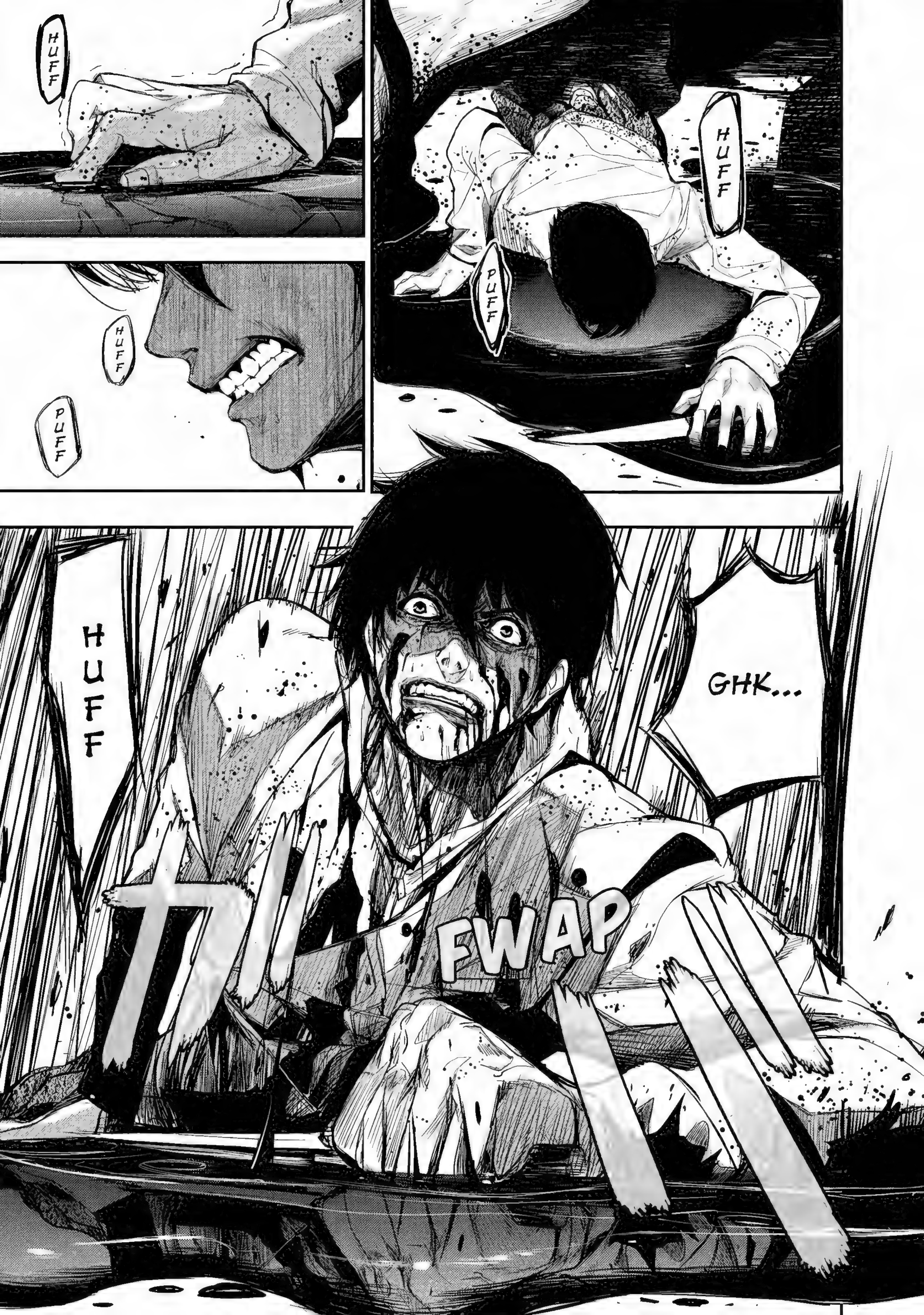
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

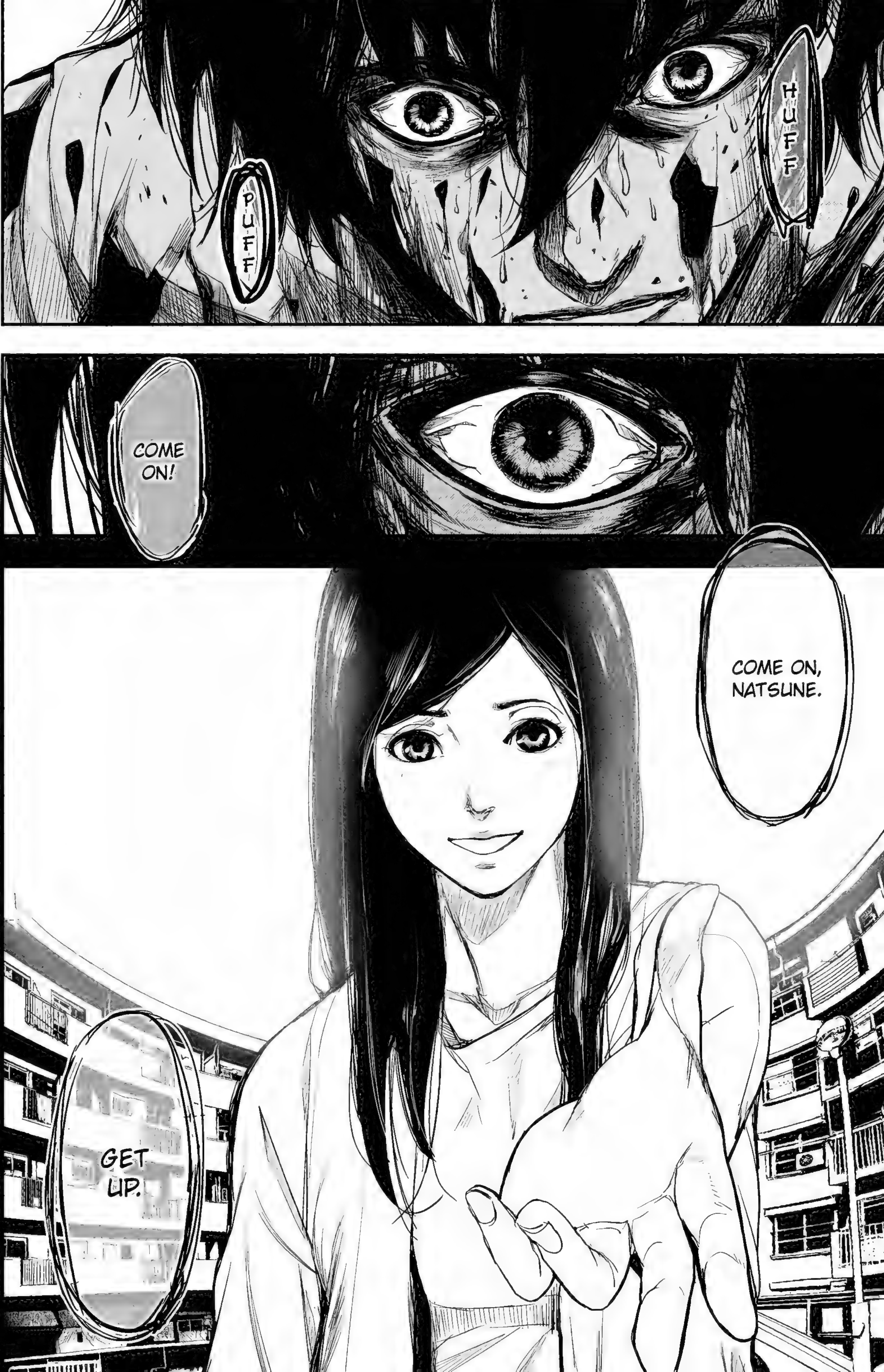

HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
SKSHH
HUFF
PUFF
SKSHH
ズルッ
ZSHHF
HUFF
PUFF
SKSHH

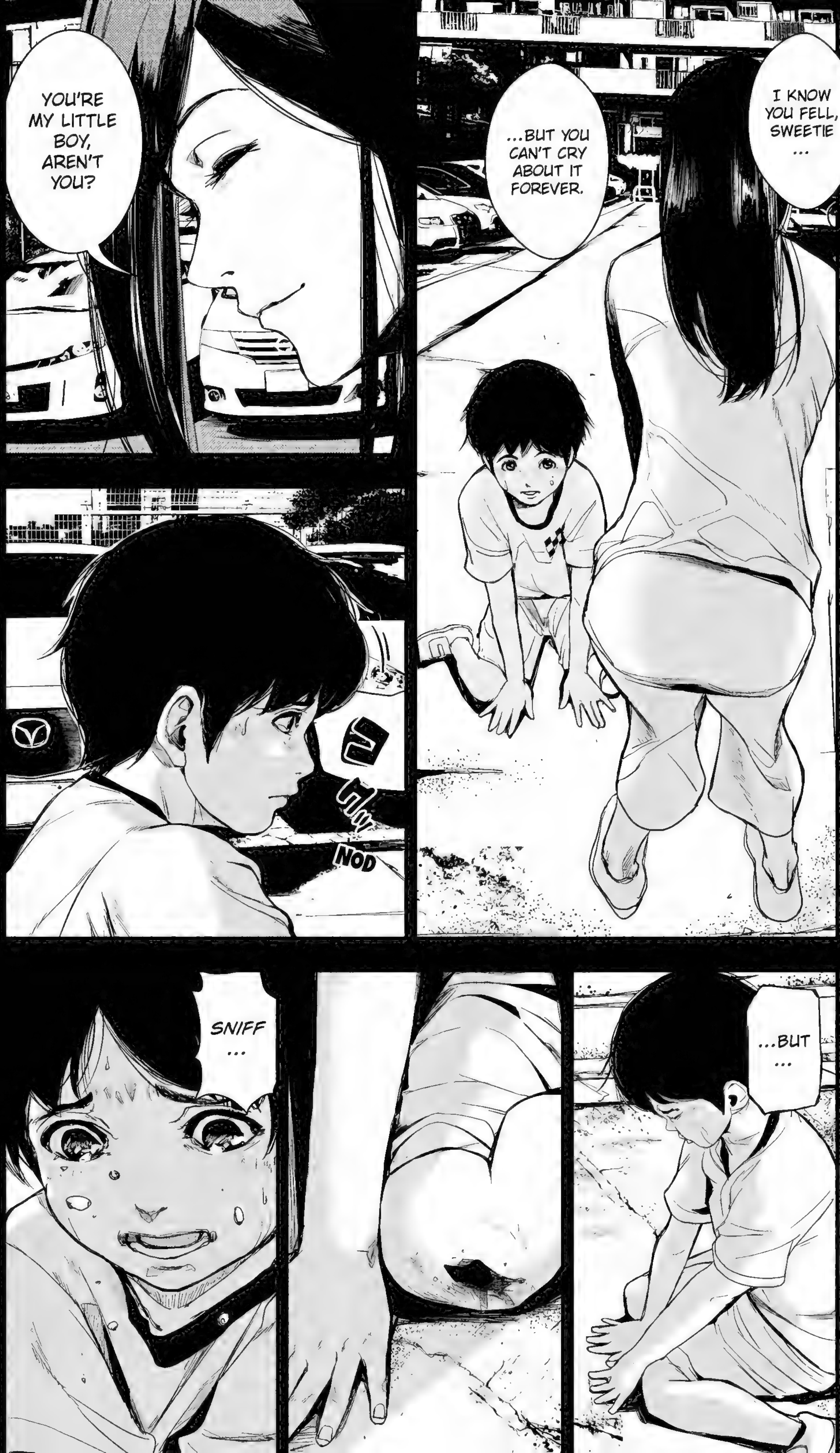


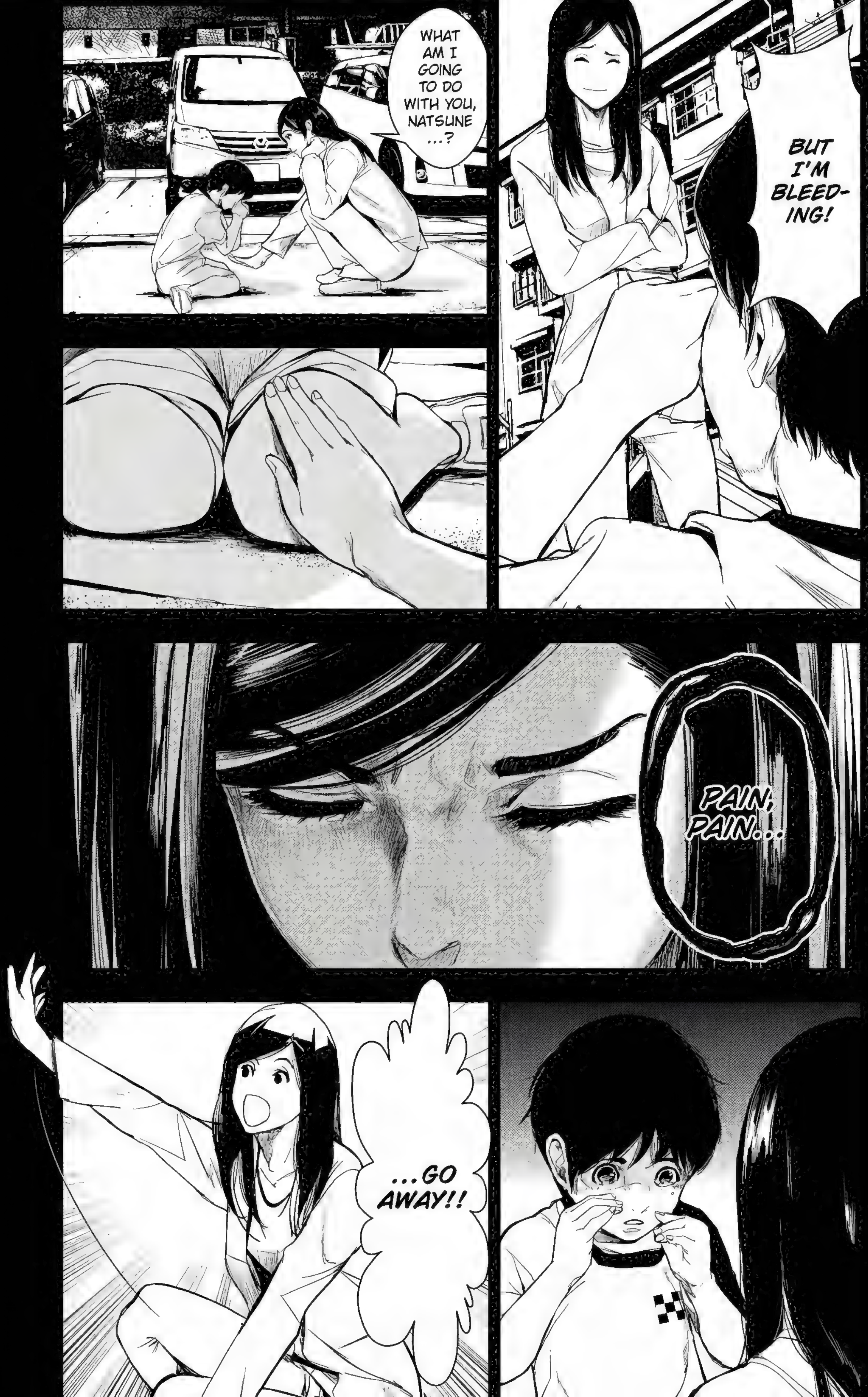
Chapter 11

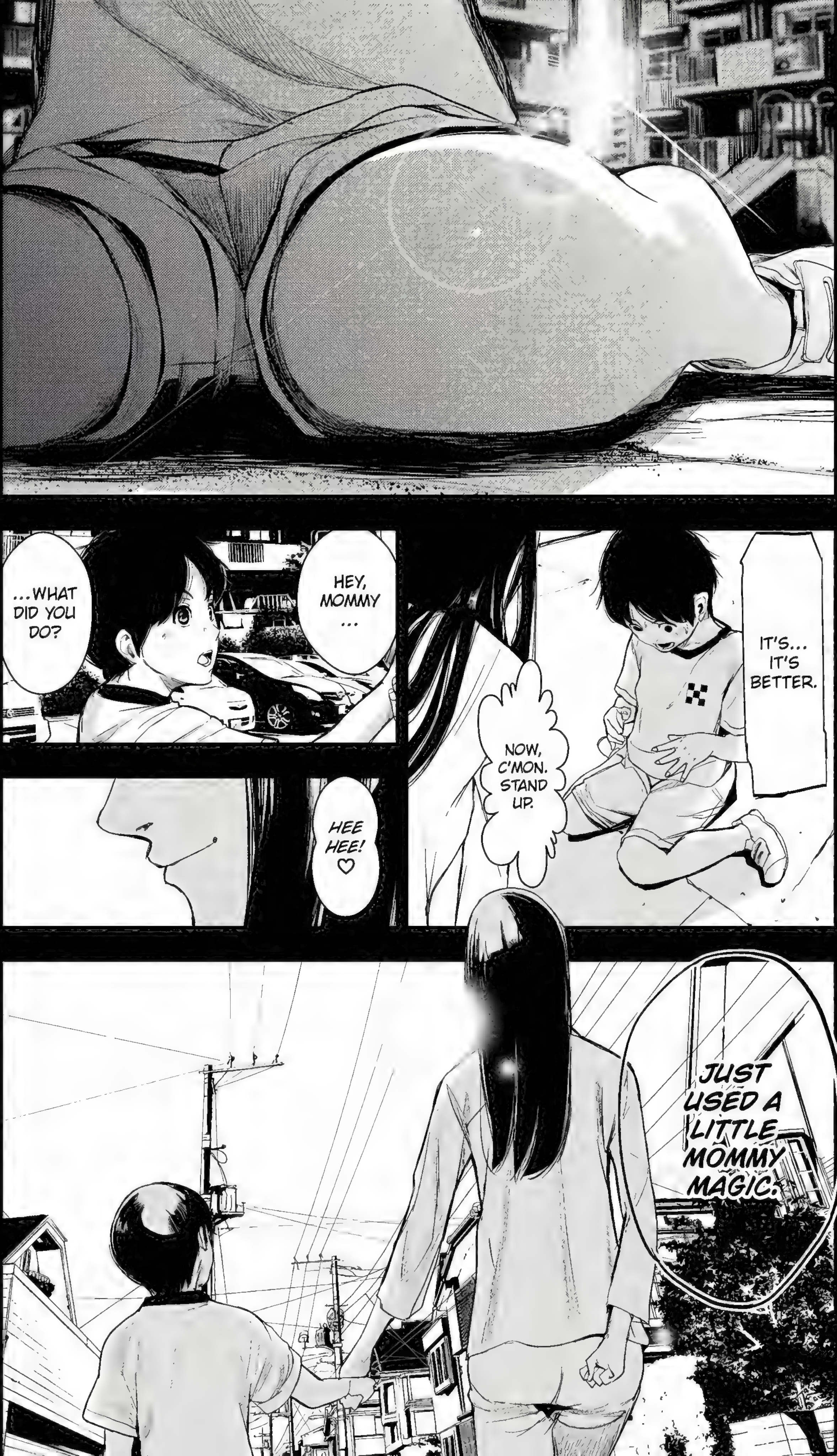


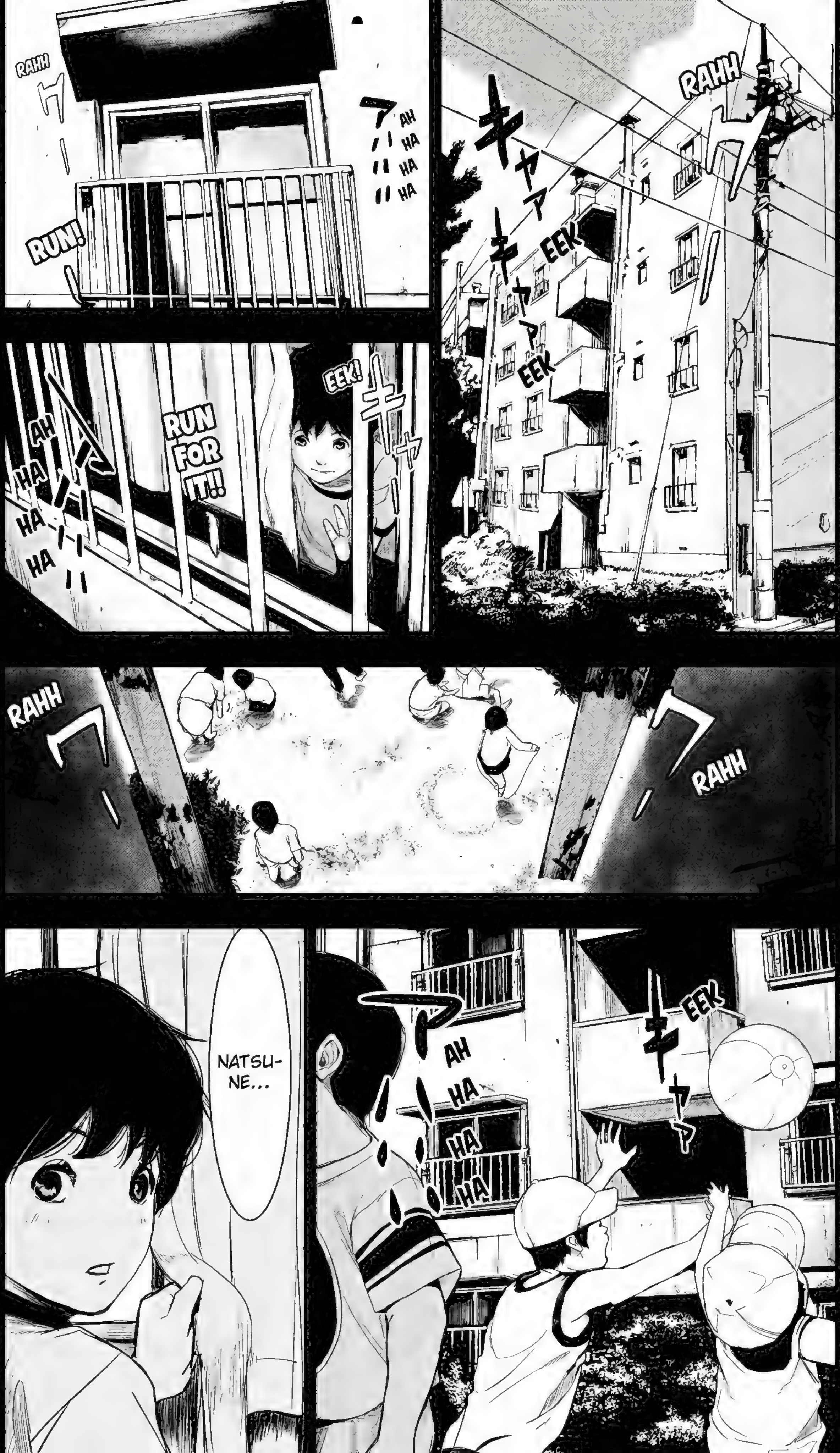

HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
GHK...
FWAP
HUFF

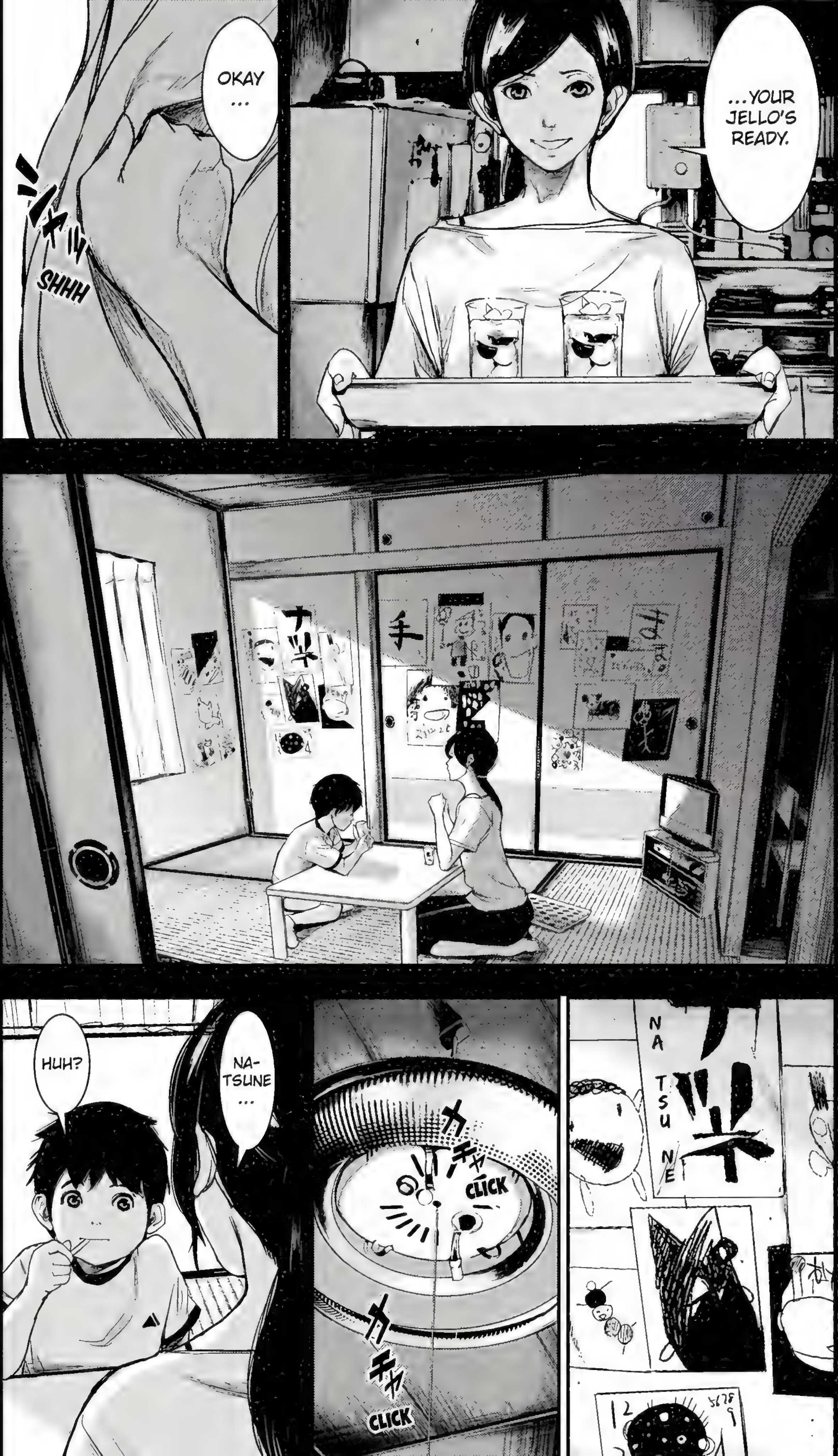

HUFF
PUFF
COME ON!
COME ON, NATSUNE.
GET UP.

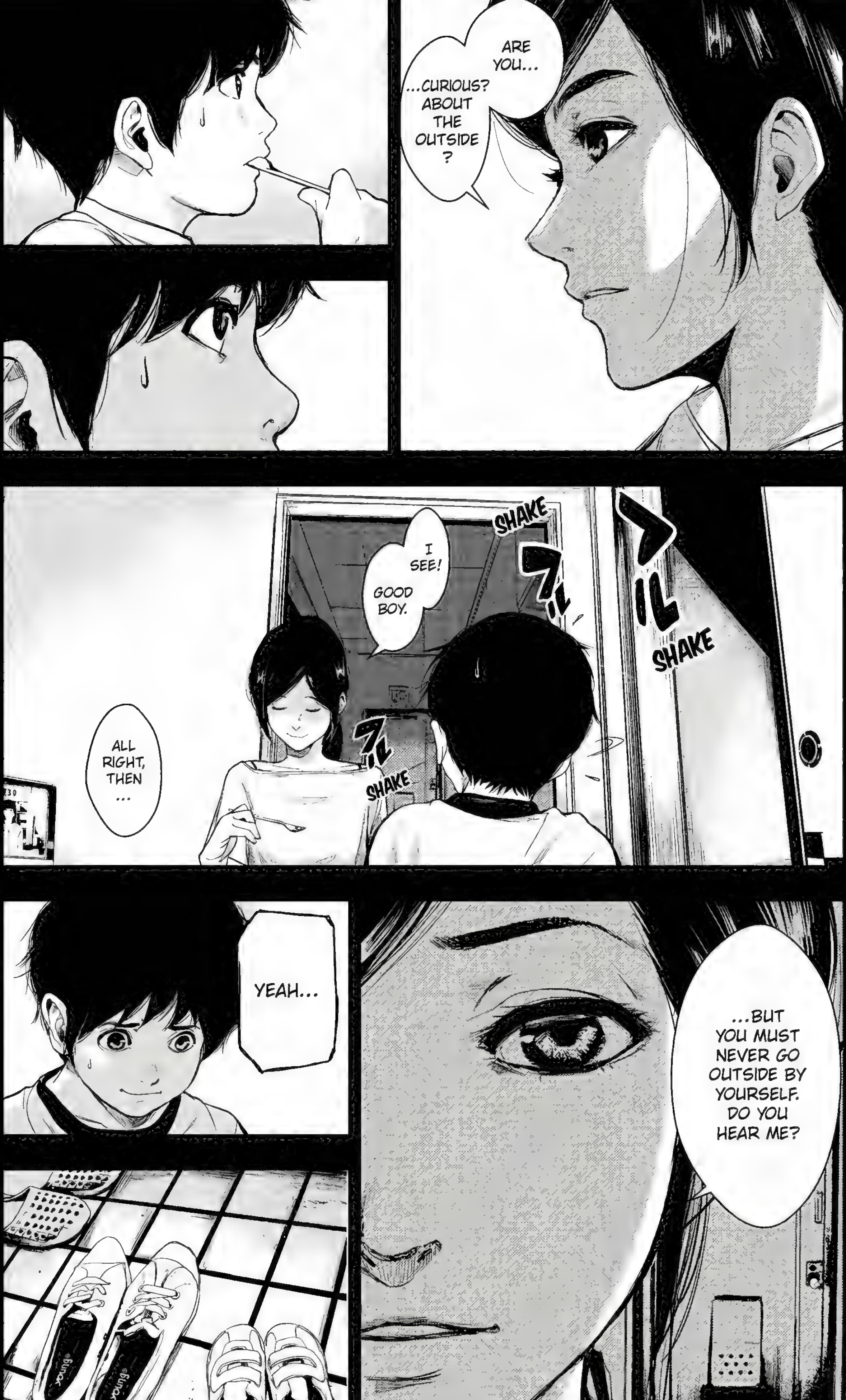

I KNOW YOU FELL, SWEETIE ...
...BUT YOU CAN'T CRY ABOUT IT FOREVER.
YOU'RE MY LITTLE BOY, AREN'T YOU?
NOD
...BUT ...
SNIFF ...

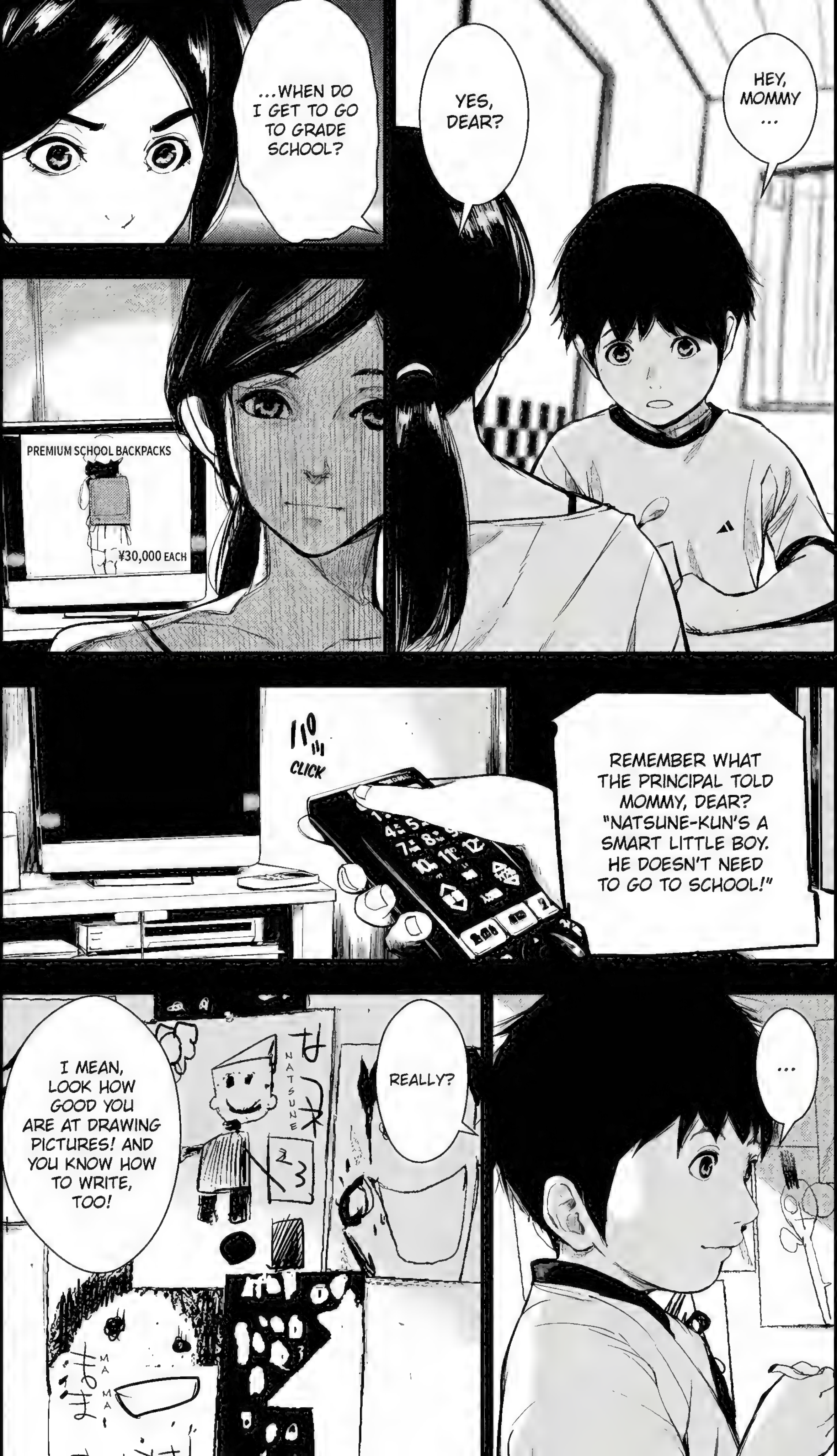

BUT I'M BLEEDING!
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH YOU, NATSUNE ...?
PAIN, PAIN...
...GO AWAY!!

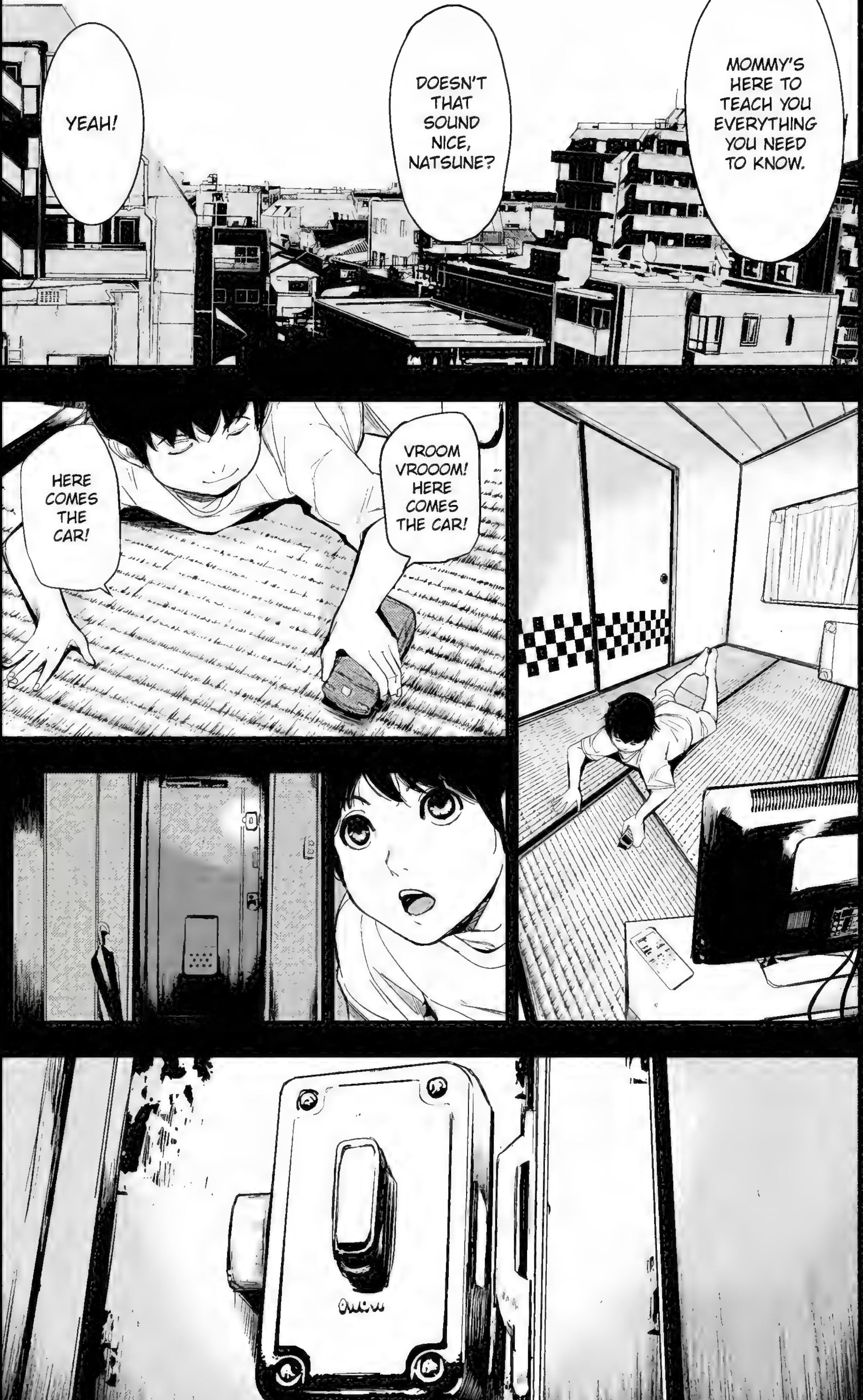

IT'S... IT'S BETTER.
NOW, C'MON. STAND UP.
HEY, MOMMY...
...WHAT DID YOU DO?
HEE HEE! ♡
JUST USED A LITTLE MOMMY MAGIC.

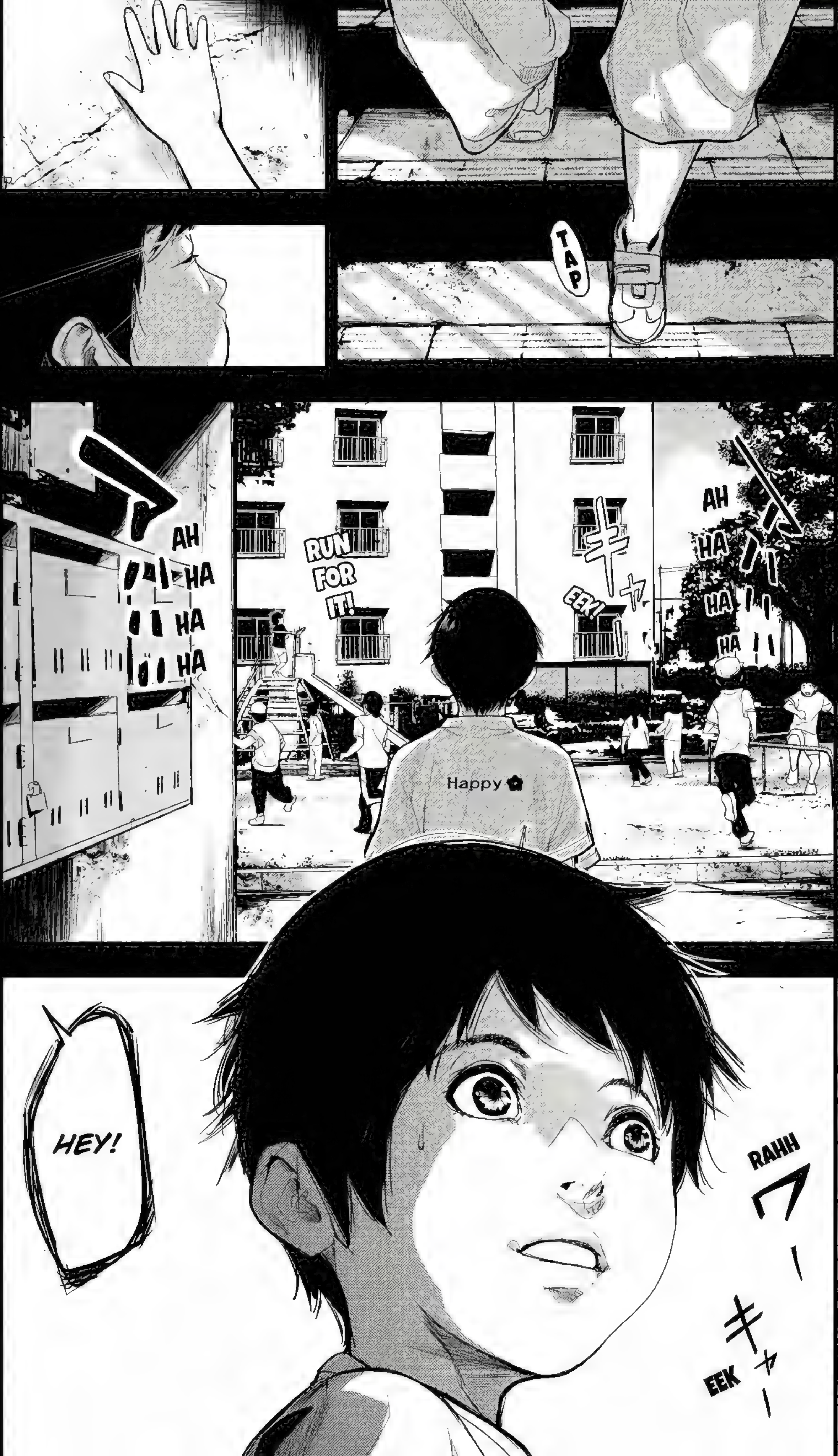

RAHH
EEK
EEK
RAHH
AH HA HA HA
RUN!
EEK!
RUN FOR IT!!
AH HA HA HA
RAHH
RAHH
EEK
AH HA HA HA
NATSUNE...

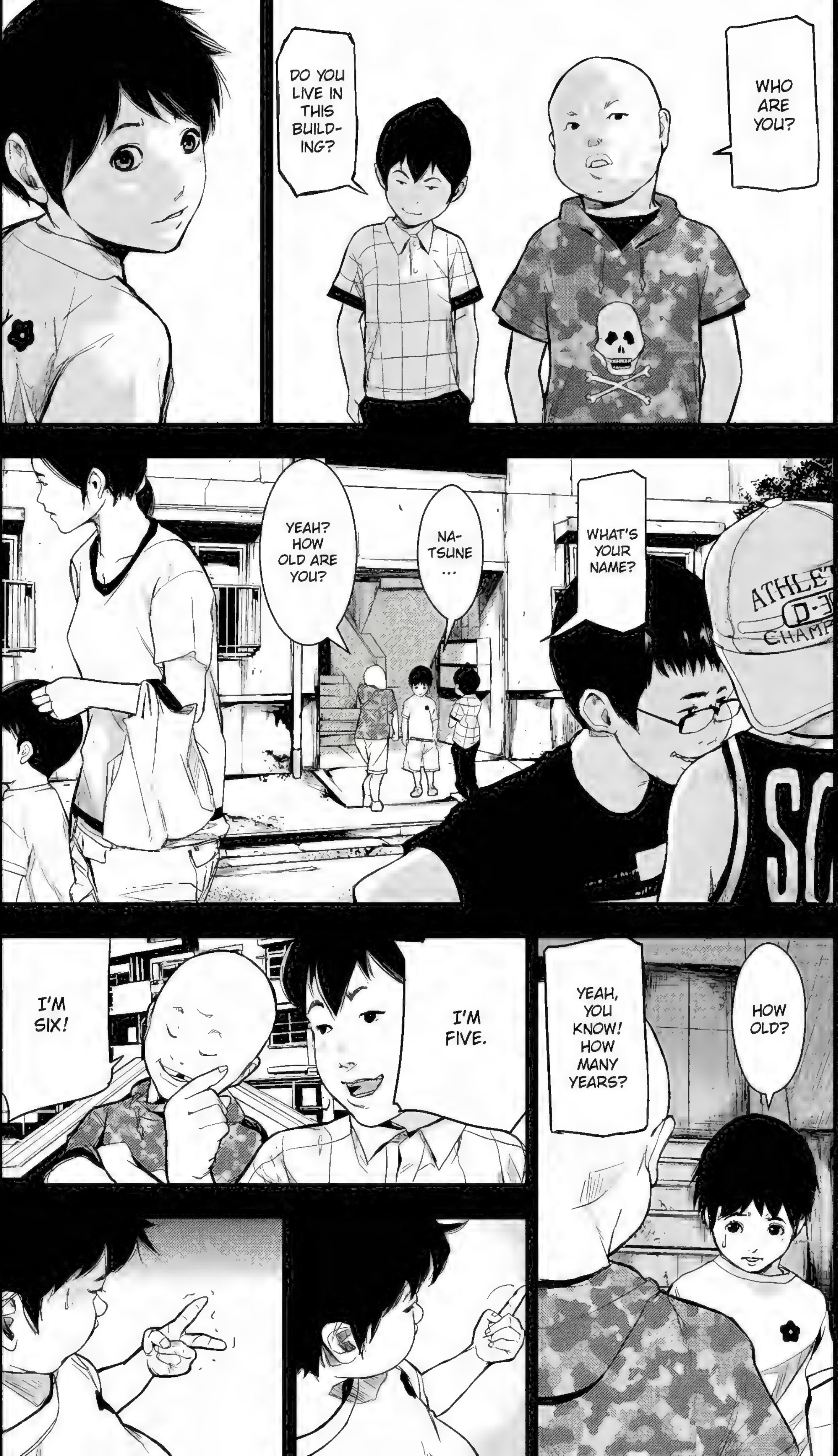

...YOUR JELLO'S READY.
OKAY ...
ジャッ
SHHH
NA TSU NE
カチャ
CLICK
カチャ
CLICK
NA-TSUNE ...
HUH?

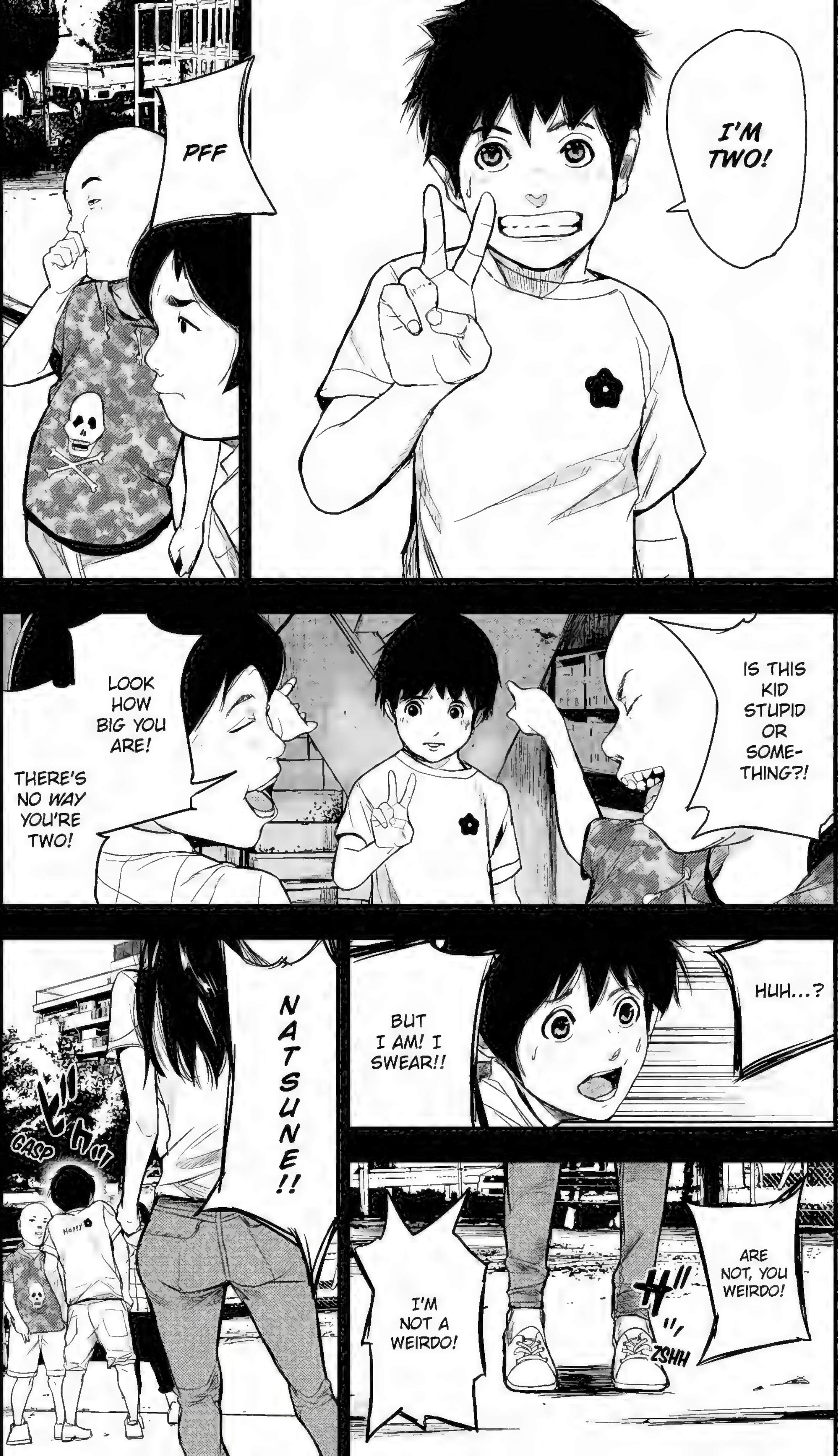

ARE YOU...
...CURIOUS? ABOUT THE OUTSIDE?
SHAKE
SHAKE
I SEE! GOOD BOY.
SHAKE
ALL RIGHT, THEN...
YEAH...
...BUT YOU MUST NEVER GO OUTSIDE BY YOURSELF. DO YOU HEAR ME?

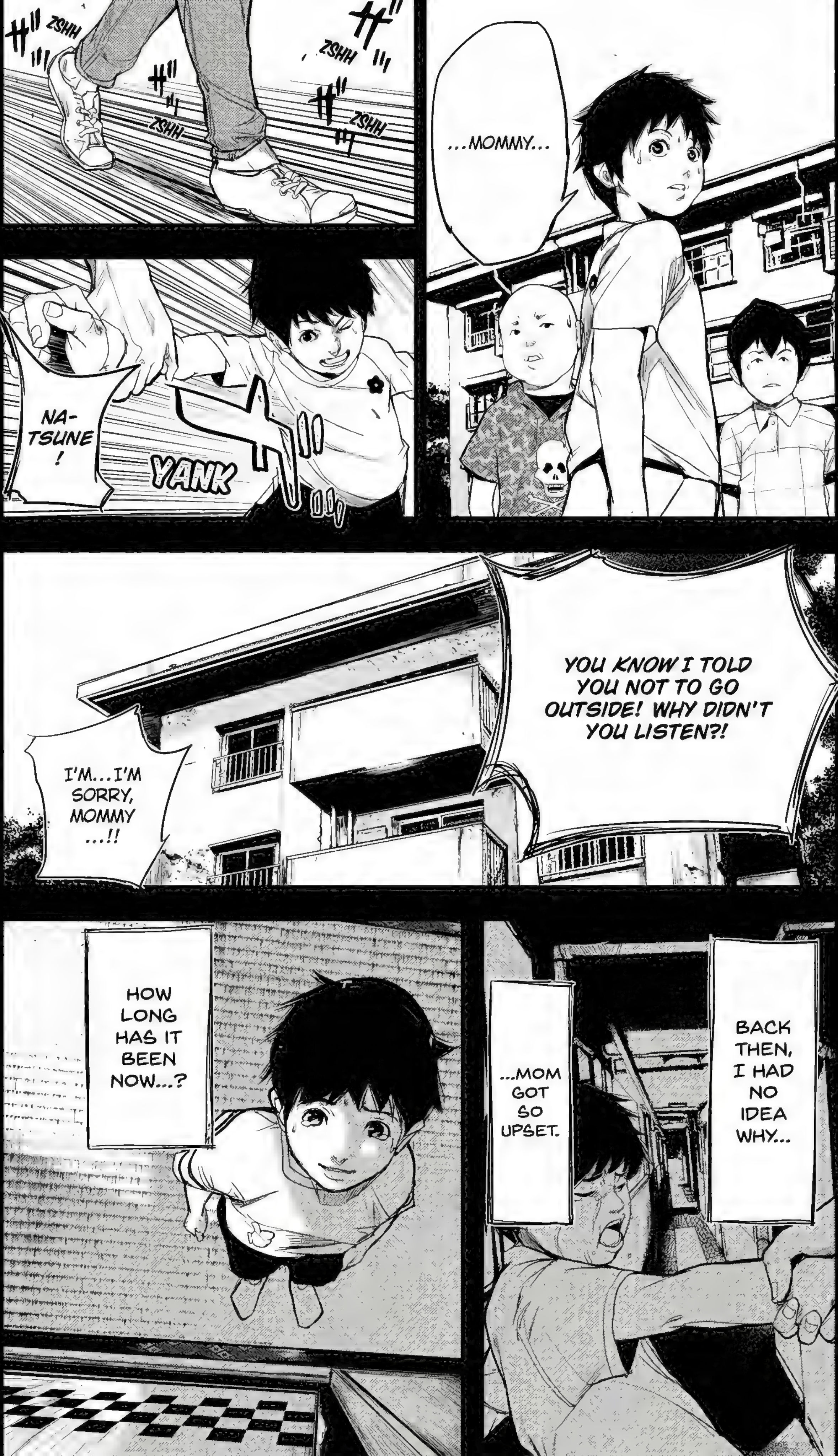

HEY, MOMMY ...
YES, DEAR?
...WHEN DO I GET TO GO TO GRADE SCHOOL?
PREMIUM SCHOOL BACKPACKS
¥30,000 EACH
CLICK
REMEMBER WHAT THE PRINCIPAL TOLD MOMMY, DEAR? "NATSUNE-KUN'S A SMART LITTLE BOY. HE DOESN'T NEED TO GO TO SCHOOL!"
...
REALLY?
I MEAN, LOOK HOW GOOD YOU ARE AT DRAWING PICTURES! AND YOU KNOW HOW TO WRITE, TOO!
NATSUNE
MAMA

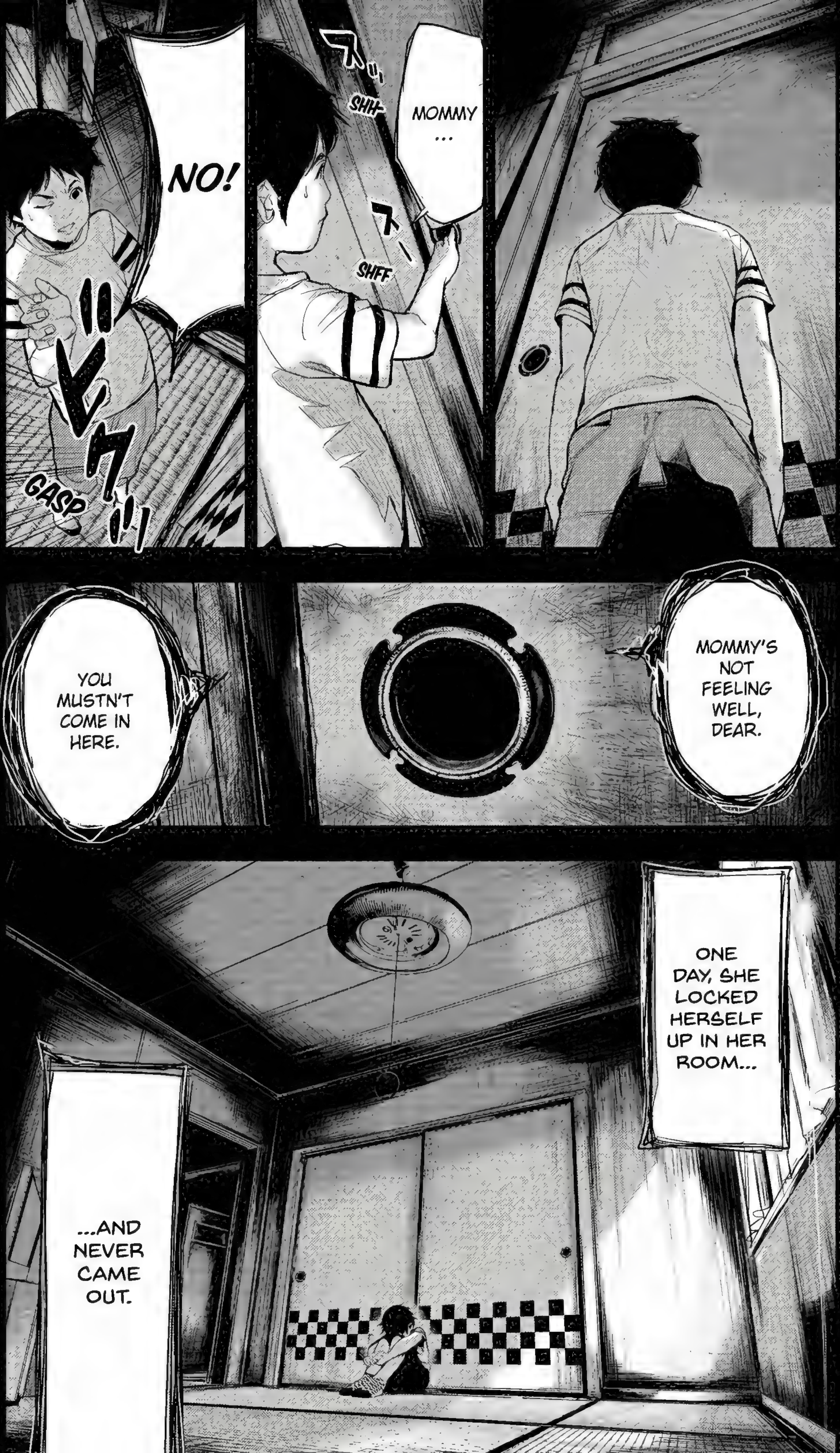

MOMMY'S HERE TO TEACH YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW.
DOESN'T THAT SOUND NICE, NATSUNE?
YEAH!
VROOM VROOOM! HERE COMES THE CAR!
HERE COMES THE CAR!

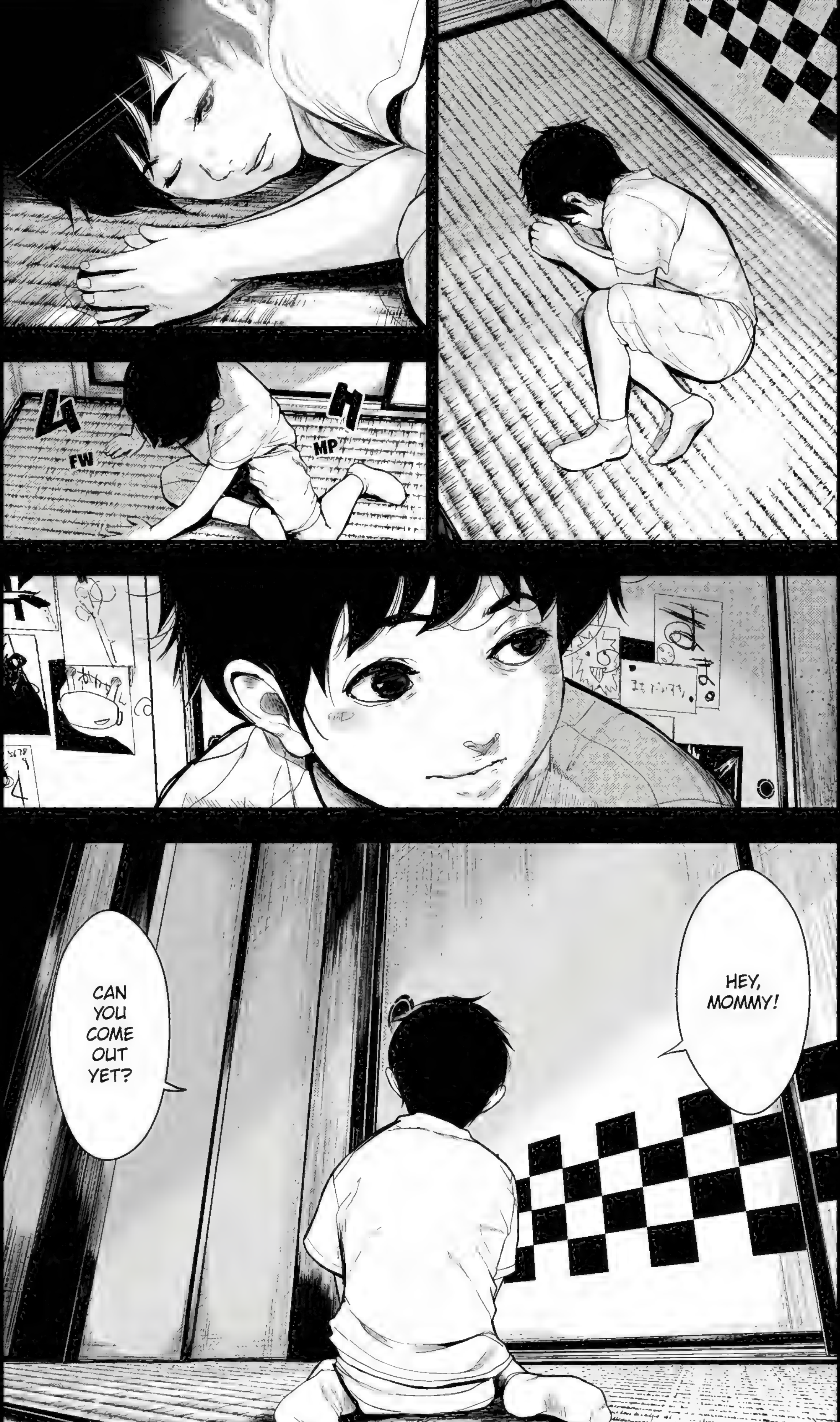

TAP
AH HA HA HA
キャ
EEK!
RUN FOR IT!
AH HA HA HA
Happy
HEY!
ワー
RAHH
キャー
EEK

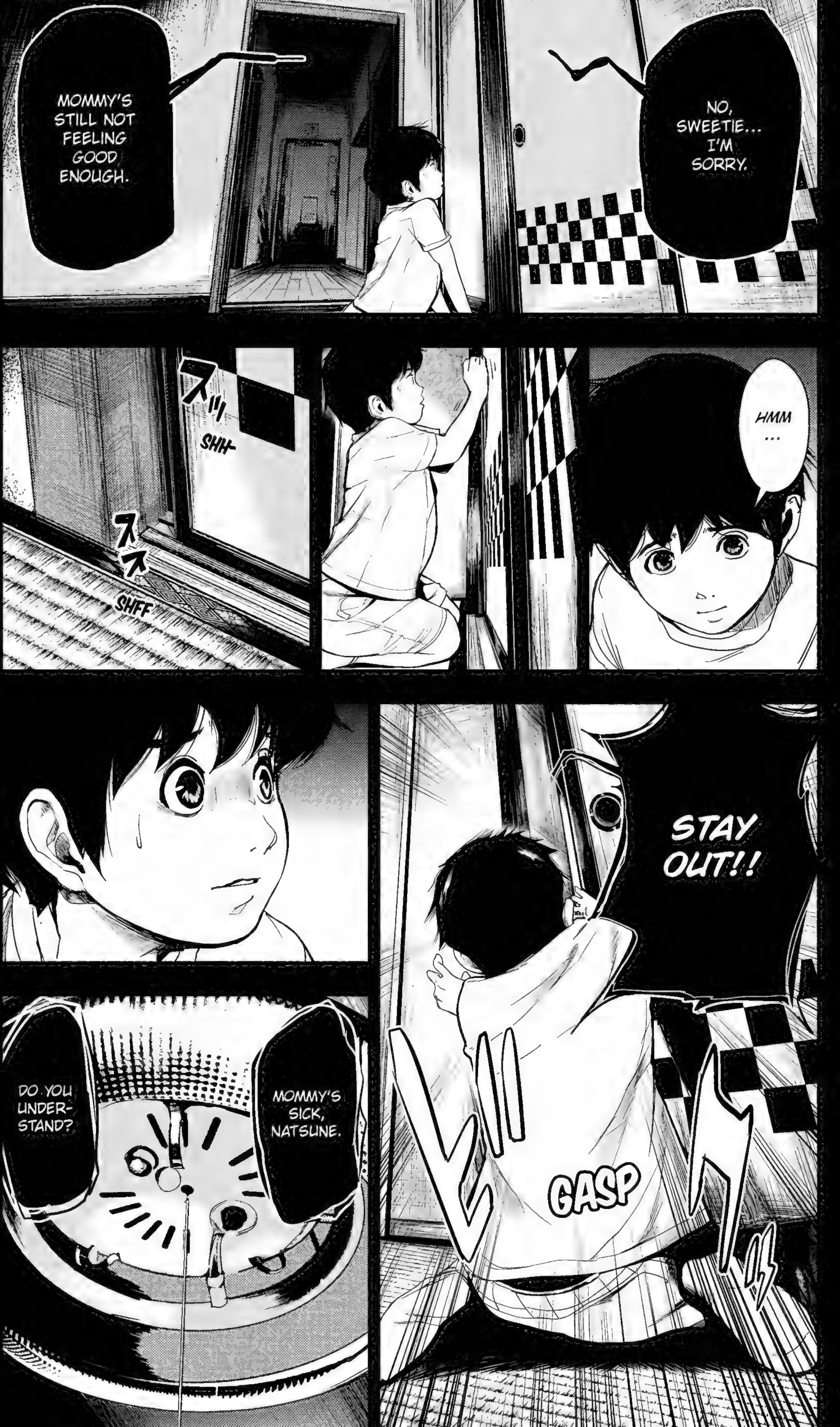

WHO ARE YOU?
DO YOU LIVE IN THIS BUILDING?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
NATSUNE...
YEAH? HOW OLD ARE YOU?
HOW OLD?
YEAH, YOU KNOW! HOW MANY YEARS?
I'M FIVE.
I'M SIX!

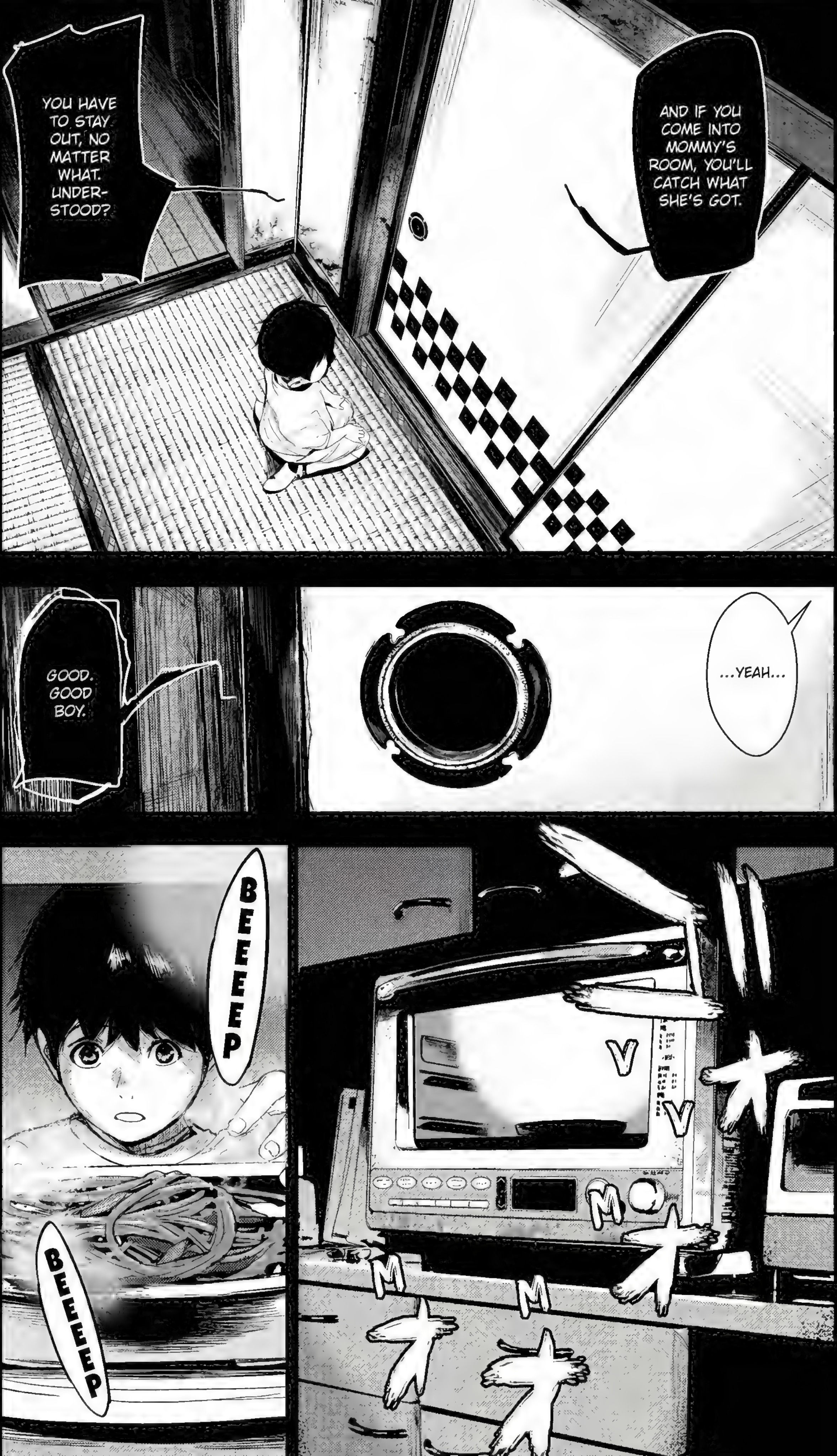

I'M TWO!
PFF
IS THIS KID STUPID OR SOMETHING?!
LOOK HOW BIG YOU ARE!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE TWO!
HUH...?
BUT I AM! I SWEAR!!
ARE NOT, YOU WEIRDO!
ZSHH
I'M NOT A WEIRDO!
NATSUNE!!
GASP

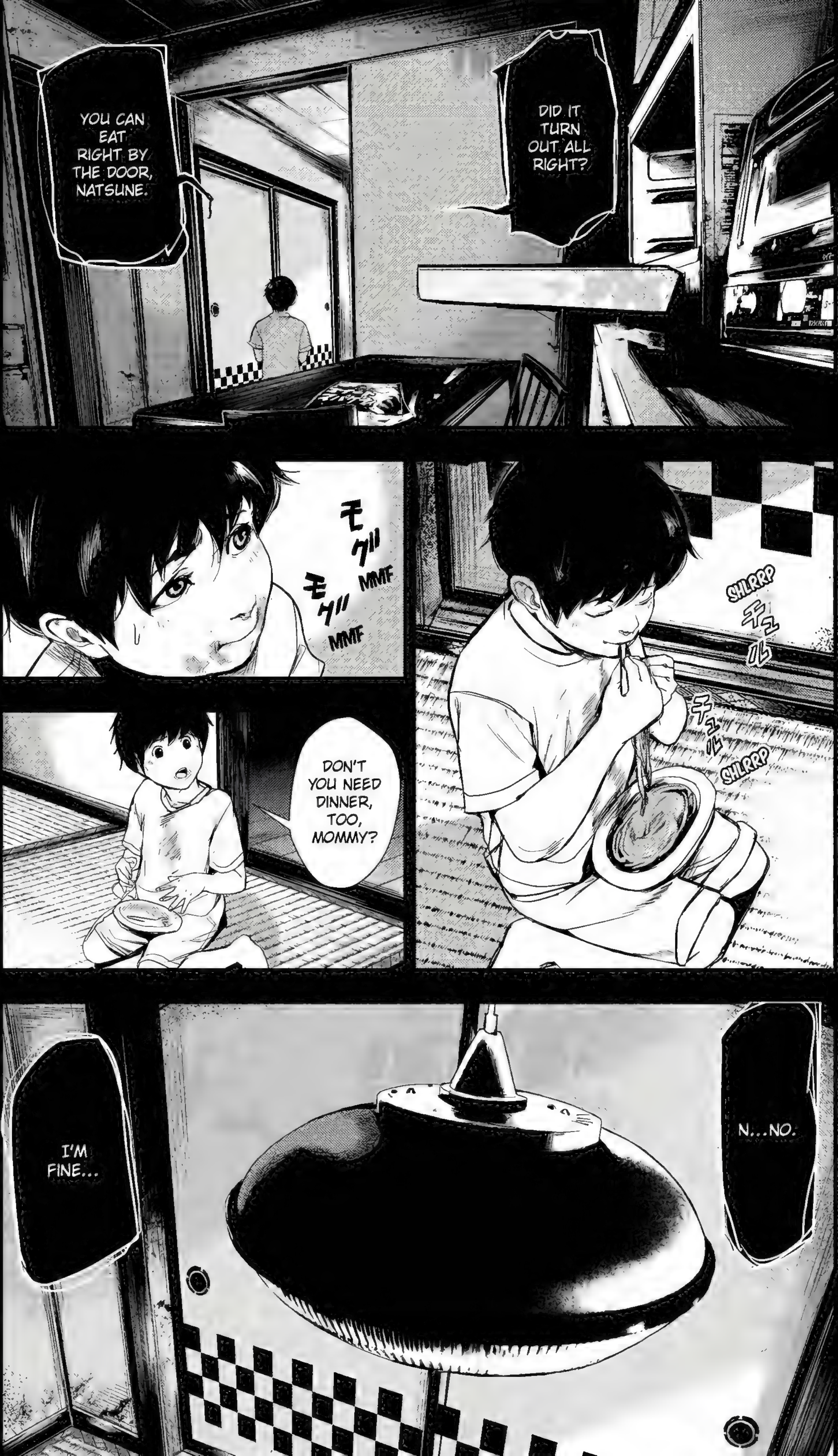

...MOMMY...
ZSHH
ZSHH
ZSHH
ZSHH
NA-TSUNE!
YANK
YOU KNOW I TOLD YOU NOT TO GO OUTSIDE! WHY DIDN'T YOU LISTEN?!
I'M...I'M SORRY, MOMMY...!!
BACK THEN, I HAD NO IDEA WHY...
...MOM GOT SO UPSET.
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN NOW...?

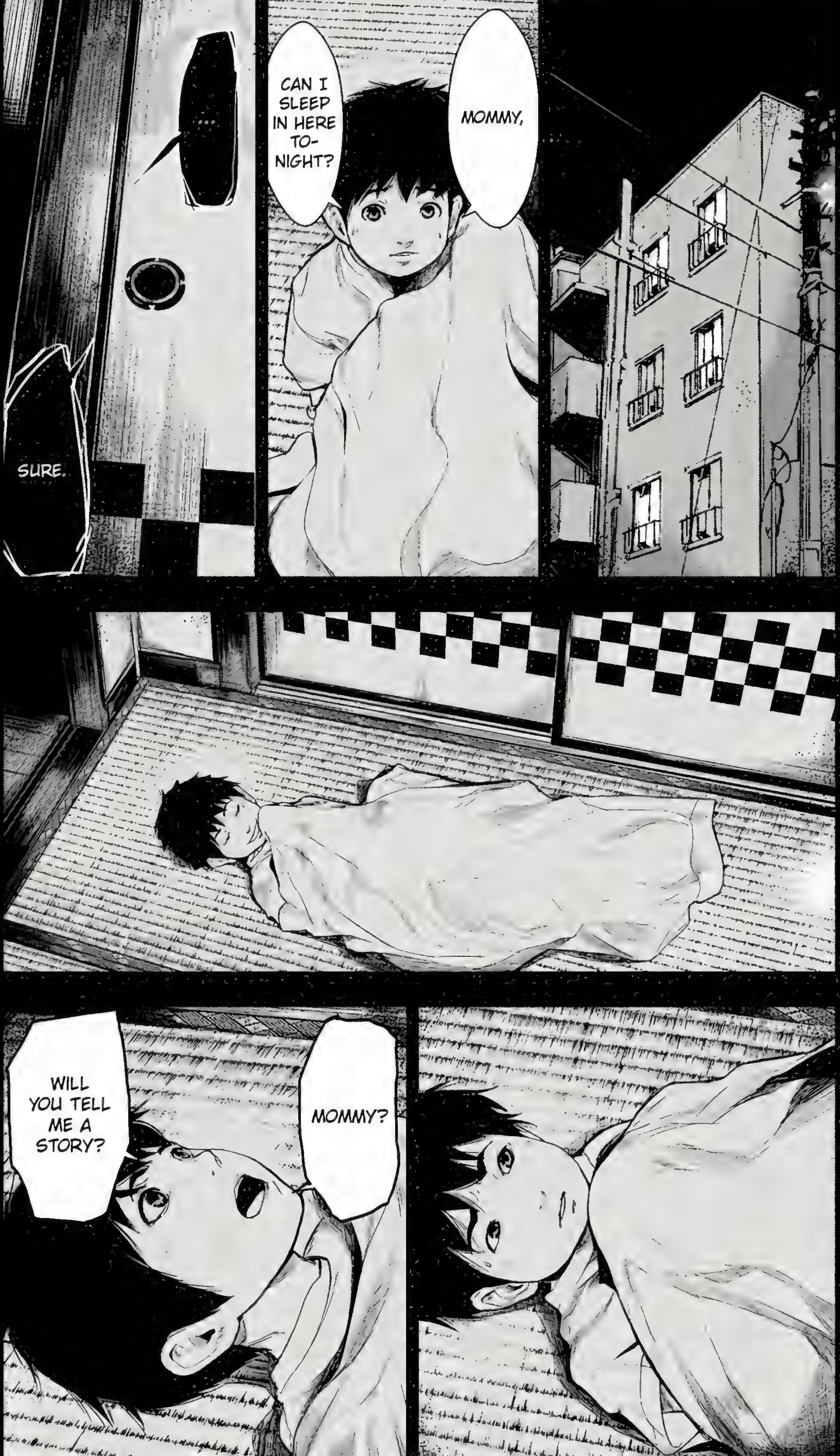

スッ
SHH
MOMMY...
スッ
SHFF
NO!
ビクッ
GASP
MOMMY'S NOT FEELING WELL, DEAR.
YOU MUSTN'T COME IN HERE.
ONE DAY, SHE LOCKED HERSELF UP IN HER ROOM...
...AND NEVER CAME OUT.

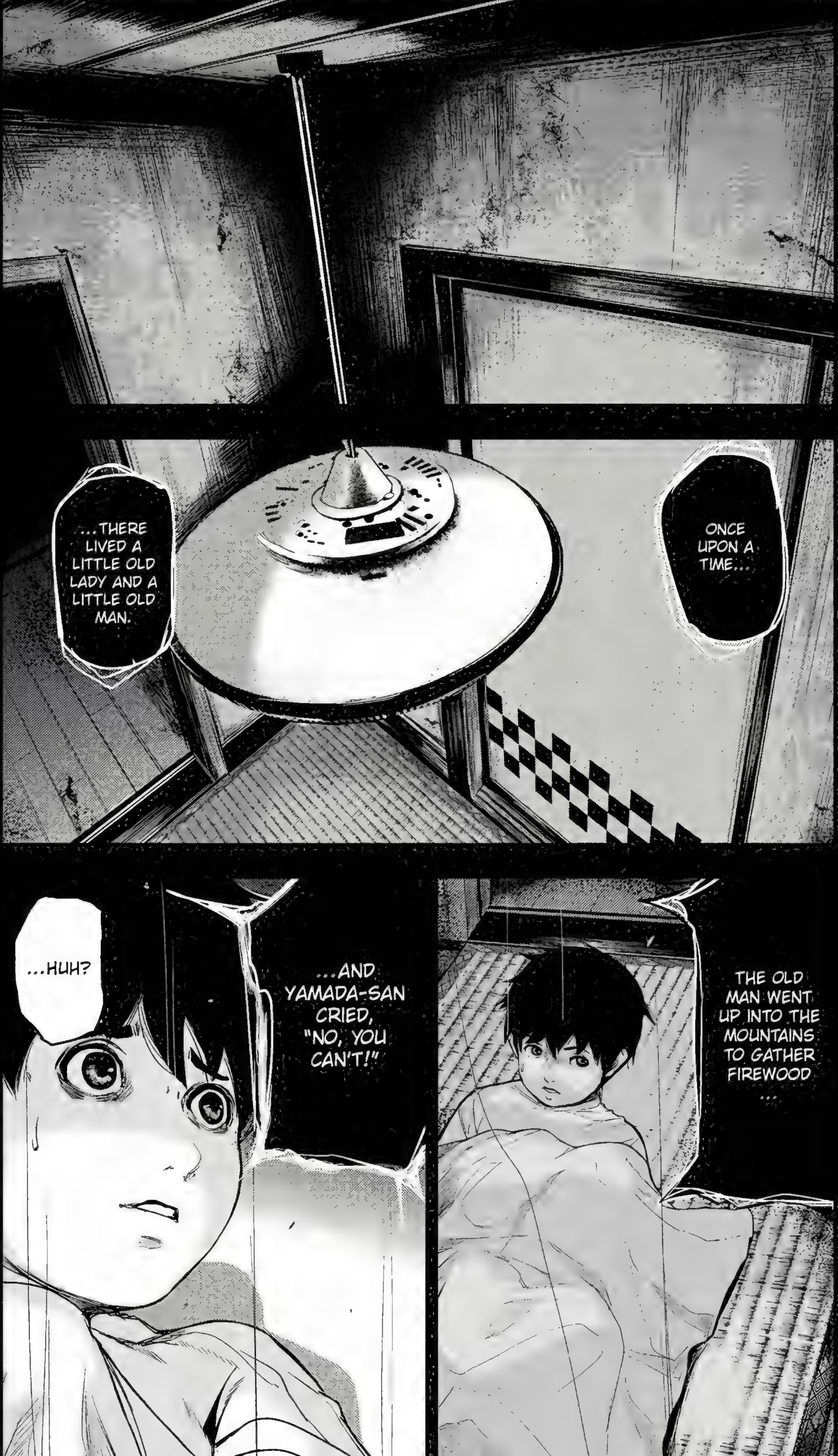

ムク
FW
MP
まま
HEY, MOMMY!
CAN YOU COME OUT YET?

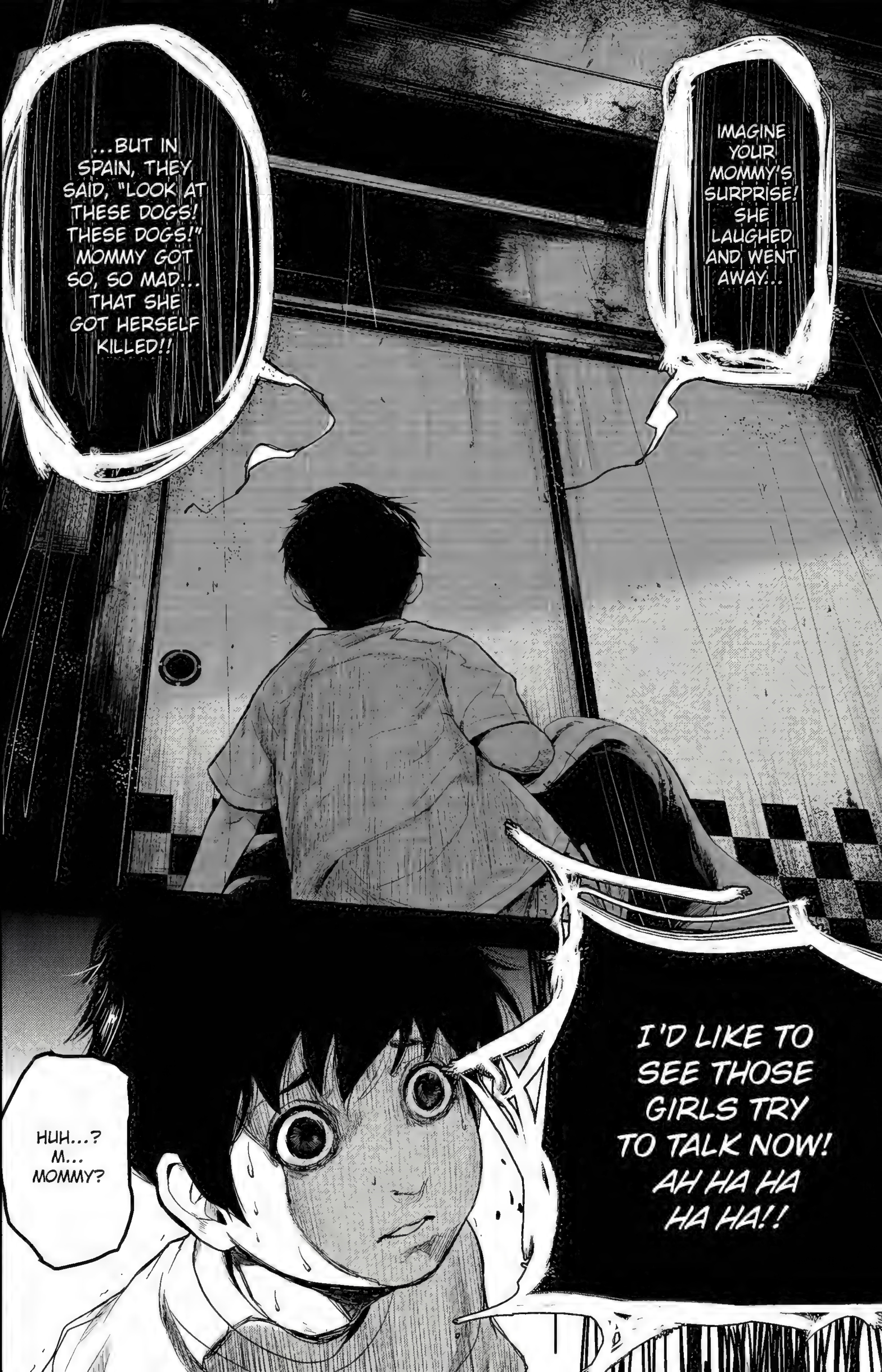

NO, SWEETIE... I'M SORRY.
MOMMY'S STILL NOT FEELING GOOD ENOUGH.
HMM...
SHH-
SHFF
STAY OUT!!
GASP
MOMMY'S SICK, NATSUNE.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

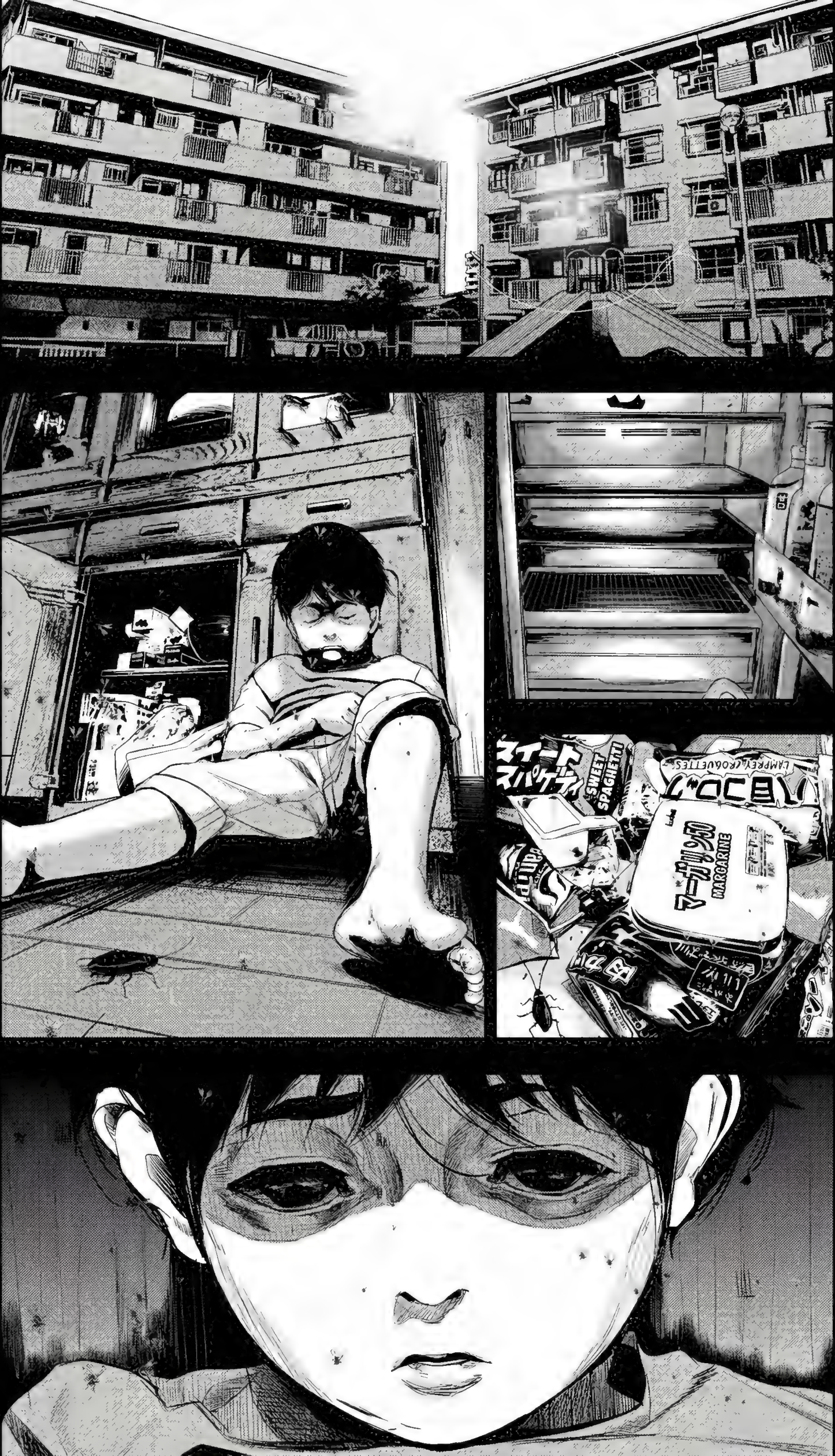

AND IF YOU COME INTO MOMMY'S ROOM, YOU'LL CATCH WHAT SHE'S GOT.
YOU HAVE TO STAY OUT, NO MATTER WHAT. UNDERSTOOD?
...YEAH...
GOOD. GOOD BOY.
VVMMMM
BEEEEEP
BEEEEEP

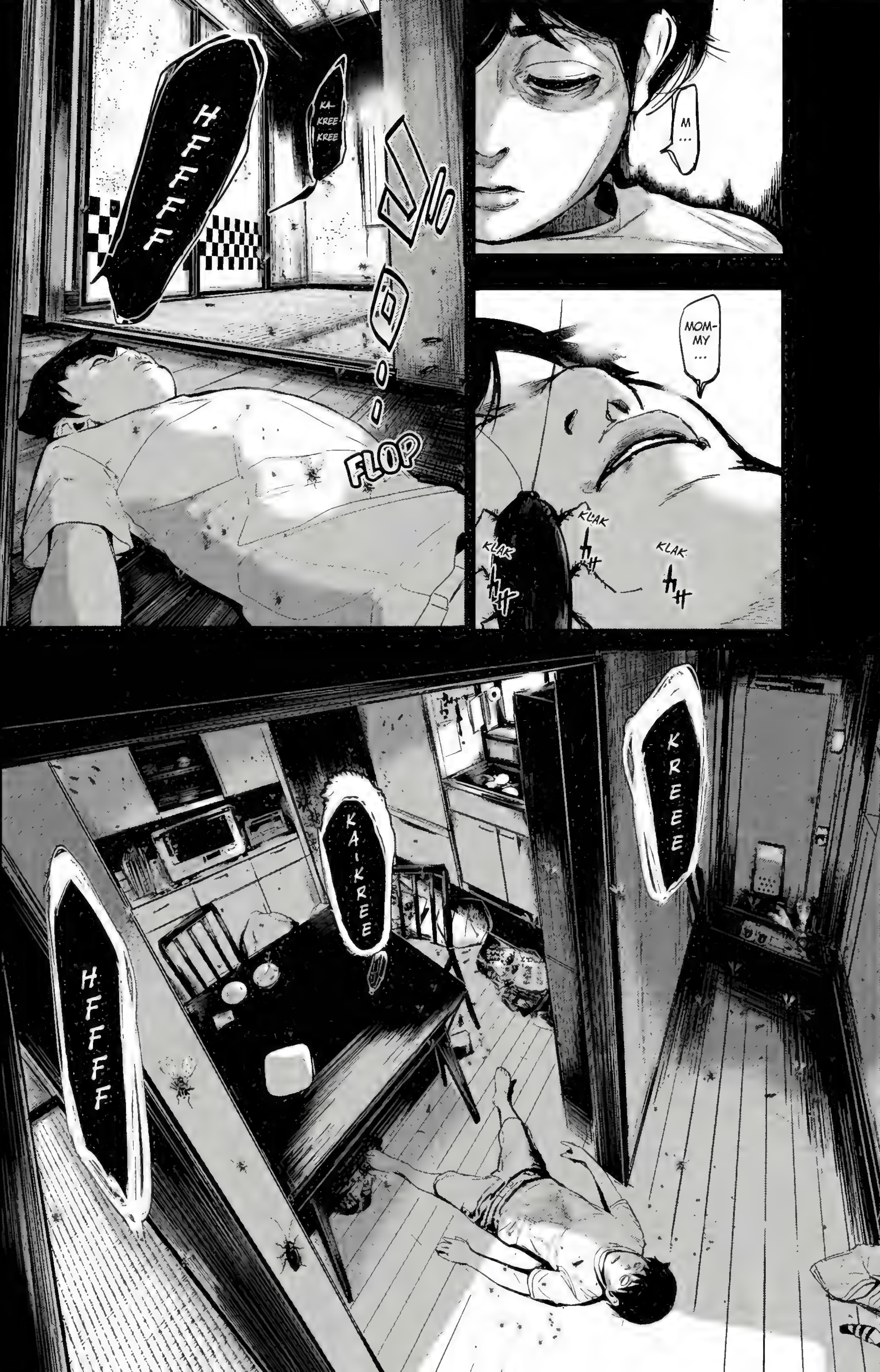

DID IT TURN OUT ALL RIGHT?
YOU CAN EAT RIGHT BY THE DOOR, NATSUNE.
SHLRRP
チュル
チュル
SHLRRP
モグ MMF
モグ MMF
DON'T YOU NEED DINNER, TOO, MOMMY?
N...NO.
I'M FINE...

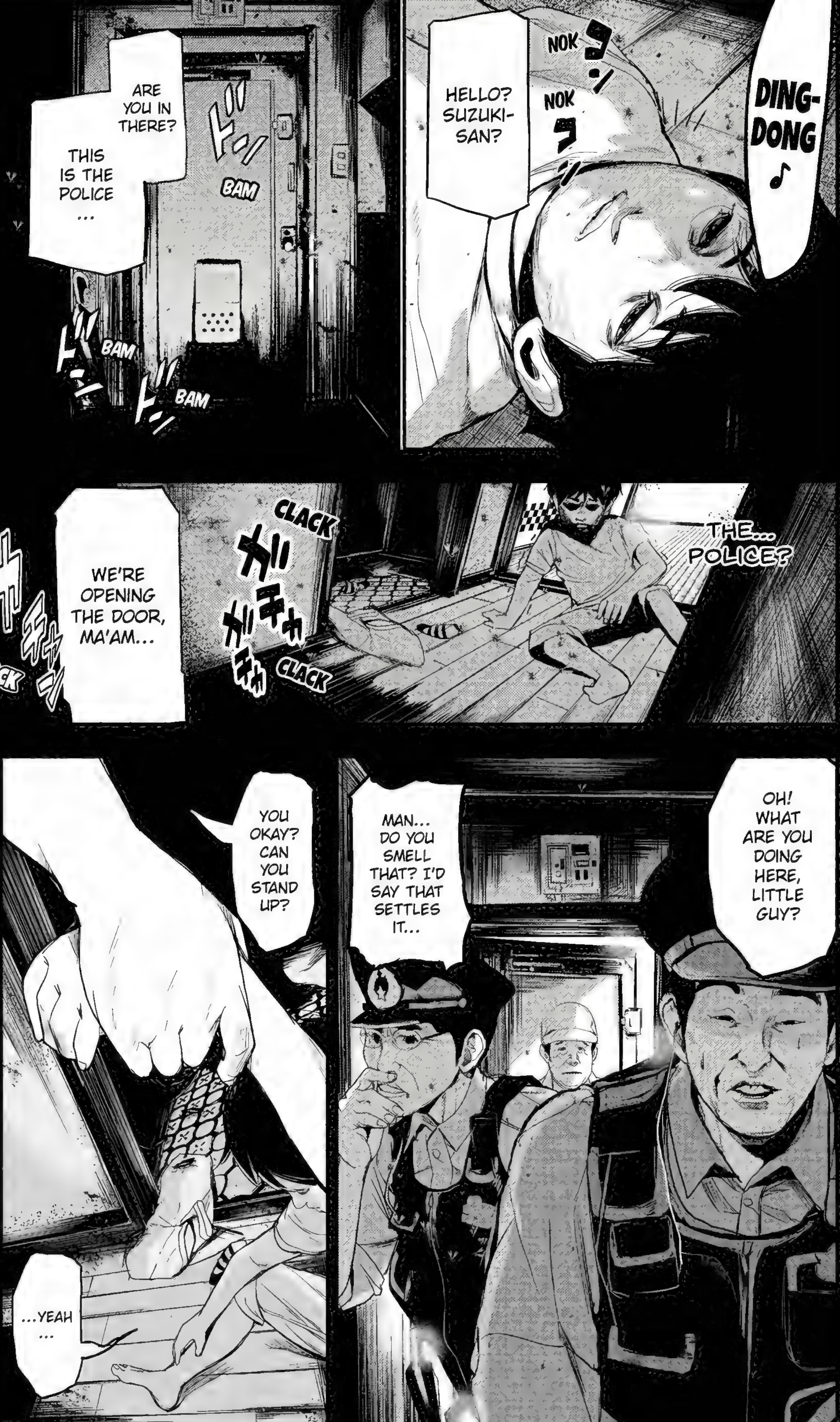

MOMMY,
CAN I SLEEP IN HERE TONIGHT?
SURE.
MOMMY?
WILL YOU TELL ME A STORY?

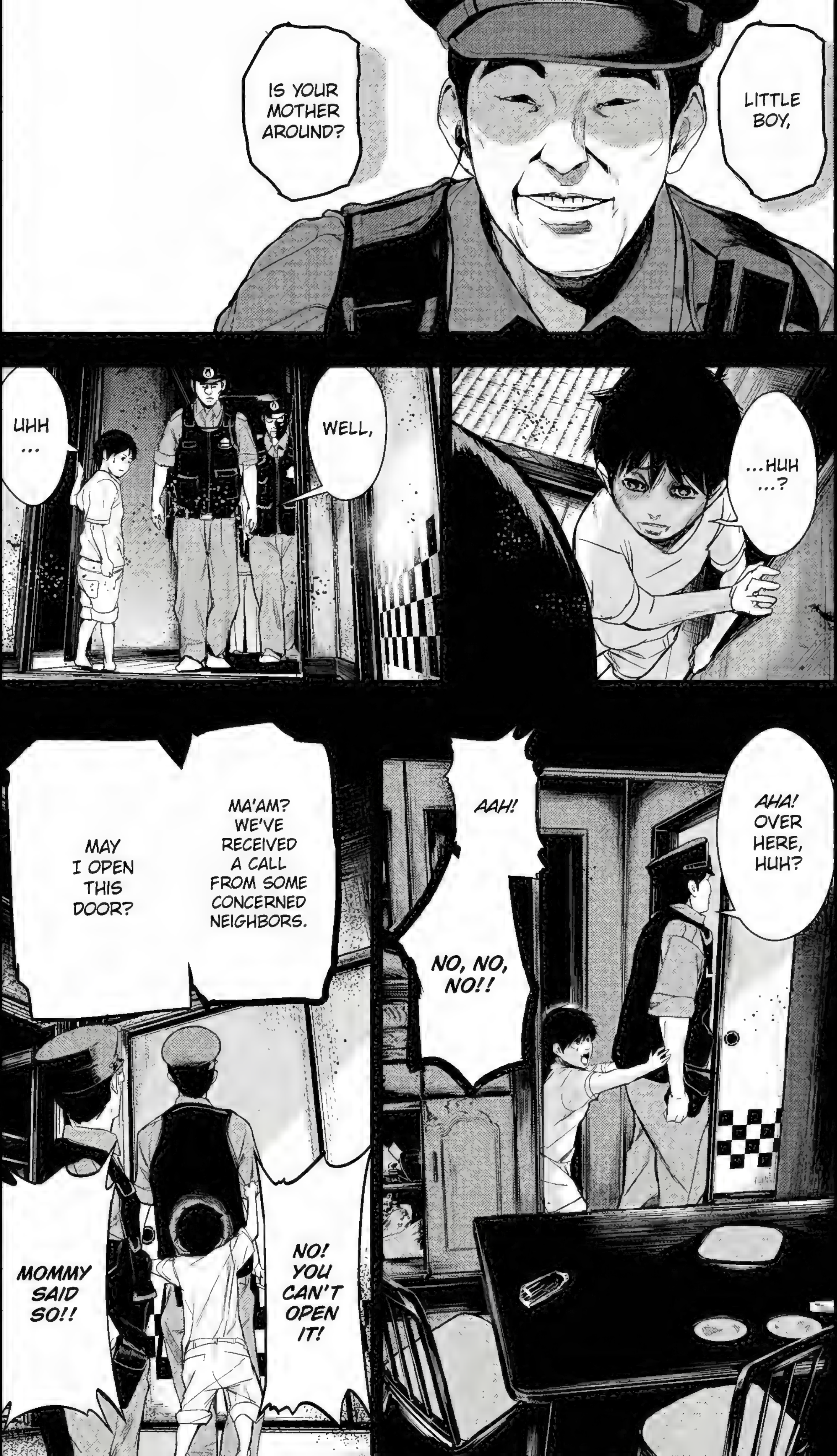

ONCE UPON A TIME...
...THERE LIVED A LITTLE OLD LADY AND A LITTLE OLD MAN.
THE OLD MAN WENT UP INTO THE MOUNTAINS TO GATHER FIREWOOD...
...AND YAMADA-SAN CRIED, "NO, YOU CAN'T!"
...HUH?

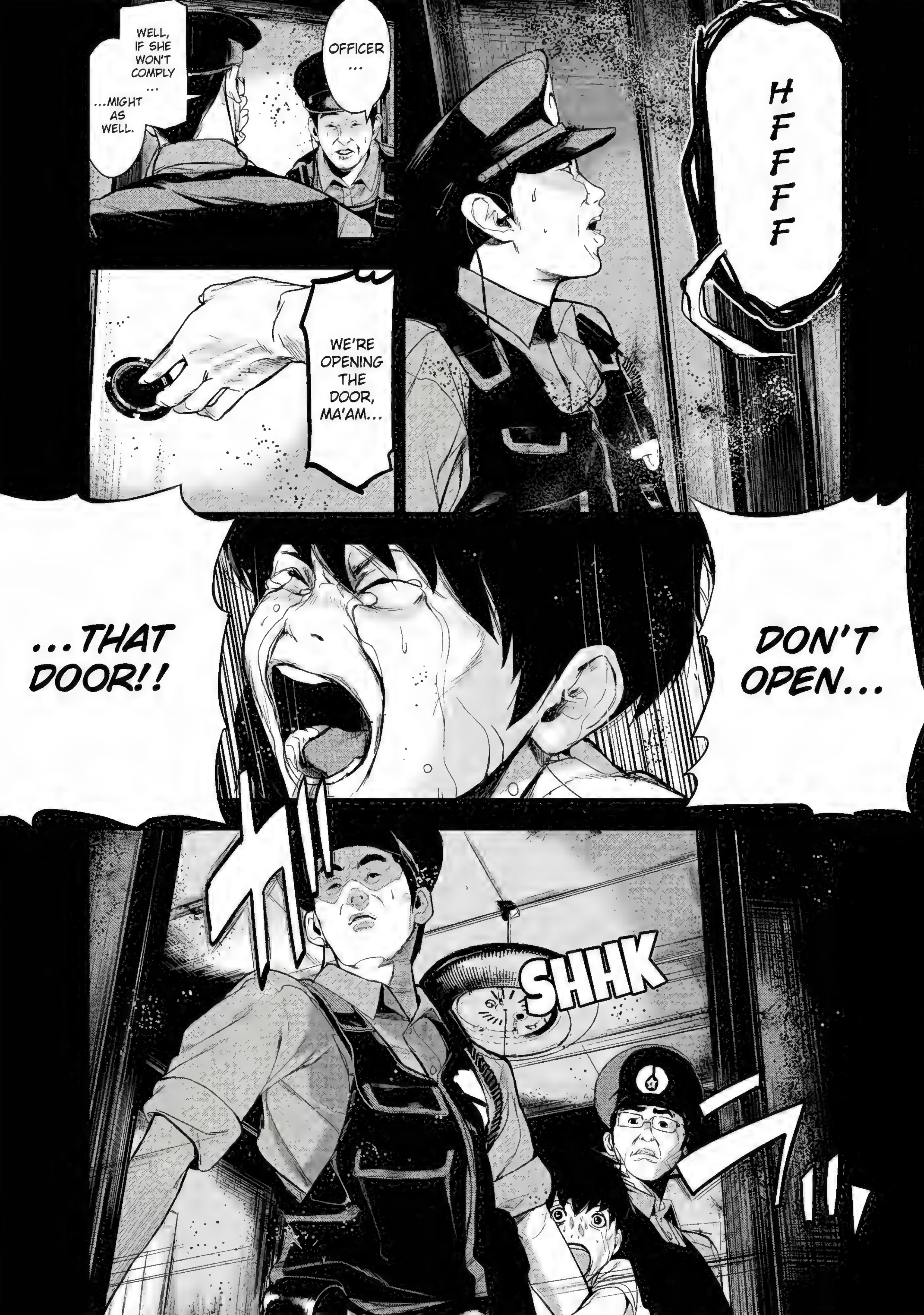

IMAGINE YOUR MOMMY'S SURPRISE! SHE LAUGHED AND WENT AWAY...
...BUT IN SPAIN, THEY SAID, "LOOK AT THESE DOGS! THESE DOGS!" MOMMY GOT SO, SO MAD... THAT SHE GOT HERSELF KILLED!!
I'D LIKE TO SEE THOSE GIRLS TRY TO TALK NOW! AH HA HA HA HA!!
HUH...? M... MOMMY?

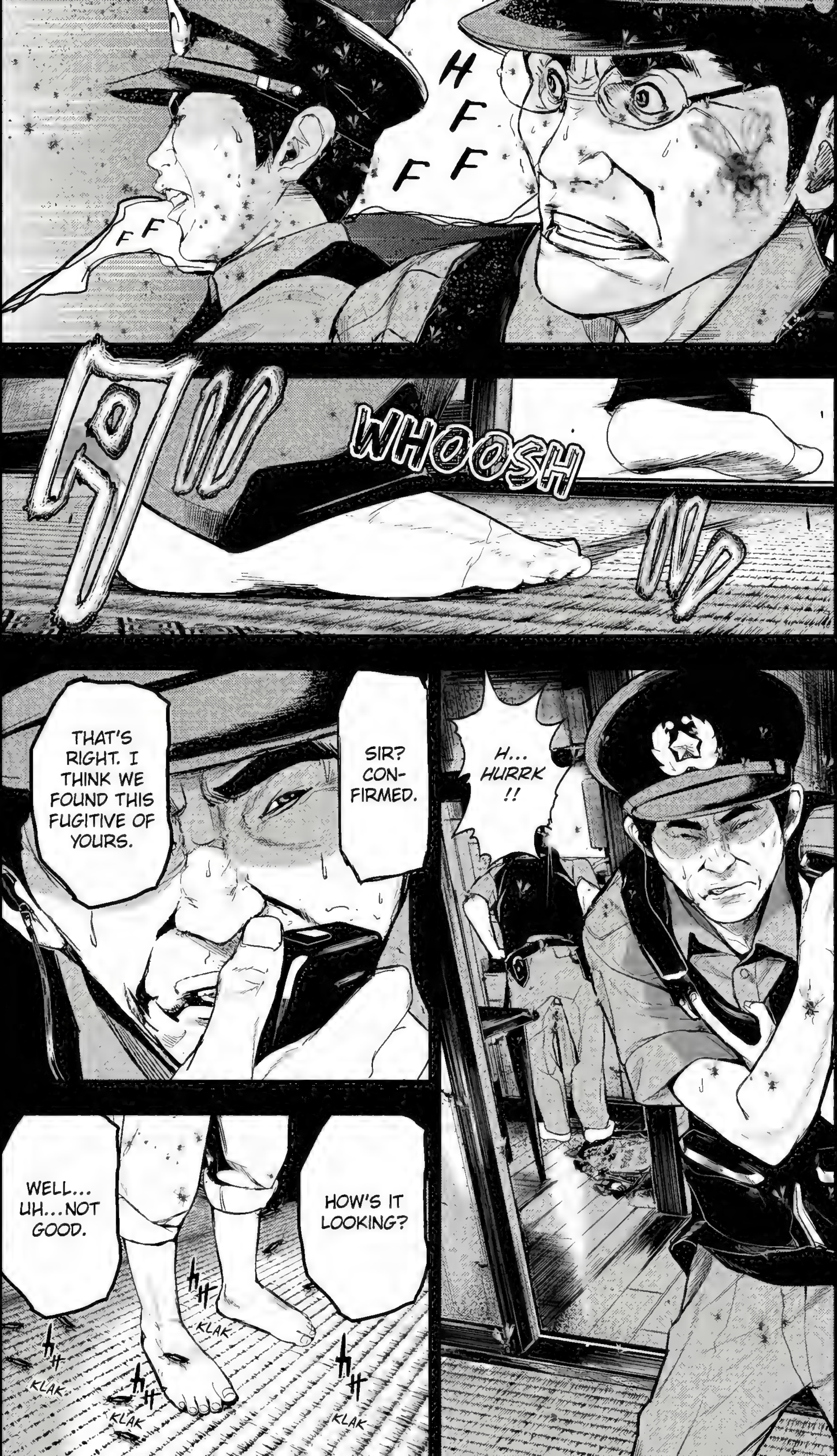

スイートスパゲティ
SWEET SPAGHETTI
LAMPREY CROQUETTES
マーガリン50
MARGARINE

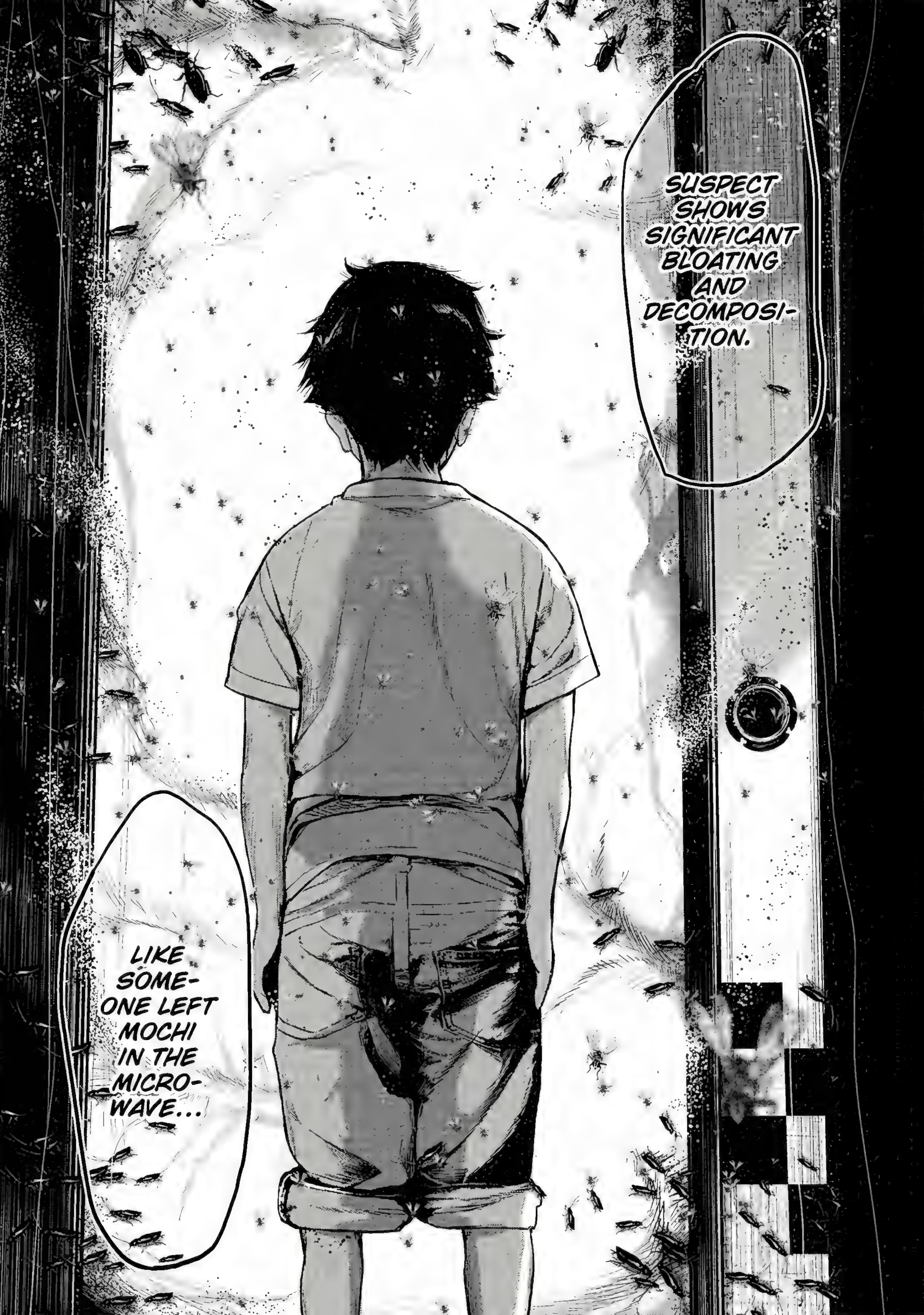

M…
MOM-MY…
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KA-KREE-KREE
HFFFFF
FLOP
KREEE
KAIKREE
HFFFF

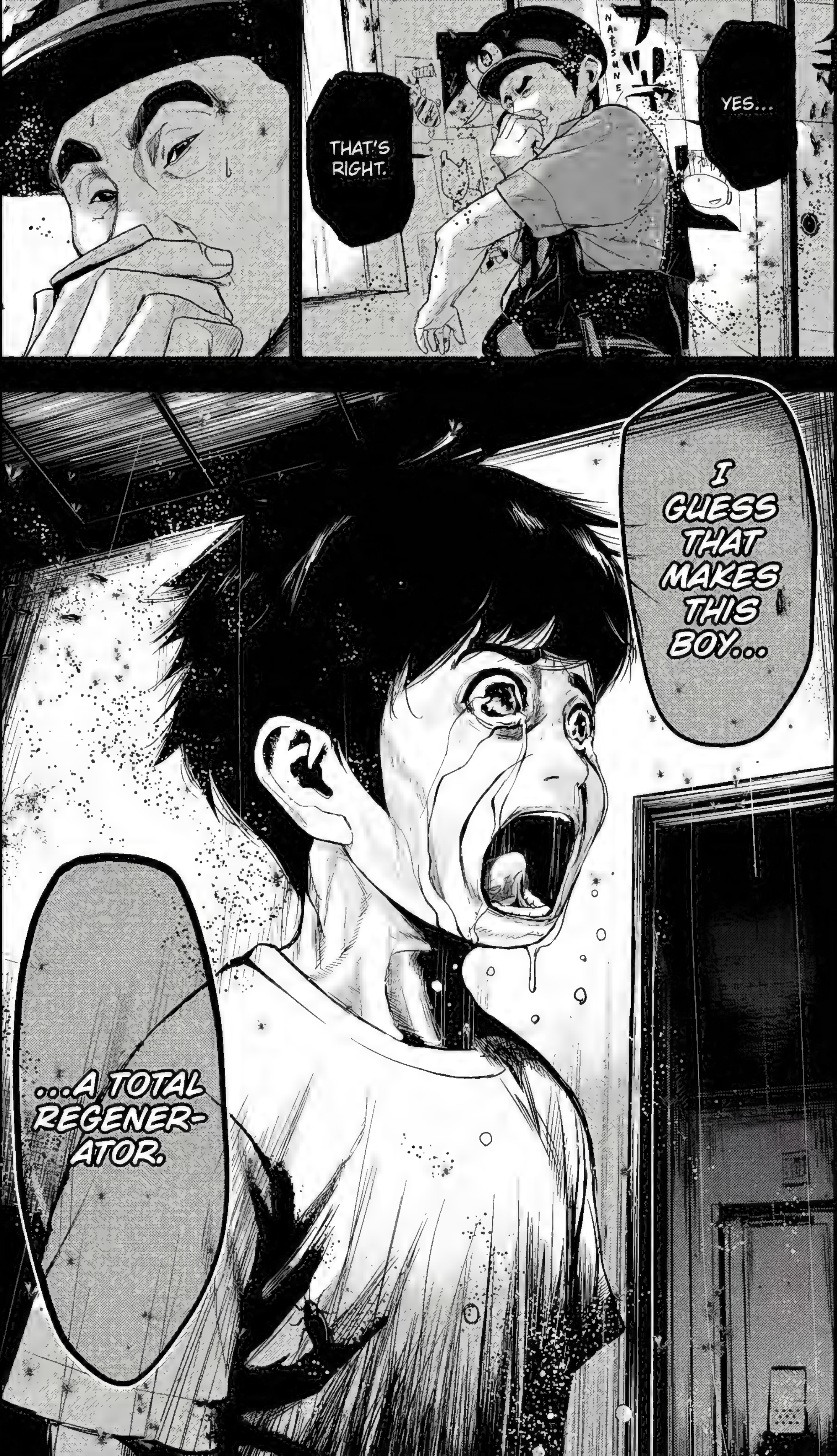

DING-DONG ♪
NOK NOK
HELLO? SUZUKI-SAN?
BAM BAM BAM
ARE YOU IN THERE?
THIS IS THE POLICE …
THE… POLICE?
CLACK CLACK CLACK
WE'RE OPENING THE DOOR, MA'AM…
OH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, LITTLE GUY?
MAN… DO YOU SMELL THAT? I'D SAY THAT SETTLES IT…
YOU OKAY? CAN YOU STAND UP?
…YEAH …

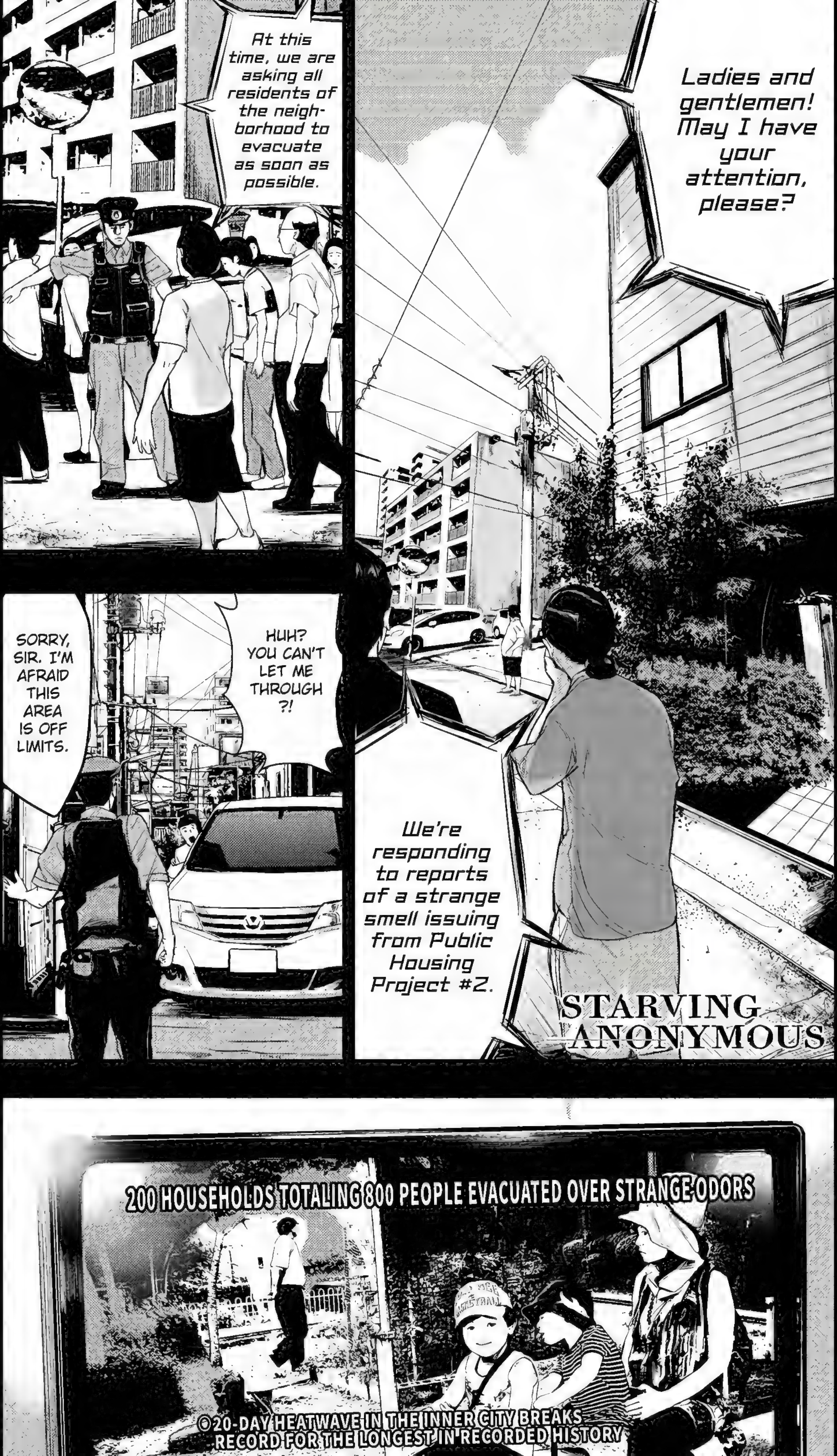

LITTLE BOY,
IS YOUR MOTHER AROUND?
...HUH ...?
WELL,
UHH ...
AHA! OVER HERE, HUH?
AAH!
NO, NO, NO!!
MA'AM? WE'VE RECEIVED A CALL FROM SOME CONCERNED NEIGHBORS.
MAY I OPEN THIS DOOR?
NO! YOU CAN'T OPEN IT!
MOMMY SAID SO!!


OFFICER...
WELL, IF SHE WON'T COMPLY... ...MIGHT AS WELL.
WE'RE OPENING THE DOOR, MA'AM...
HFFFF
DON'T OPEN...
...THAT DOOR!!
SHHK

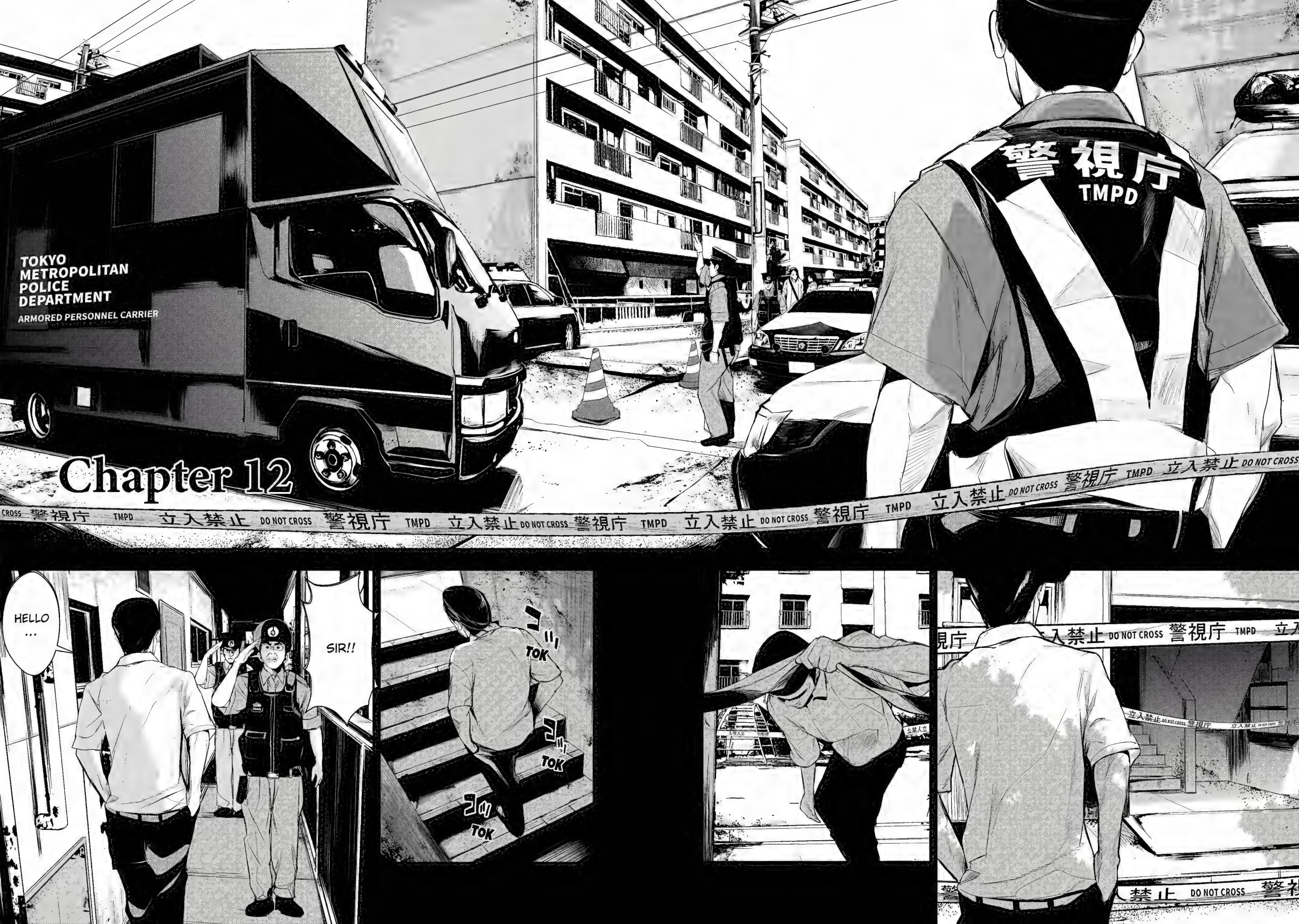

HFFF
FF
WHOOSH
H... HURRK!!
SIR? CONFIRMED.
THAT'S RIGHT. I THINK WE FOUND THIS FUGITIVE OF YOURS.
HOW'S IT LOOKING?
WELL... UH...NOT GOOD.
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK

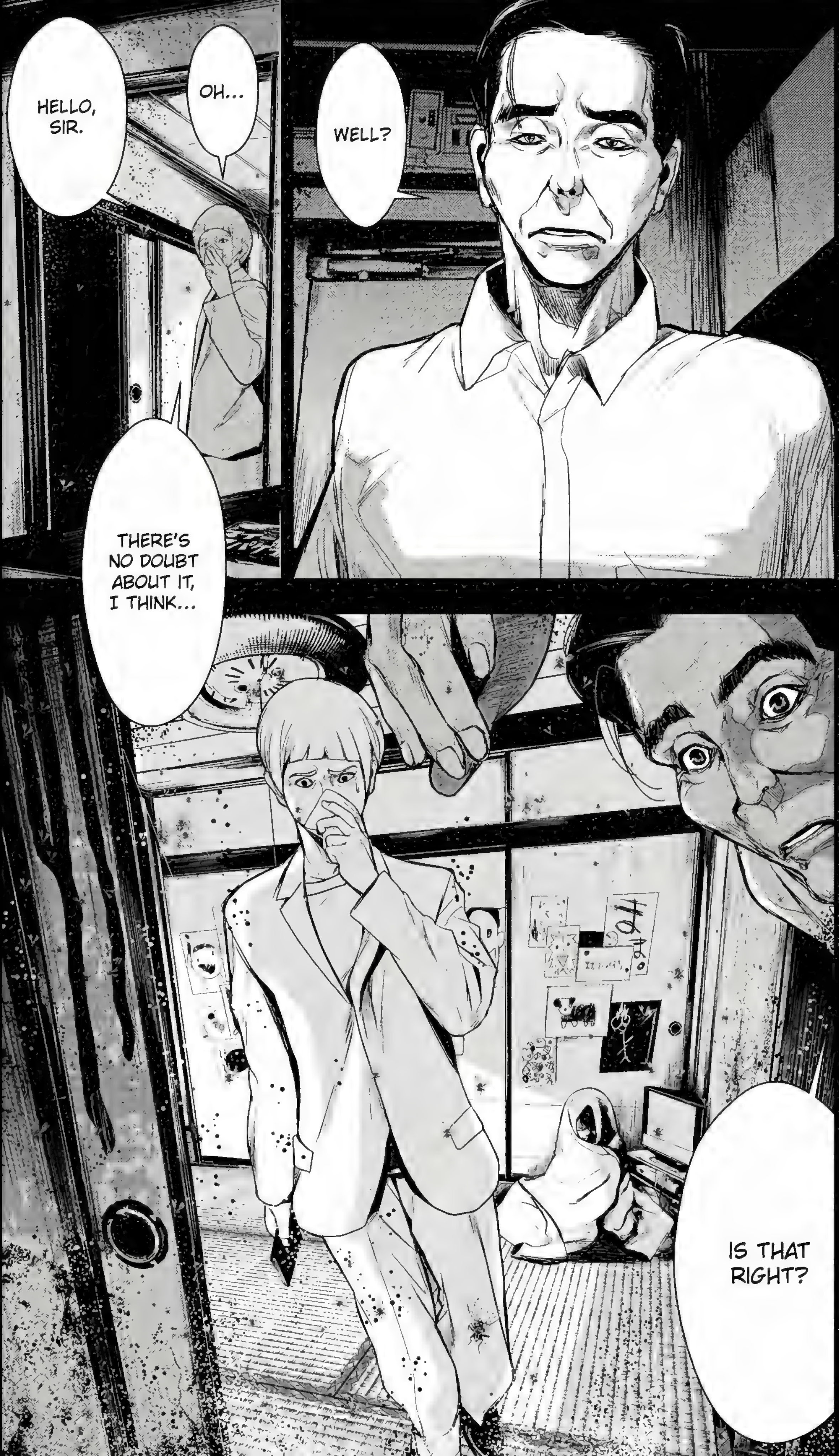

SUSPECT SHOWS SIGNIFICANT BLOATING AND DECOMPOSITION.
LIKE SOMEONE LEFT MOCHI IN THE MICROWAVE...

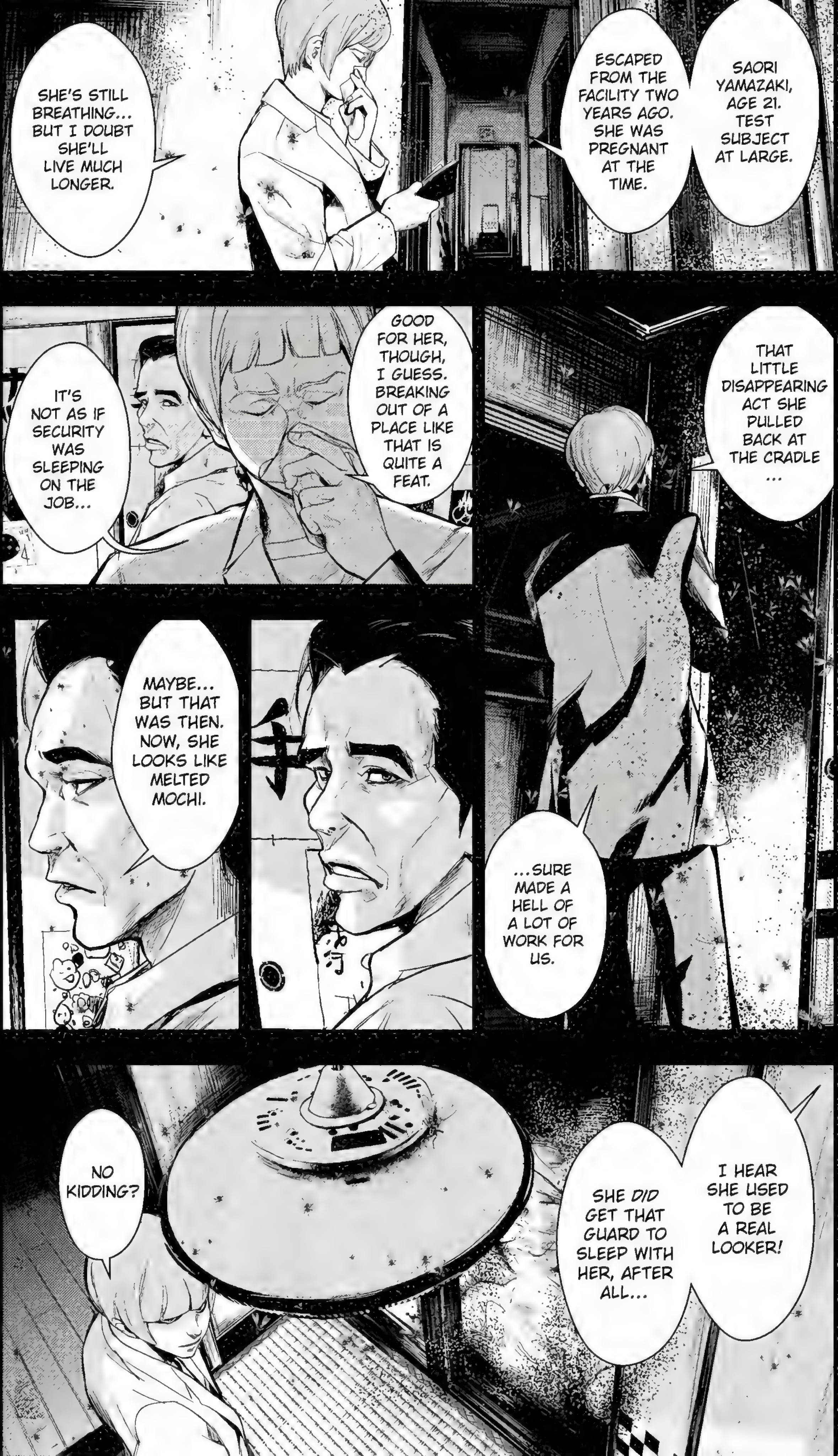

NATSUNE
YES...
THAT'S RIGHT.
I GUESS THAT MAKES THIS BOY...
...A TOTAL REGENERATOR.

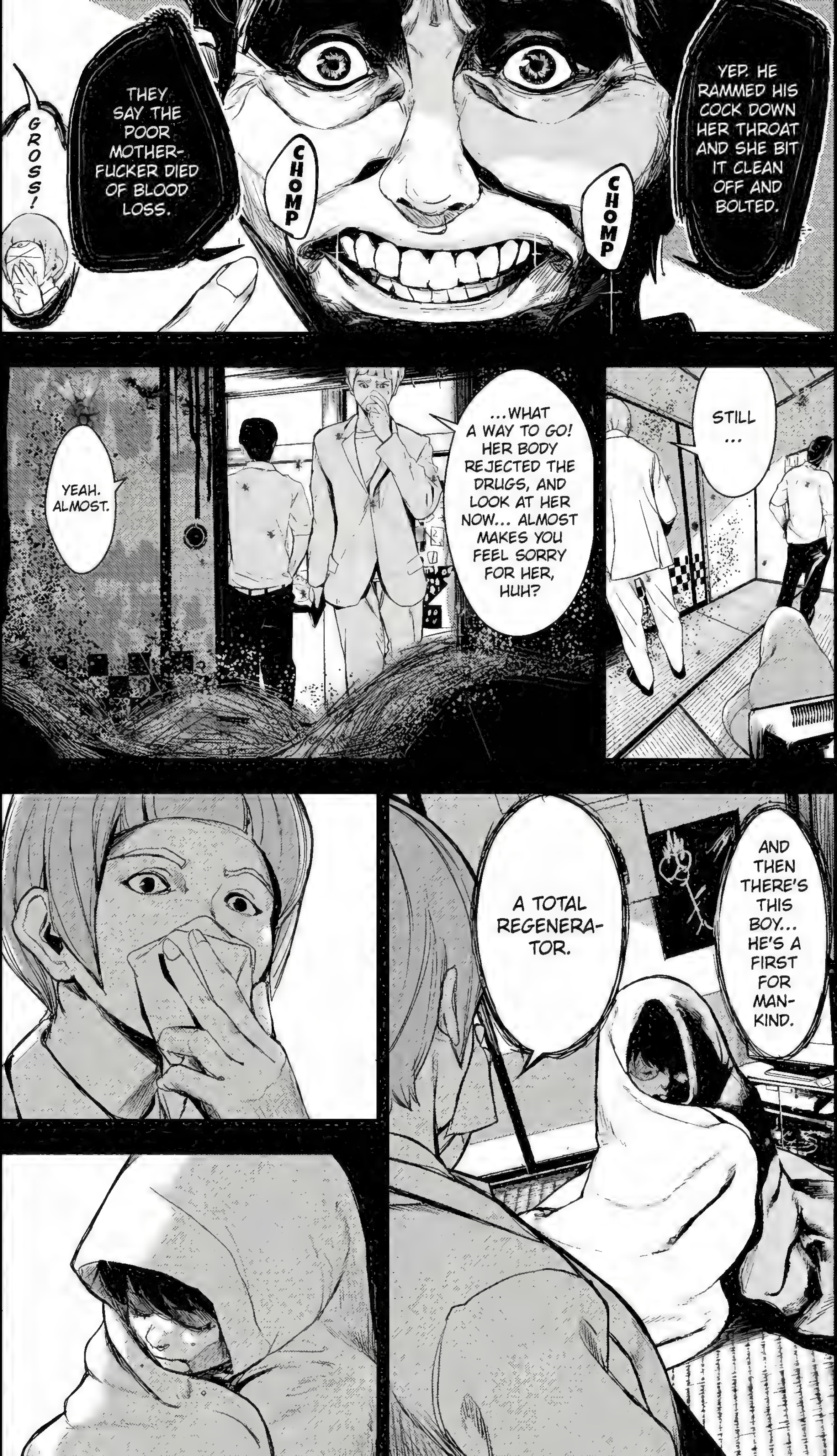

Ladies and gentlemen! May I have your attention, please?
We're responding to reports of a strange smell issuing from Public Housing Project #2.
At this time, we are asking all residents of the neighborhood to evacuate as soon as possible.
STARVING ANONYMOUS
HUH? YOU CAN'T LET ME THROUGH?!
SORRY, SIR. I'M AFRAID THIS AREA IS OFF LIMITS.
200 HOUSEHOLDS TOTALING 800 PEOPLE EVACUATED OVER STRANGE ODORS
©20-DAY HEATWAVE IN THE INNER CITY BREAKS RECORD FOR THE LONGEST IN RECORDED HISTORY

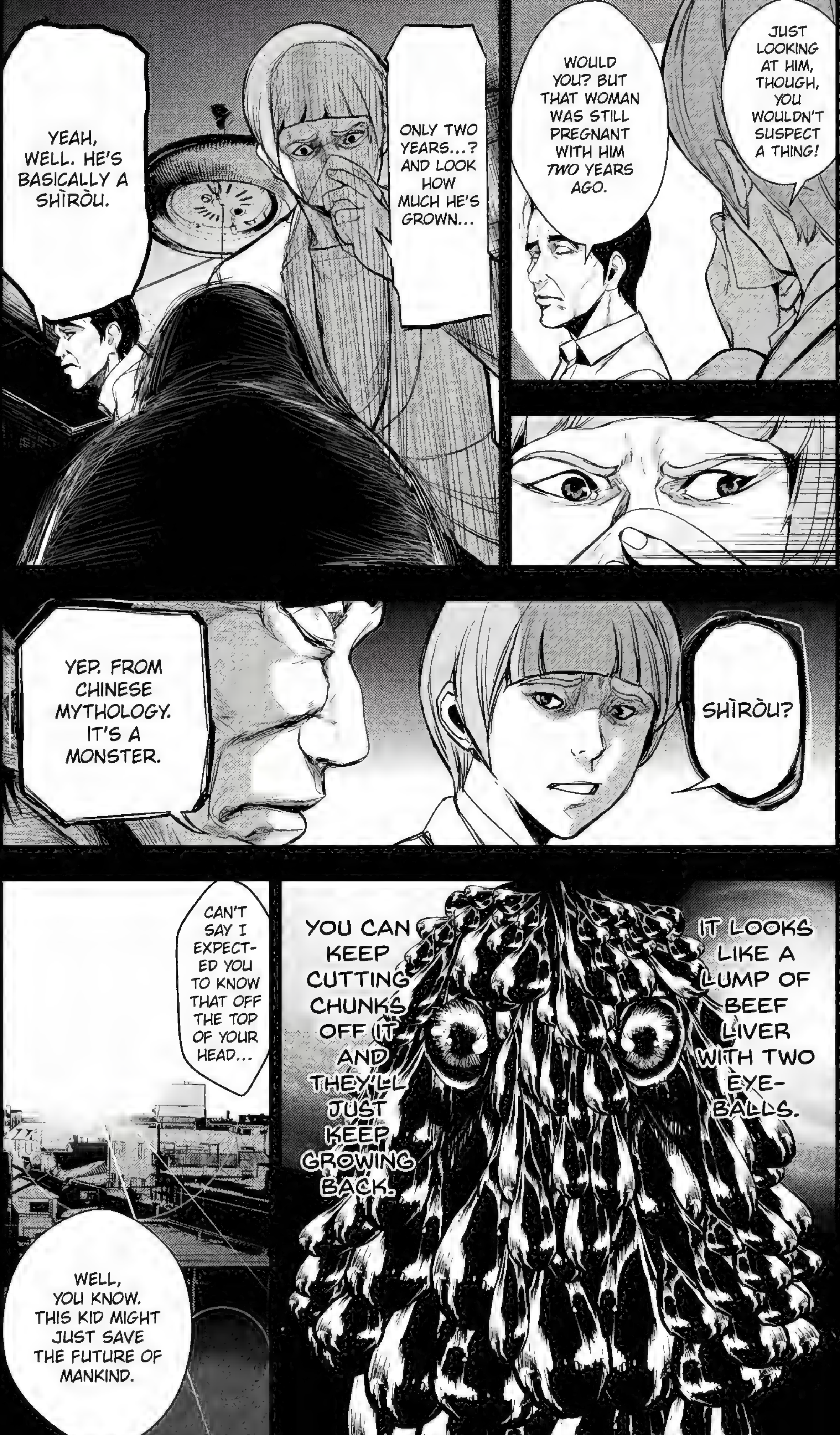
Chapter 12

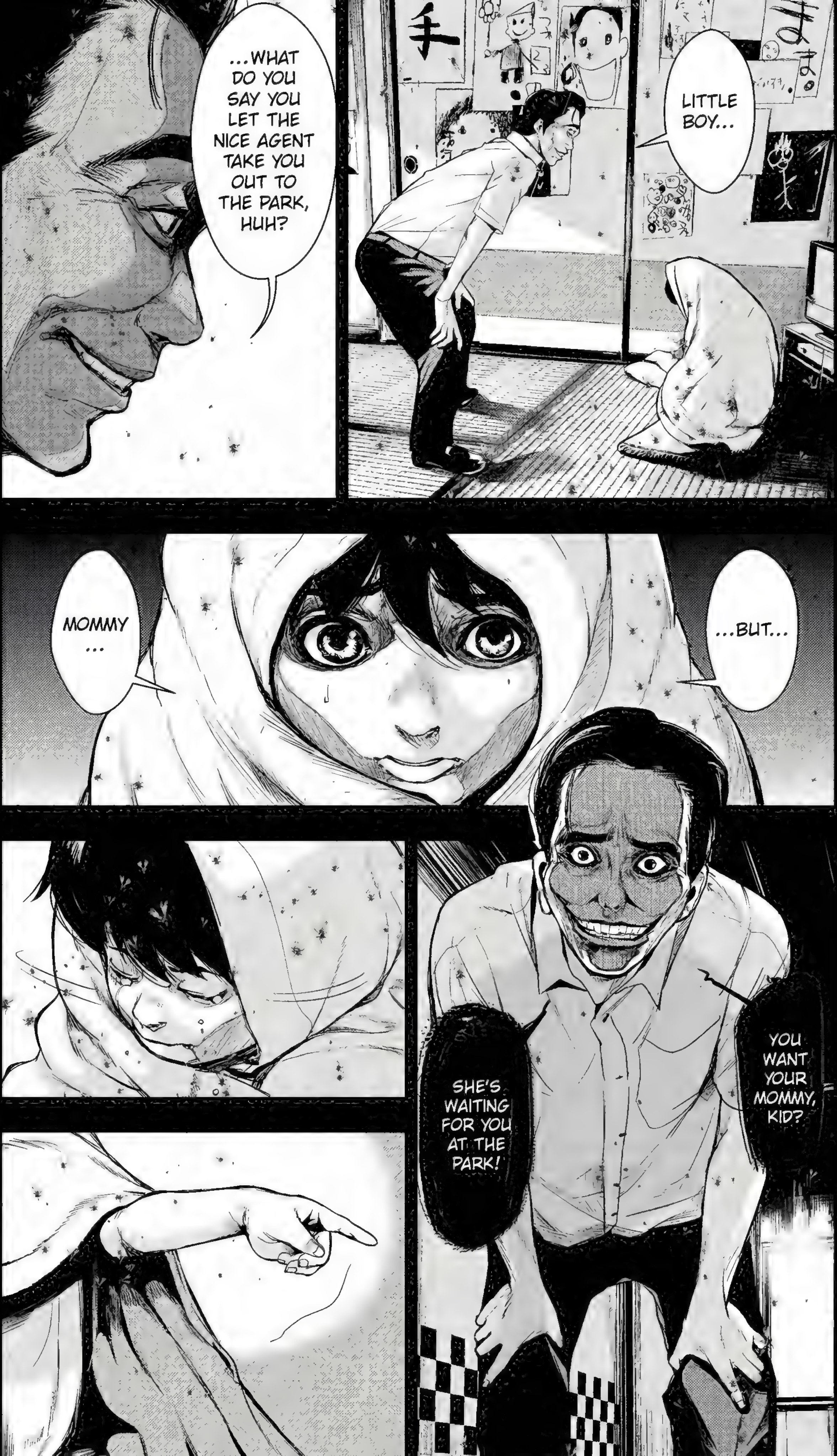

警視庁
TMPD
TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER
立入禁止 DO NOT CROSS 警視庁 TMPD
コッ TOK
コッ TOK
コッ TOK
SIR!!
HELLO ...

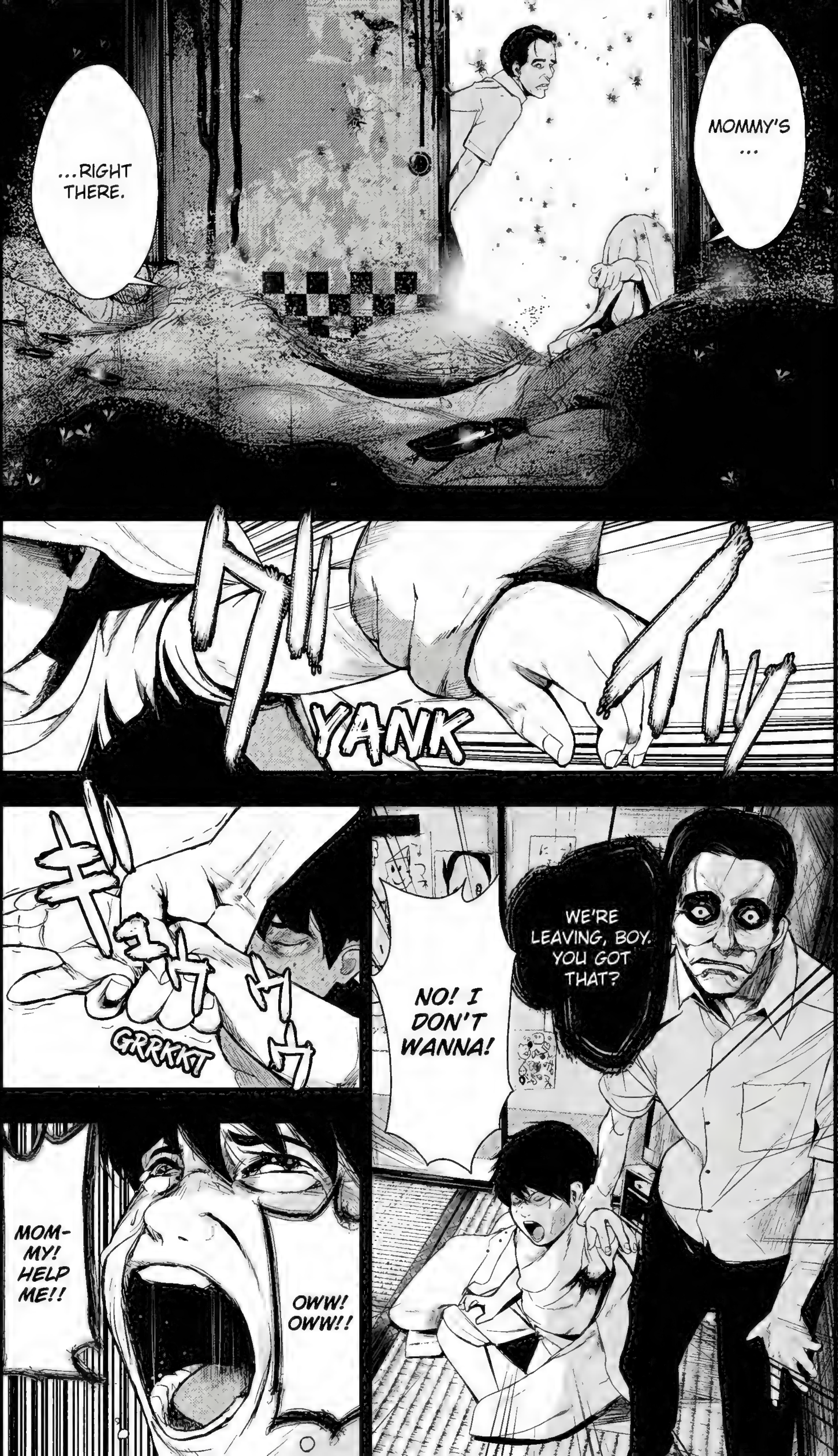

WELL?
OH...
HELLO, SIR.
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, I THINK...
IS THAT RIGHT?

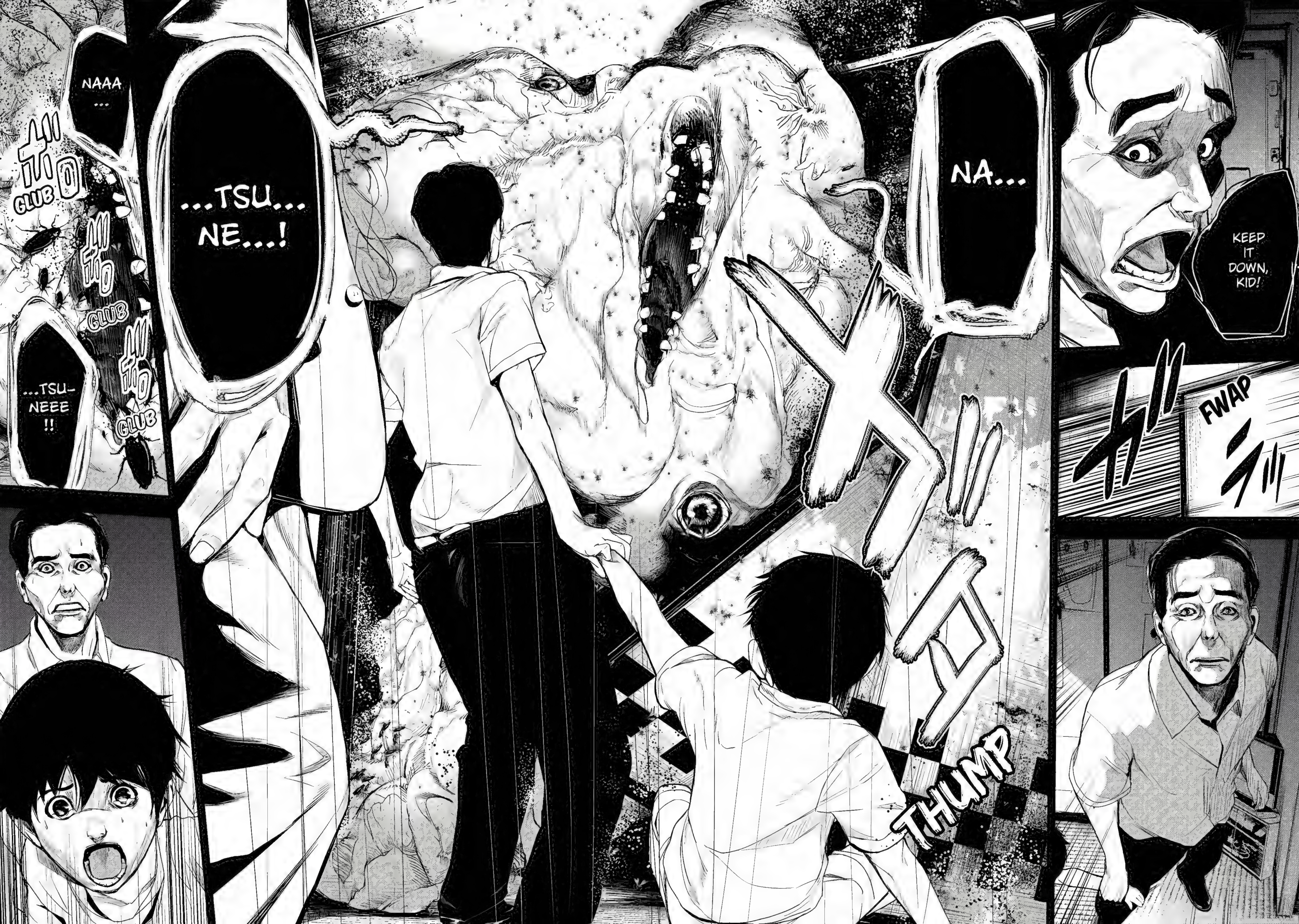

SAORI YAMAZAKI, AGE 21. TEST SUBJECT AT LARGE.
ESCAPED FROM THE FACILITY TWO YEARS AGO. SHE WAS PREGNANT AT THE TIME.
SHE'S STILL BREATHING... BUT I DOUBT SHE'LL LIVE MUCH LONGER.
THAT LITTLE DISAPPEARING ACT SHE PULLED BACK AT THE CRADLE ...
...SURE MADE A HELL OF A LOT OF WORK FOR US.
GOOD FOR HER, THOUGH, I GUESS. BREAKING OUT OF A PLACE LIKE THAT IS QUITE A FEAT.
IT'S NOT AS IF SECURITY WAS SLEEPING ON THE JOB...
MAYBE... BUT THAT WAS THEN. NOW, SHE LOOKS LIKE MELTED MOCHI.
I HEAR SHE USED TO BE A REAL LOOKER!
SHE *DID* GET THAT GUARD TO SLEEP WITH HER, AFTER ALL...
NO KIDDING?

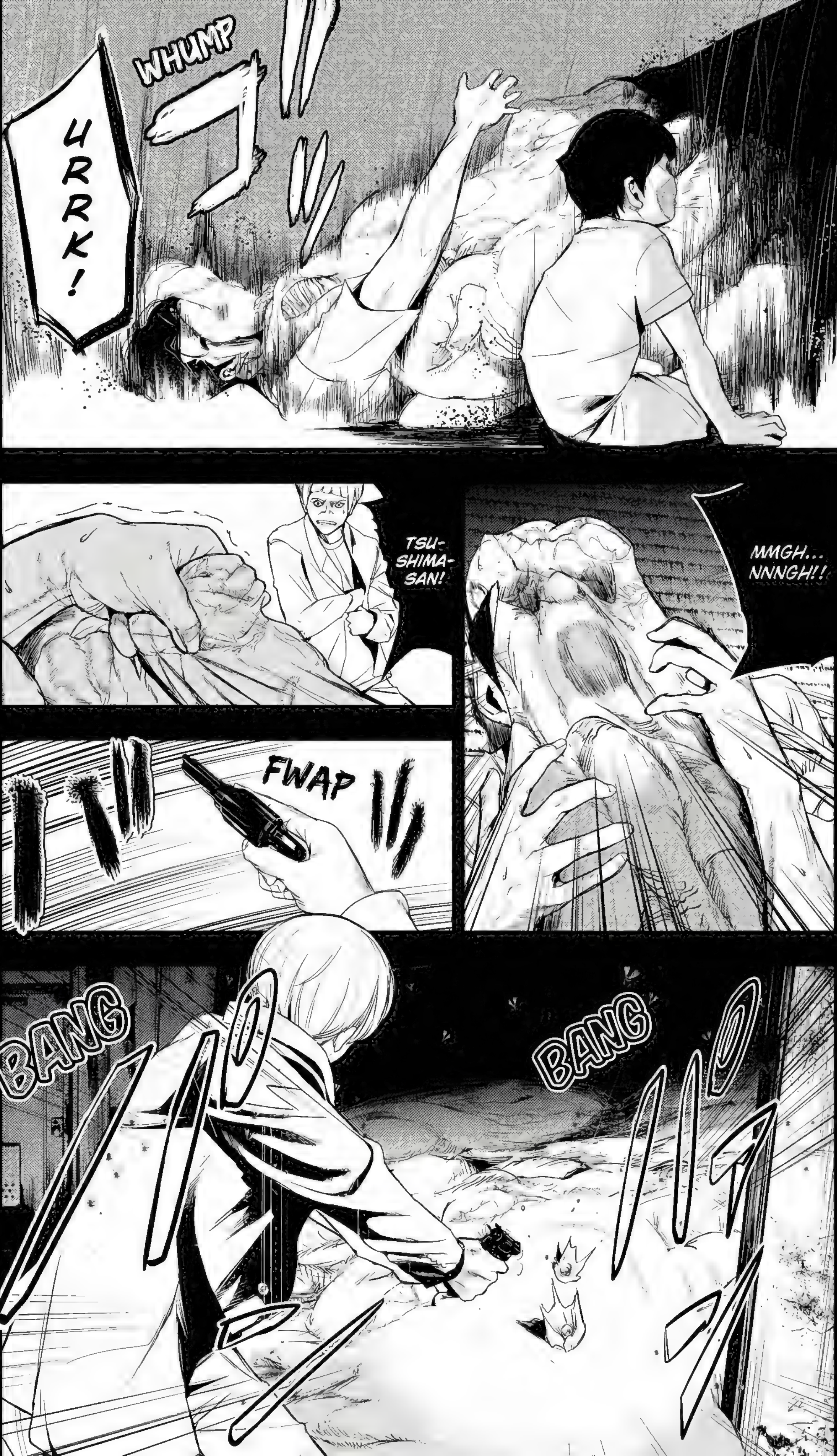

YEP. HE RAMMED HIS COCK DOWN HER THROAT AND SHE BIT IT CLEAN OFF AND BOLTED.
CHOMP
CHOMP
THEY SAY THE POOR MOTHER-FUCKER DIED OF BLOOD LOSS.
GROSS!
STILL …
…WHAT A WAY TO GO! HER BODY REJECTED THE DRUGS, AND LOOK AT HER NOW… ALMOST MAKES YOU FEEL SORRY FOR HER, HUH?
YEAH. ALMOST.
AND THEN THERE'S THIS BOY… HE'S A FIRST FOR MANKIND.
A TOTAL REGENERATOR.

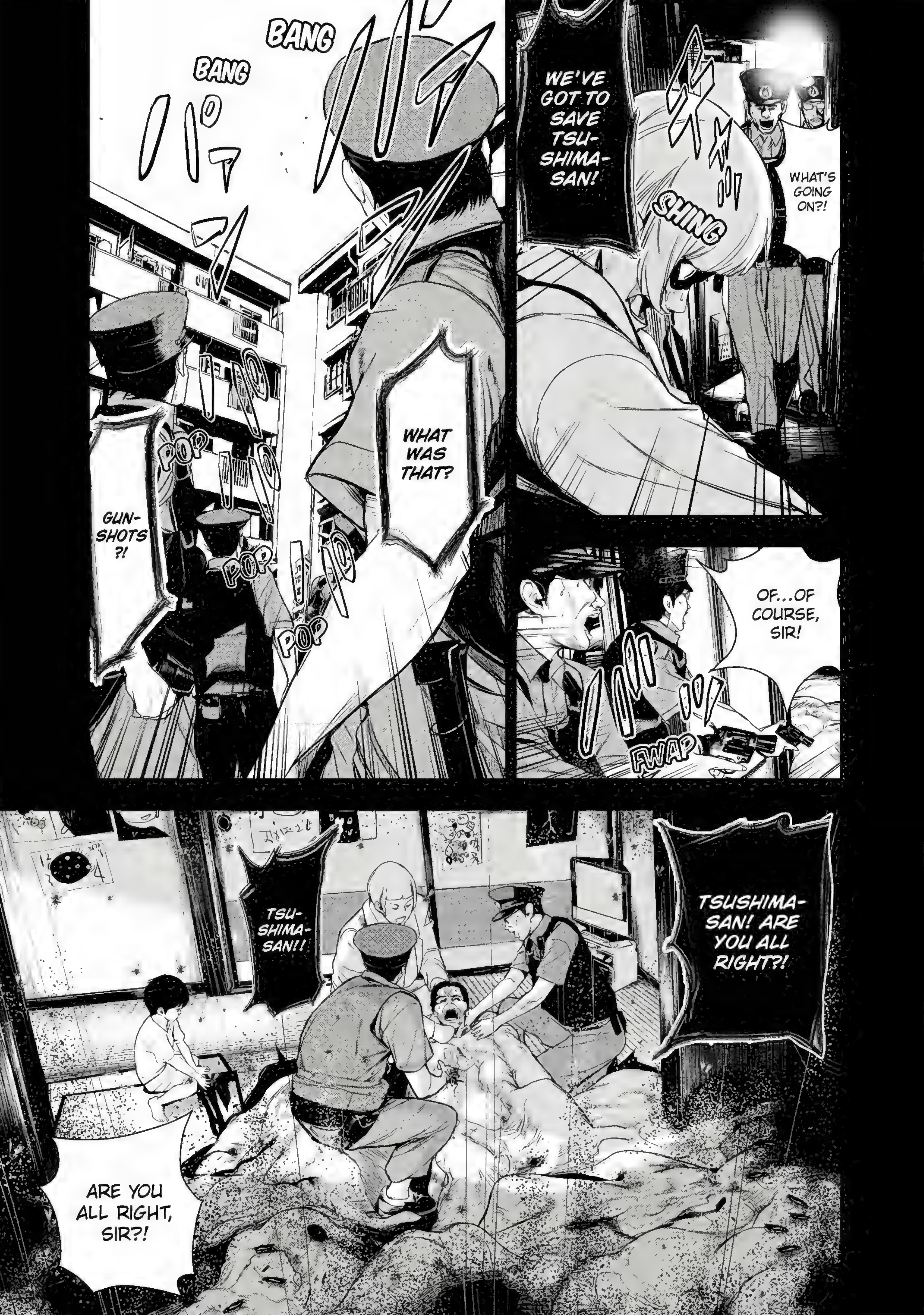

JUST LOOKING AT HIM, THOUGH, YOU WOULDN'T SUSPECT A THING!
WOULD YOU? BUT THAT WOMAN WAS STILL PREGNANT WITH HIM *TWO* YEARS AGO.
ONLY TWO YEARS...? AND LOOK HOW MUCH HE'S GROWN...
YEAH, WELL. HE'S BASICALLY A SHÌRÒU.
SHÌRÒU?
YEP. FROM CHINESE MYTHOLOGY. IT'S A MONSTER.
IT LOOKS LIKE A LUMP OF BEEF LIVER WITH TWO EYEBALLS.
YOU CAN KEEP CUTTING CHUNKS OFF IT AND THEY'LL JUST KEEP GROWING BACK.
CAN'T SAY I EXPECTED YOU TO KNOW THAT OFF THE TOP OF YOUR HEAD...
WELL, YOU KNOW. THIS KID MIGHT JUST SAVE THE FUTURE OF MANKIND.

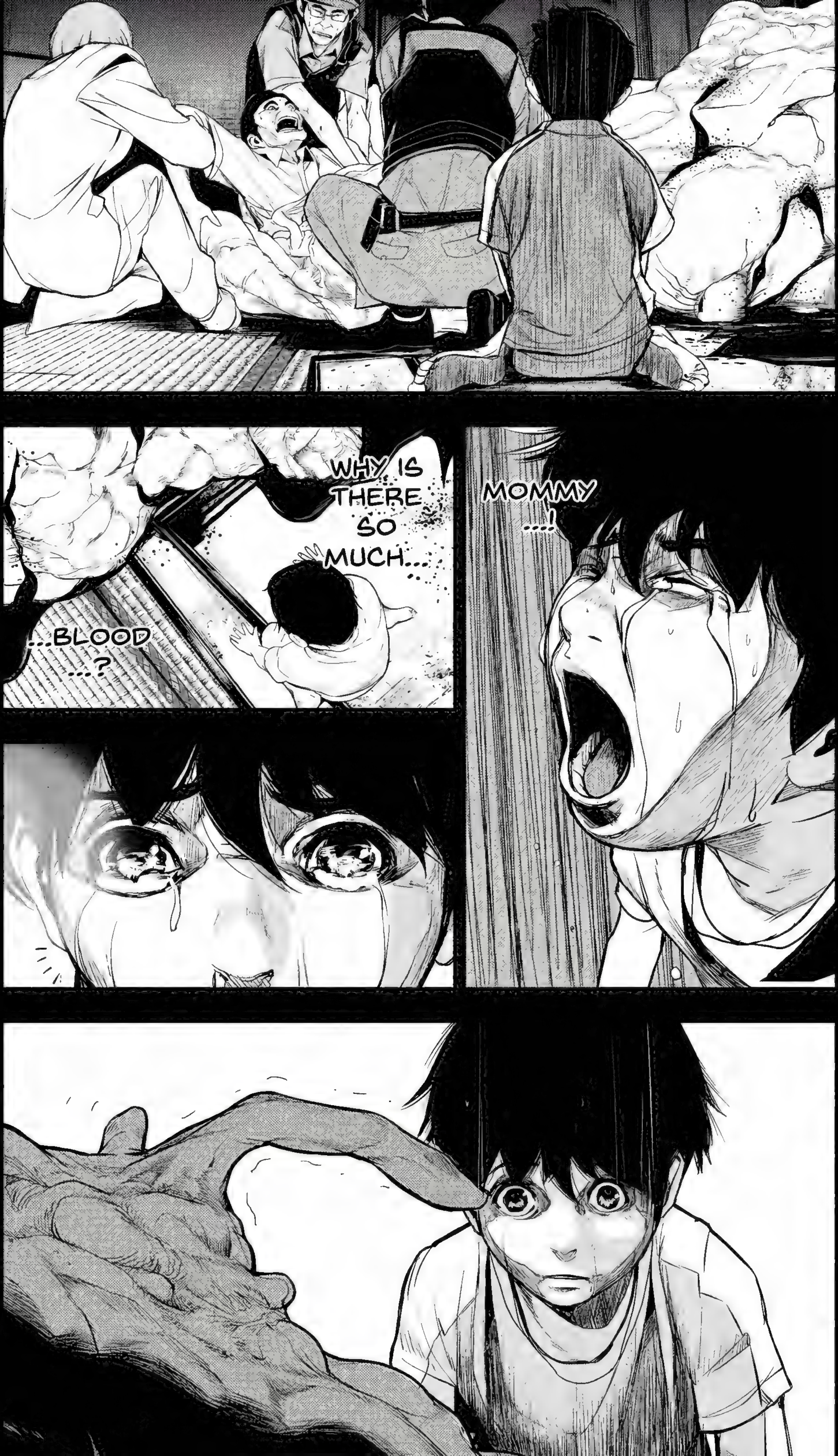

LITTLE BOY...
手
まま
...WHAT DO YOU SAY YOU LET THE NICE AGENT TAKE YOU OUT TO THE PARK, HUH?
...BUT...
MOMMY ...
YOU WANT YOUR MOMMY, KID?
SHE'S WAITING FOR YOU AT THE PARK!

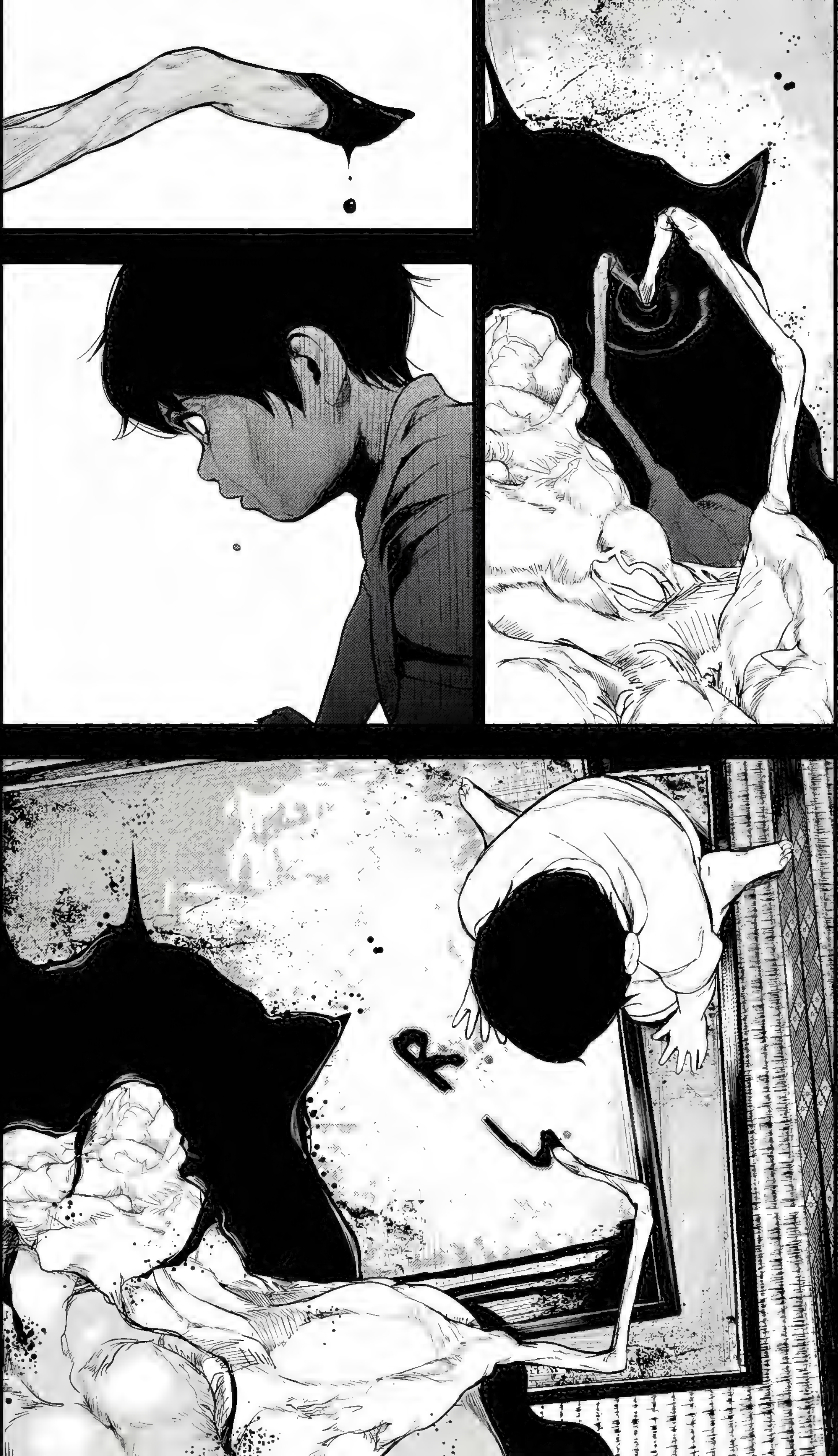

MOMMY'S ...
...RIGHT THERE.
YANK
WE'RE LEAVING, BOY. YOU GOT THAT?
NO! I DON'T WANNA!
GRRKKT
OWW! OWW!!
MOMMY! HELP ME!!

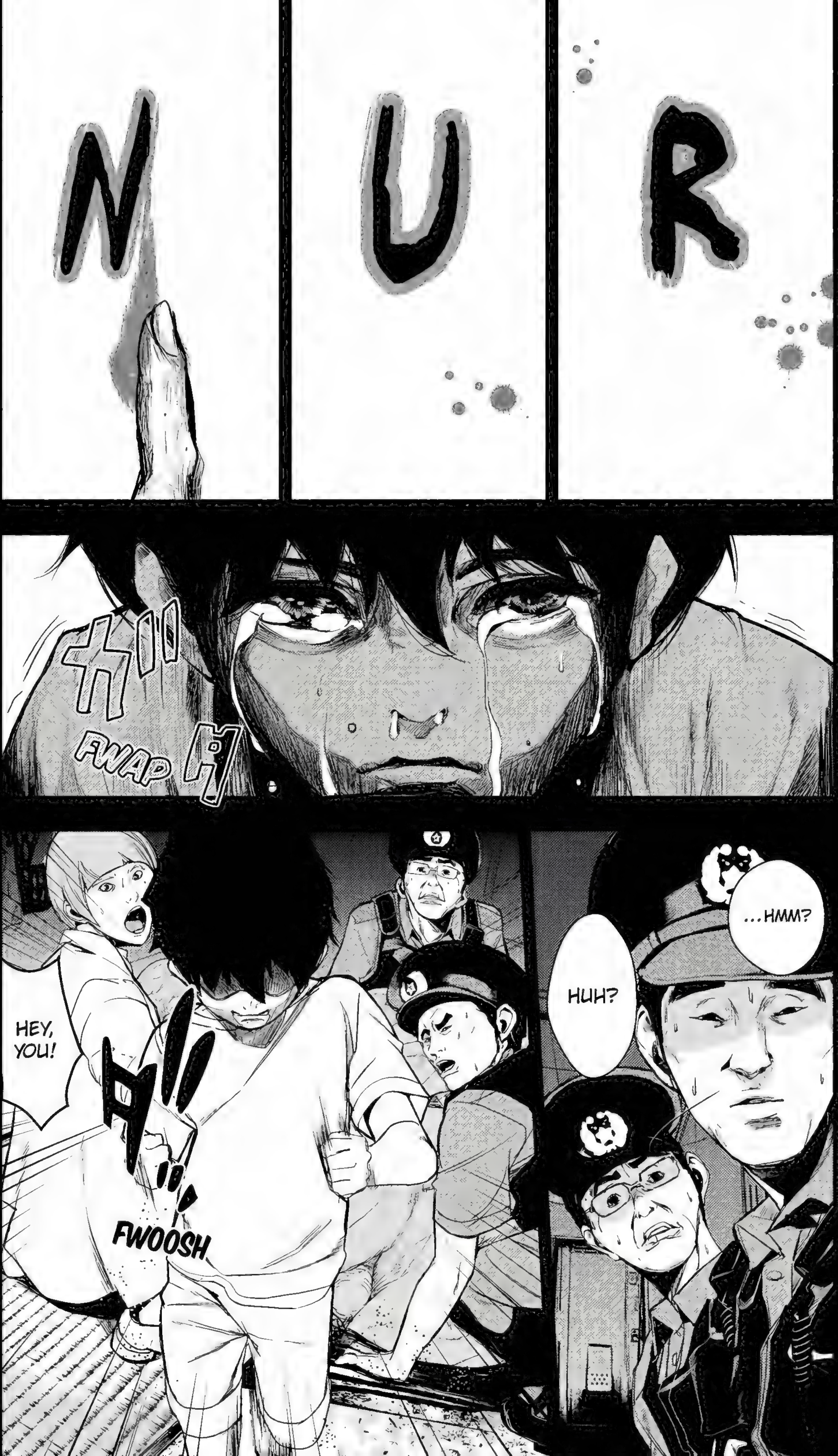

KEEP IT DOWN, KID!
FWAP
NA...
THUMP
...TSU... NE...!
NAAA...
GLUB
GLUB
GLUB
...TSU-NEEE!!

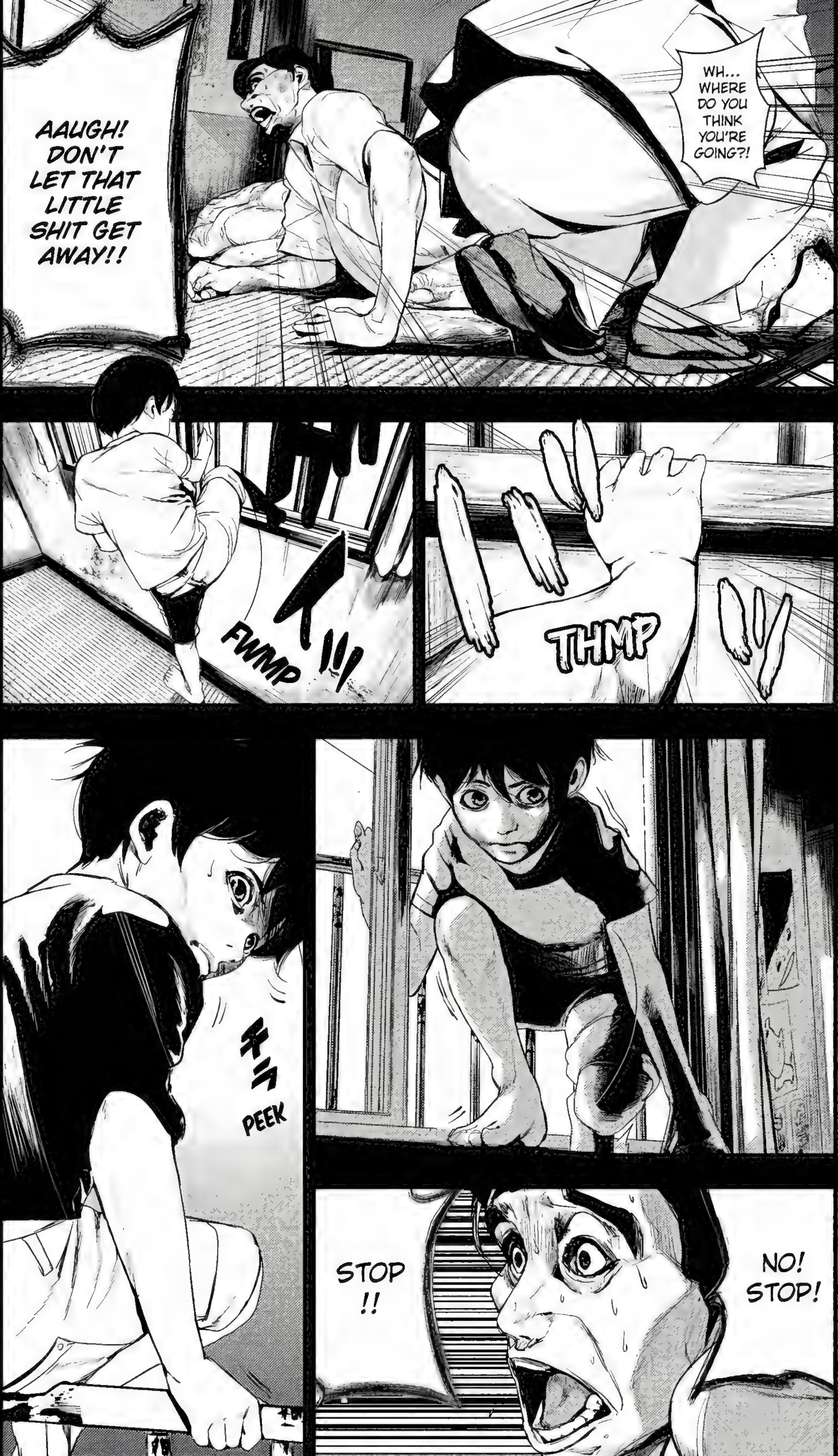

WHUMP
URRK!
MMGH... NNNGH!!
TSU-SHIMA-SAN!
FWAP
BANG
BANG

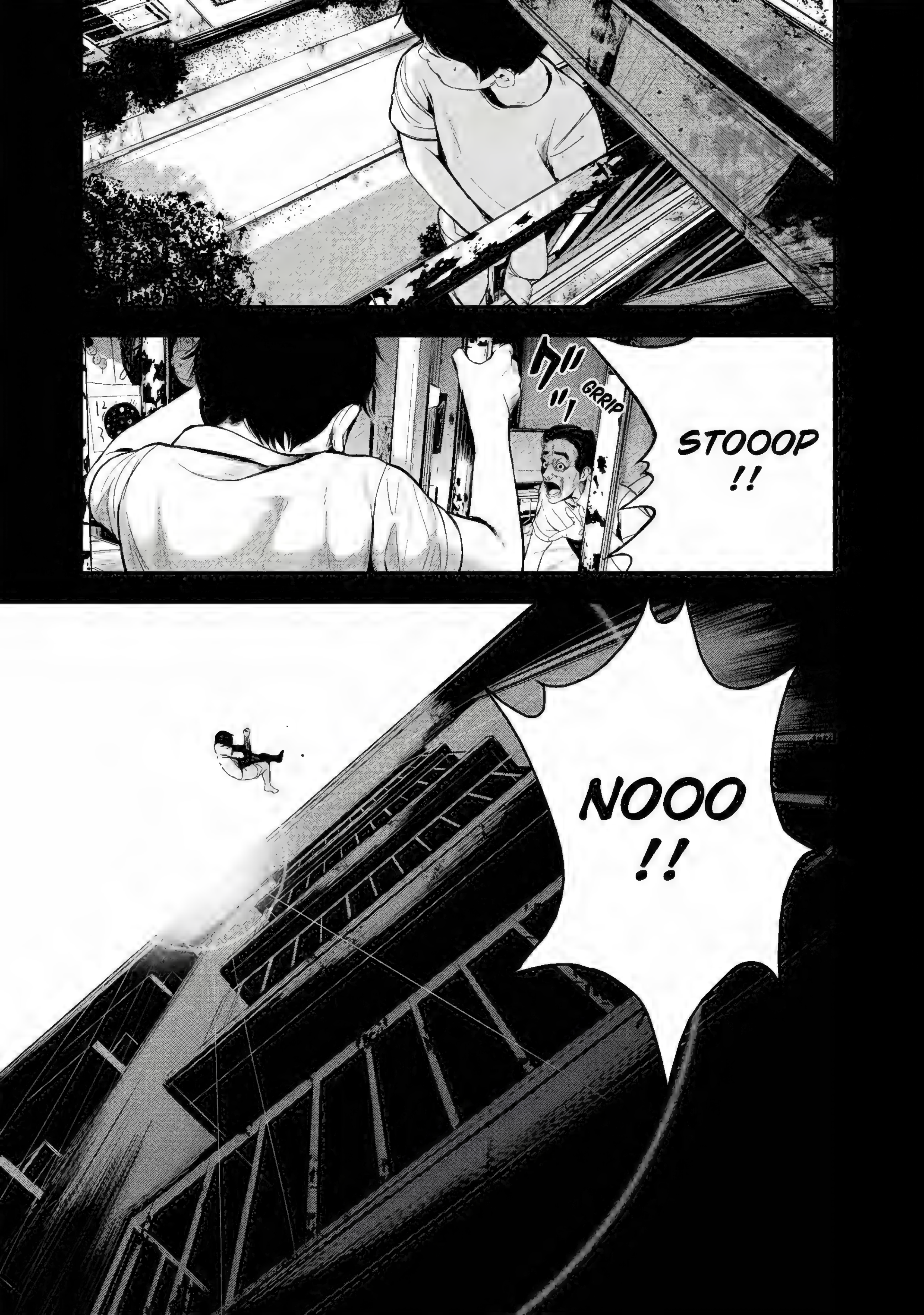

WHAT'S GOING ON?!
SHING
WE'VE GOT TO SAVE TSUSHIMA-SAN!
OF...OF COURSE, SIR!
FWAP
BANG
BANG
WHAT WAS THAT?
POP
POP
POP
GUN-SHOTS?!
TSUSHIMA-SAN! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
TSU-SHIMA-SAN!!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SIR?!

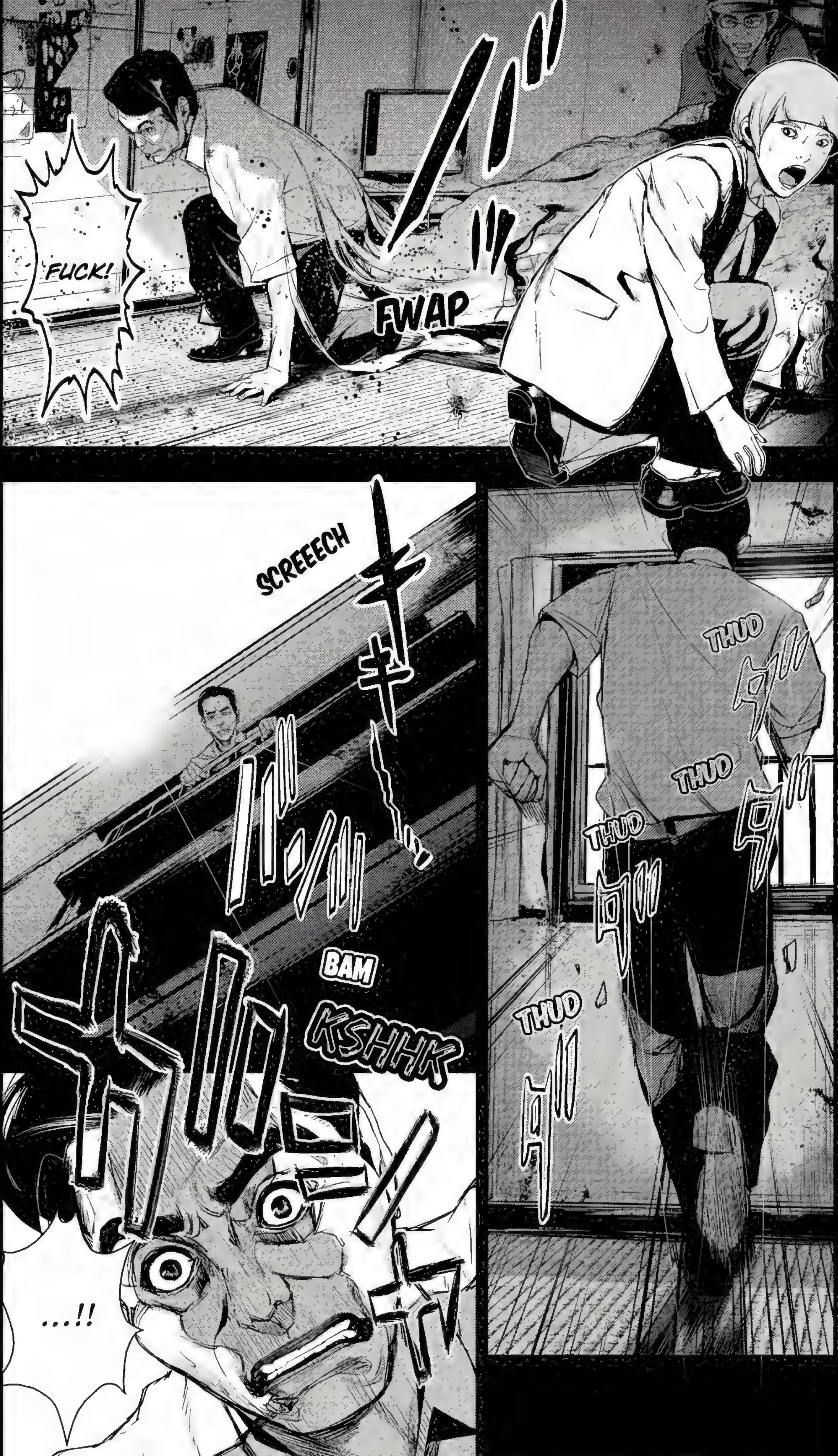

MOMMY ...!
WHY IS THERE SO MUCH...
...BLOOD ...?

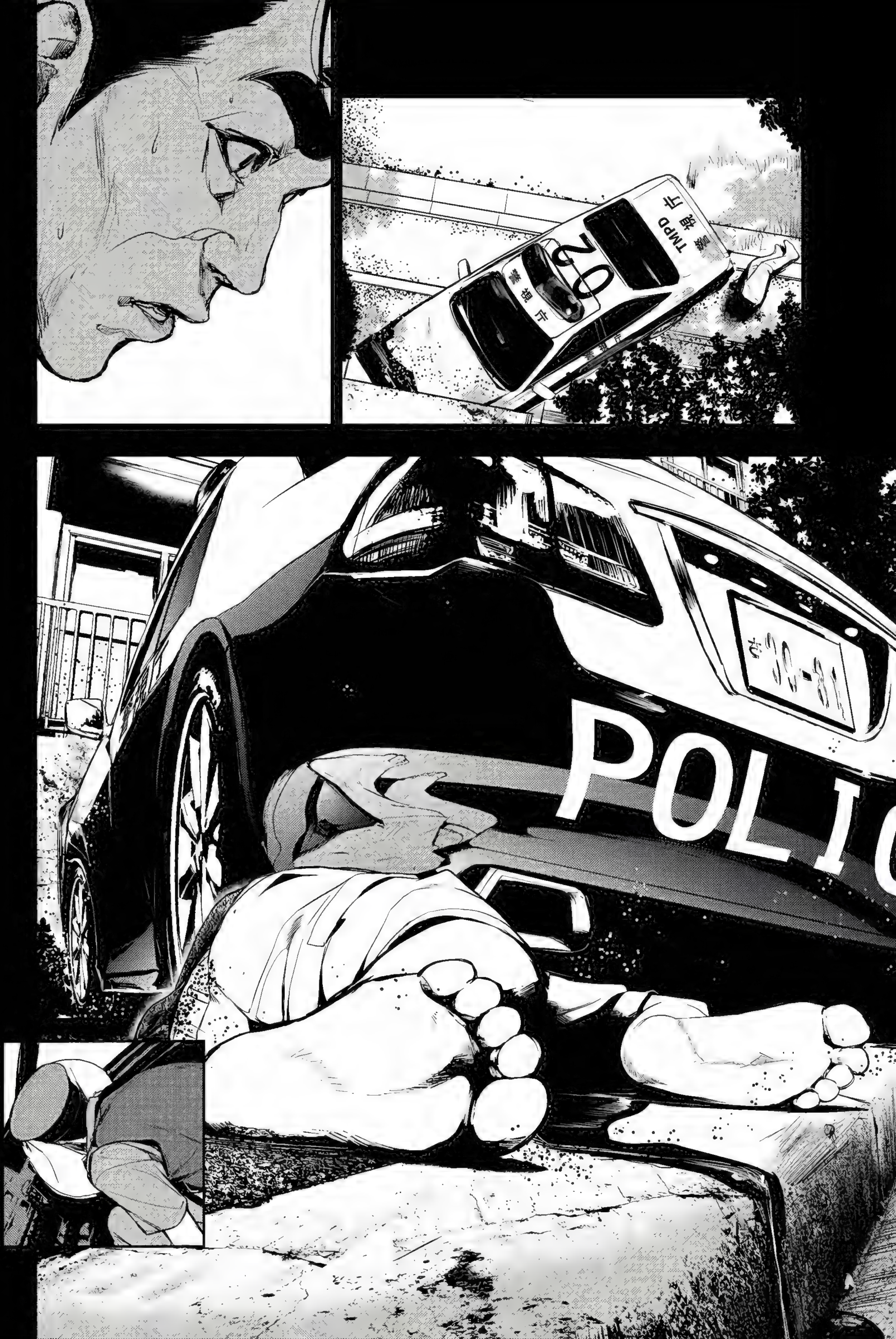

R
L

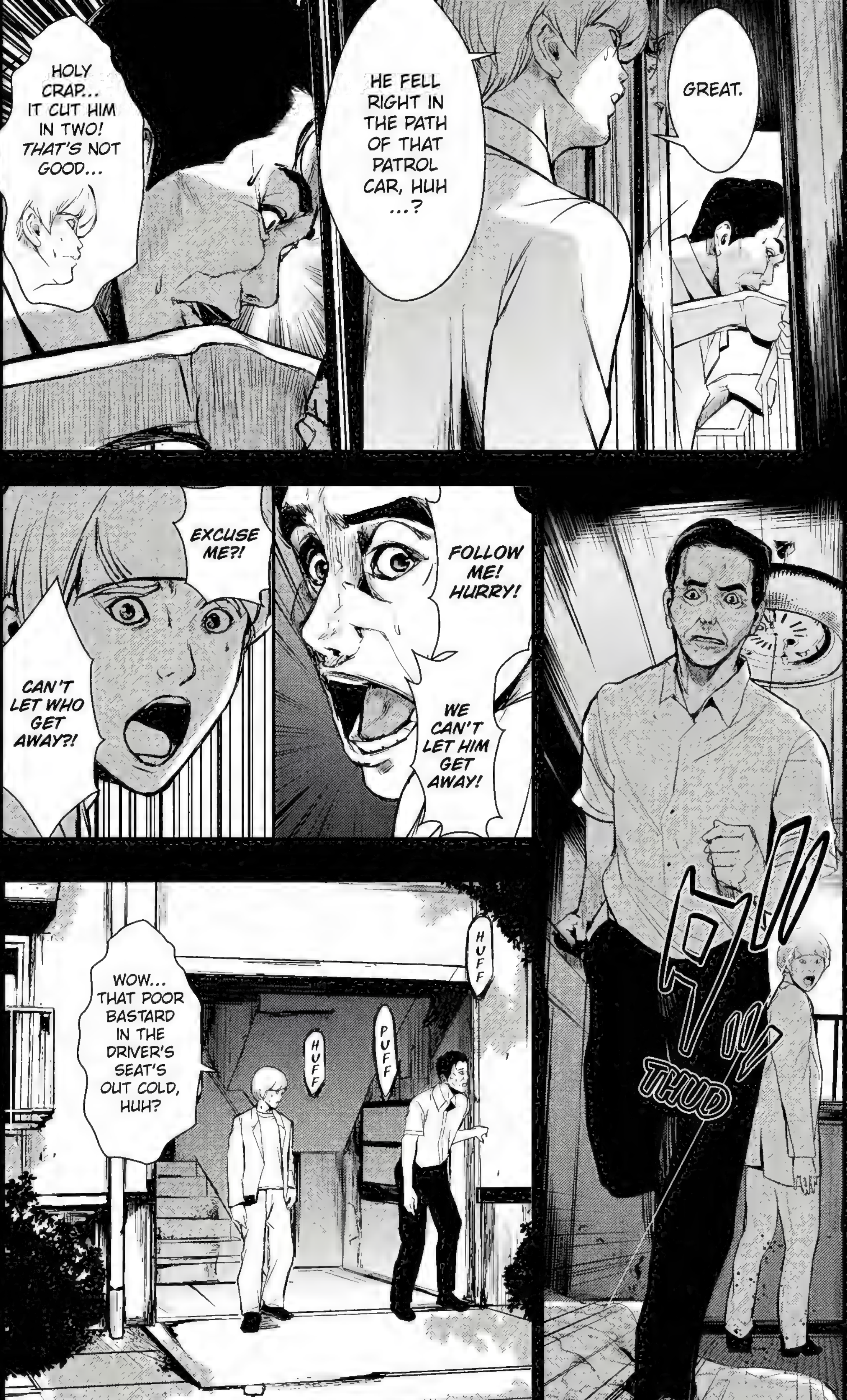

R
U
N
FWAP
...HMM?
HUH?
HEY, YOU!
FWOOSH

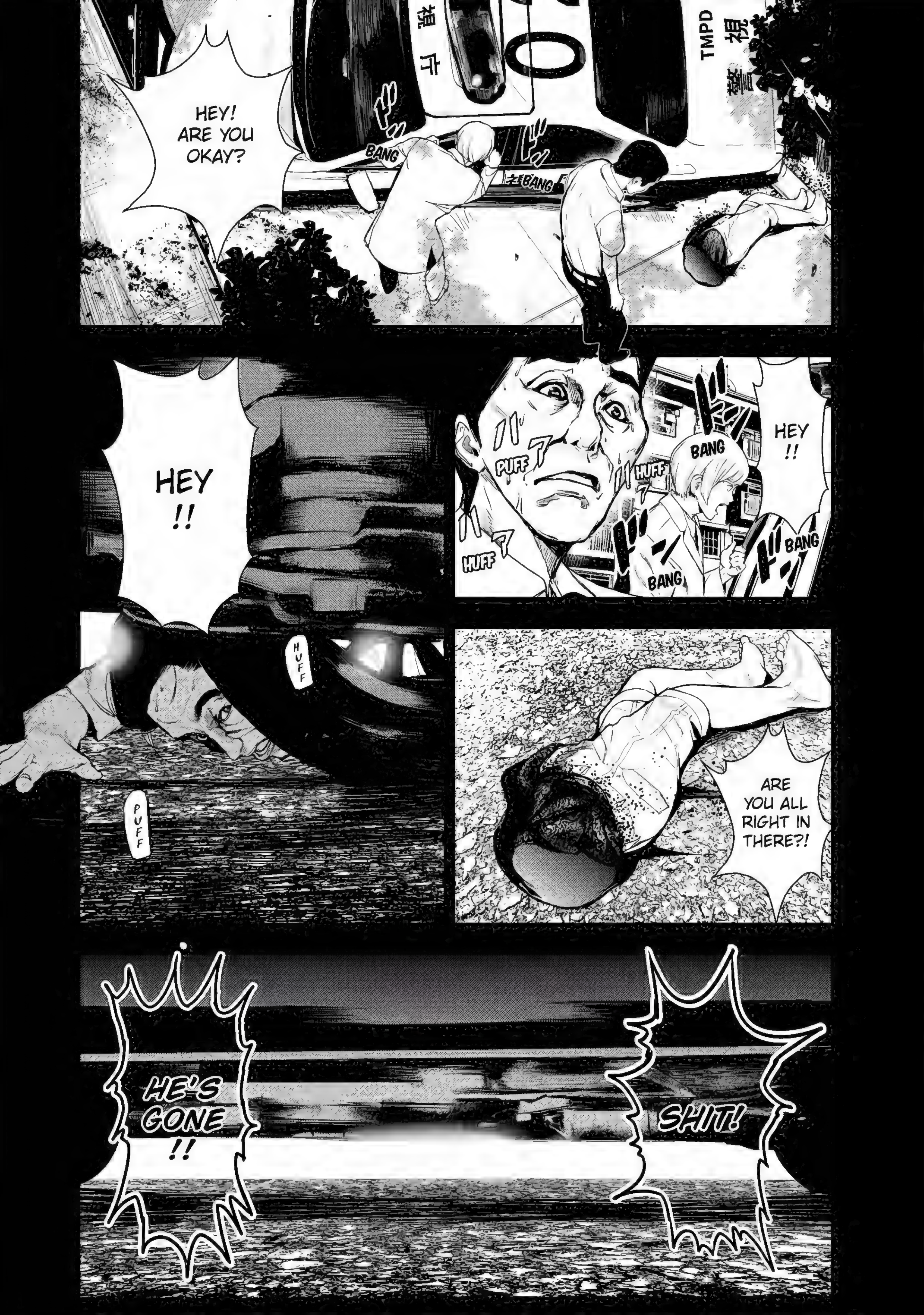

WH... WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!
AAUGH! DON'T LET THAT LITTLE SHIT GET AWAY!!
THMP
FWMP
チラ
PEEK
NO! STOP!
STOP !!

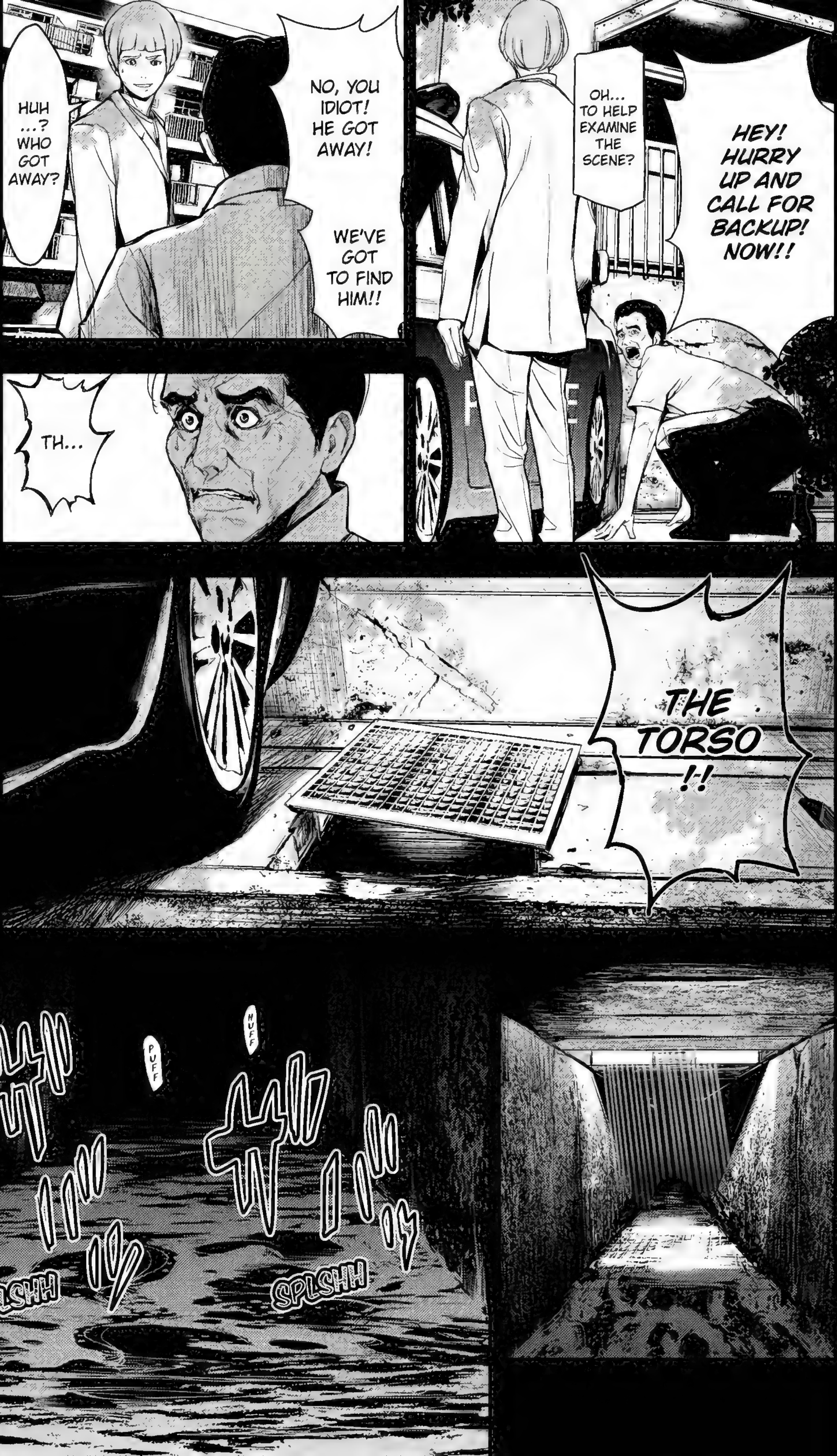

STOOOP !!
グッ
GRRIP
NOOO !!

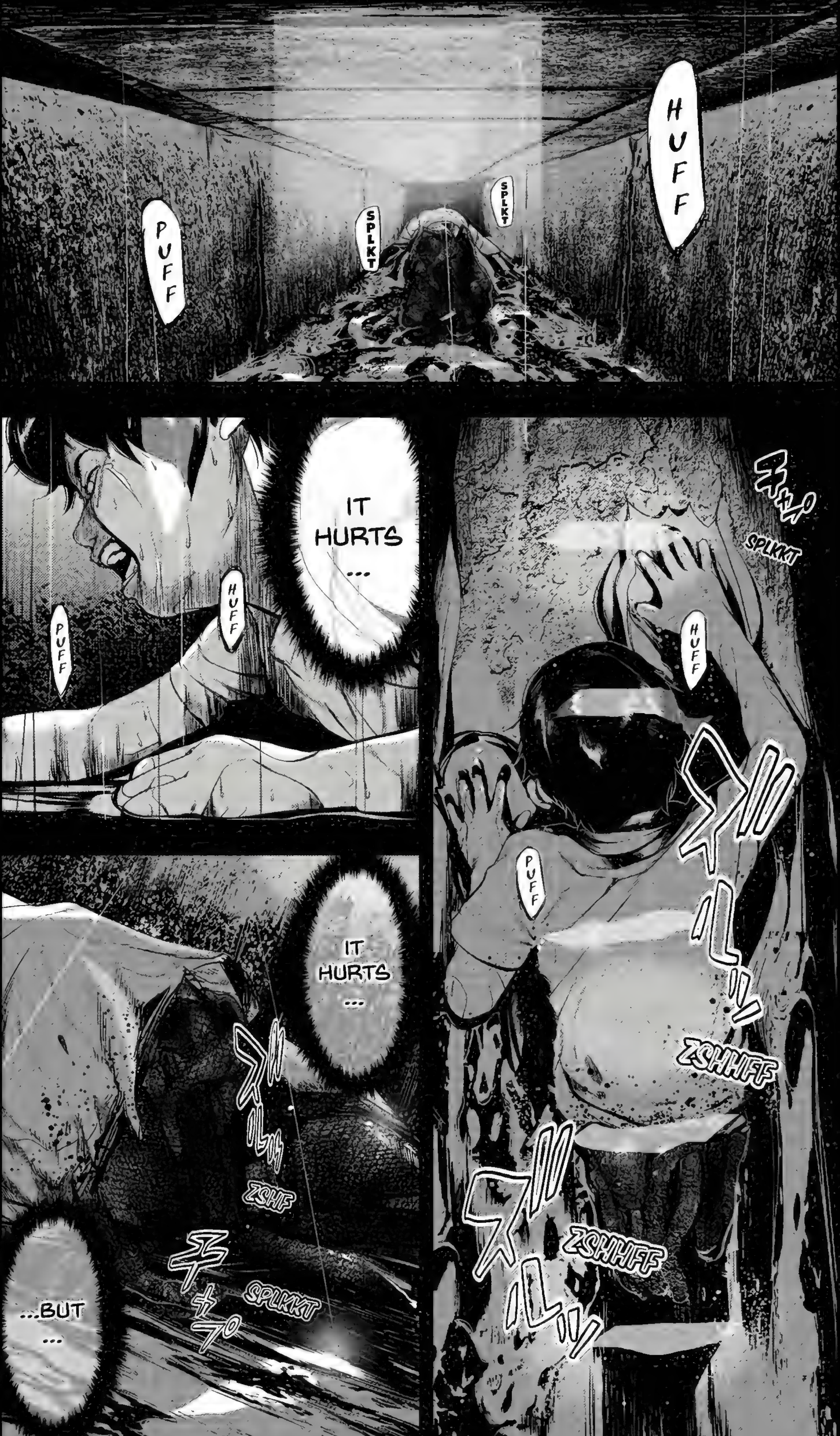

FWAP
FUCK!
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
SCREEECH
BAM
KSHHK
...!!

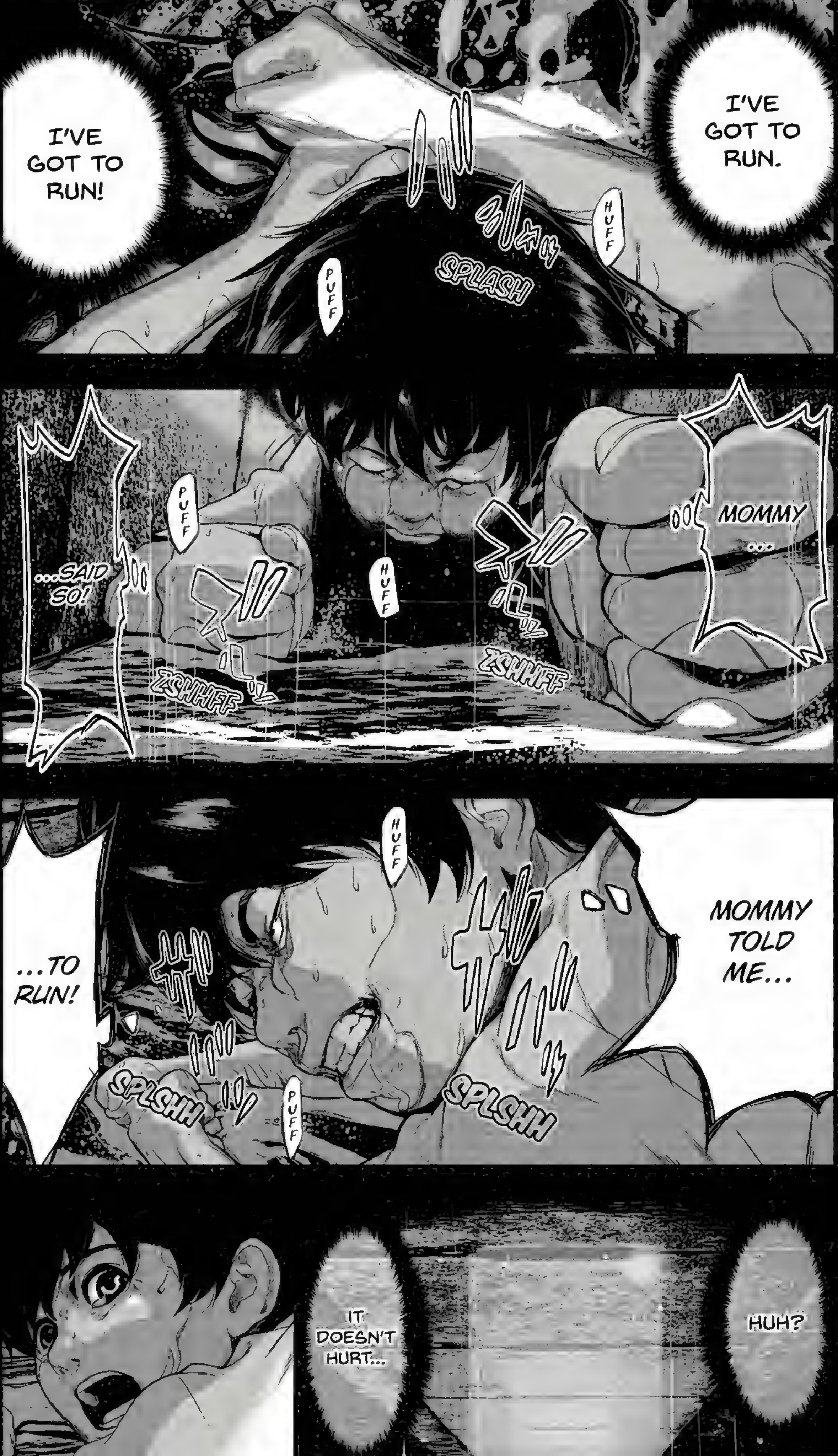

警視庁
TMPD
20
POLIC

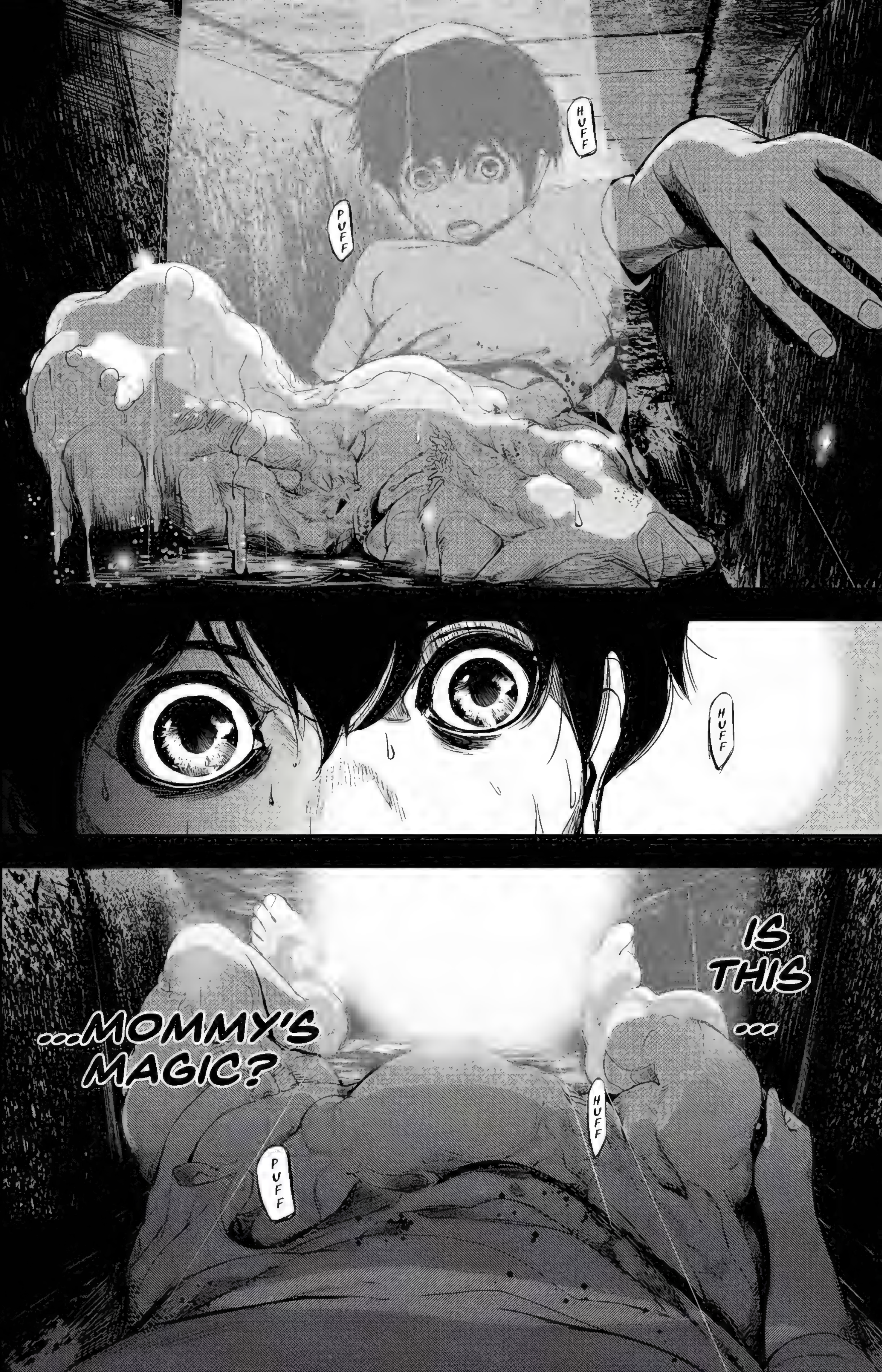

GREAT.
HE FELL RIGHT IN THE PATH OF THAT PATROL CAR, HUH ...?
HOLY CRAP... IT CUT HIM IN TWO! THAT'S NOT GOOD...
FOLLOW ME! HURRY!
WE CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
EXCUSE ME?!
CAN'T LET WHO GET AWAY?!
THUD
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
WOW... THAT POOR BASTARD IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT'S OUT COLD, HUH?

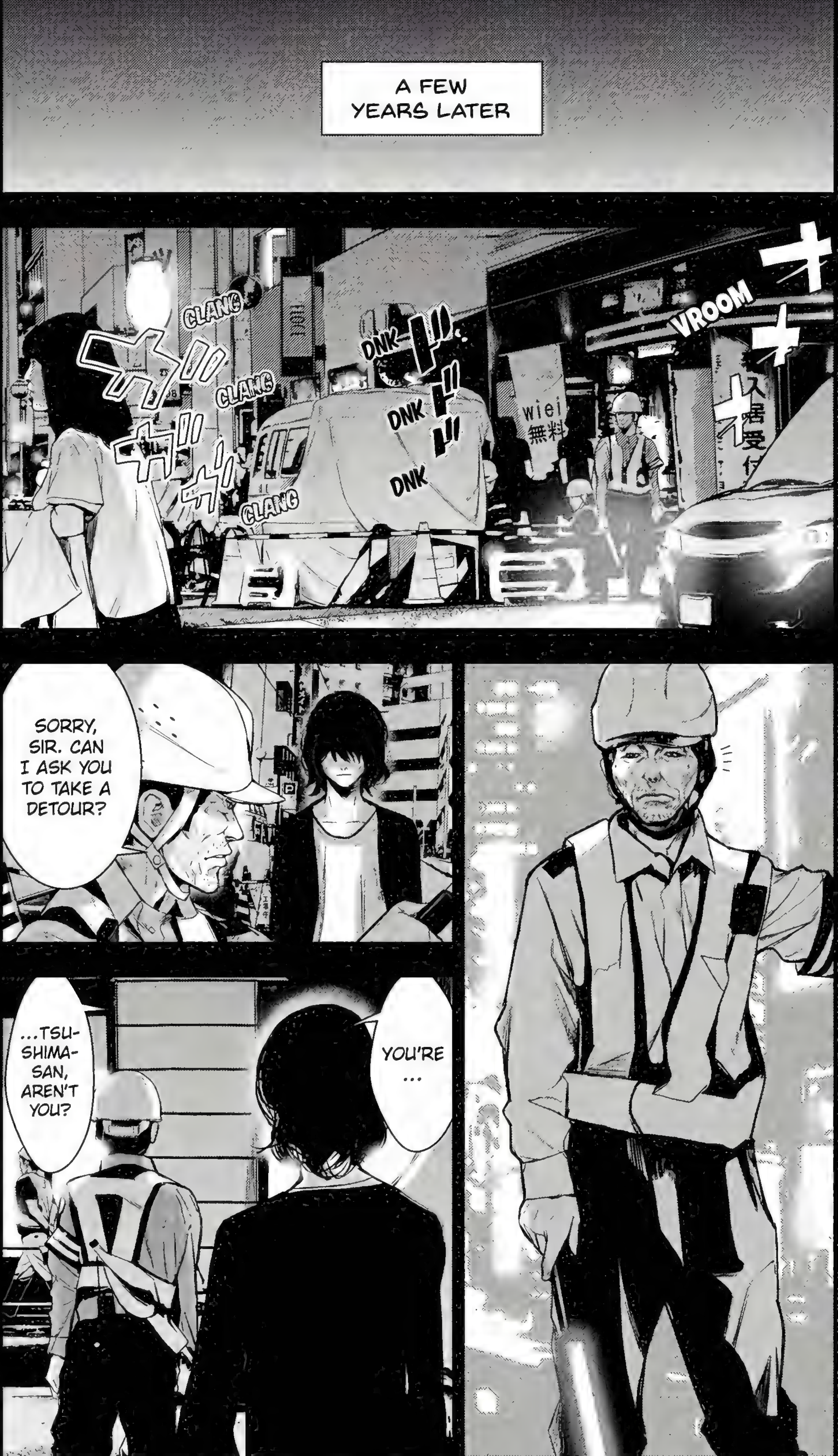

TMPD
警視庁
HEY! ARE YOU OKAY?
BANG
BANG
HEY!!
BANG
BANG
BANG
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
HEY!!
HUFF
PUFF
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT IN THERE?!
SHIT!
HE'S GONE!!

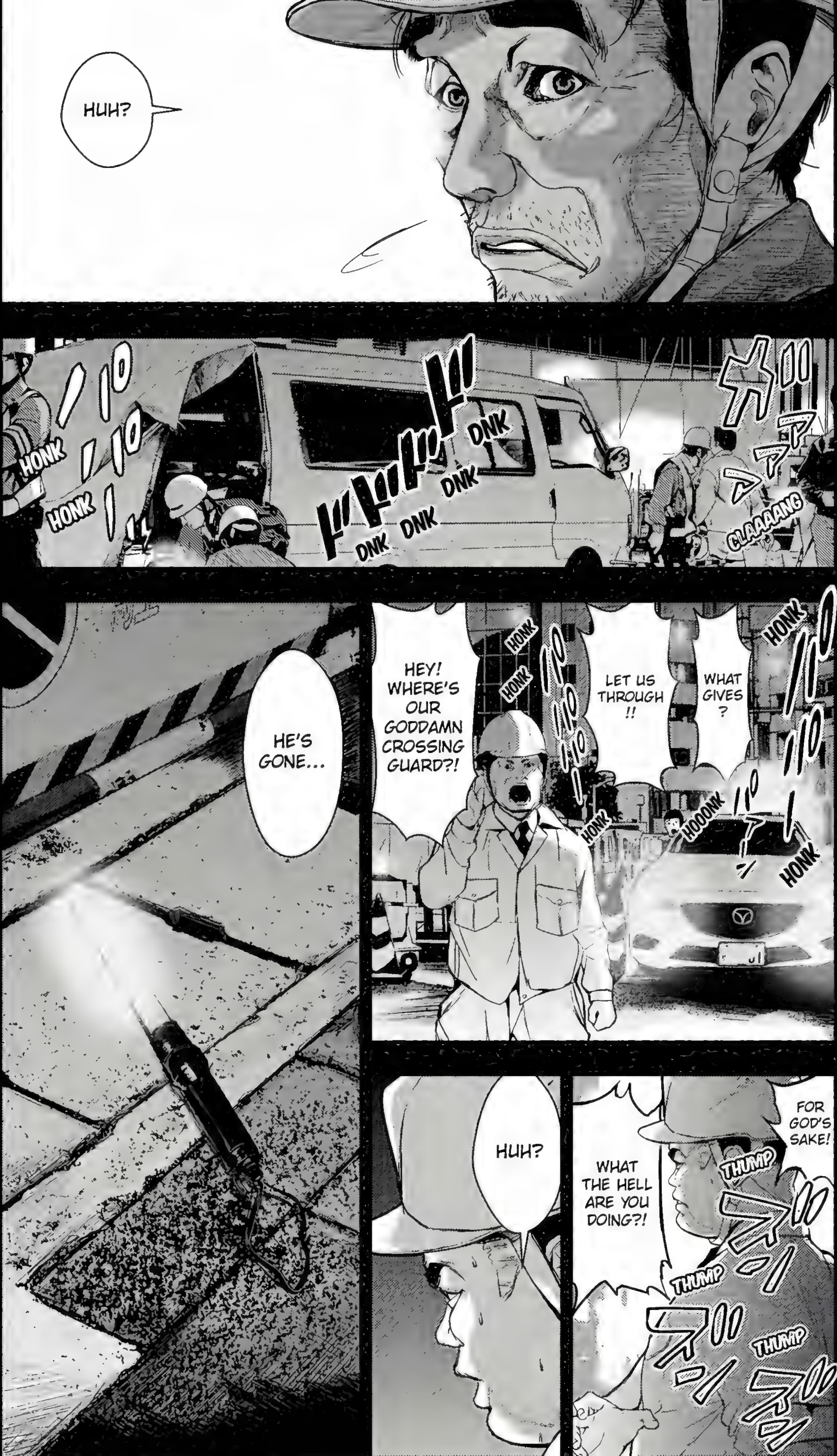

OH... TO HELP EXAMINE THE SCENE?
HEY! HURRY UP AND CALL FOR BACKUP! NOW!!
HUH ...? WHO GOT AWAY?
NO, YOU IDIOT! HE GOT AWAY!
WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIM!!
TH...
THE TORSO !!
HUFF
PUFF
SPLSHH
SPLSHH

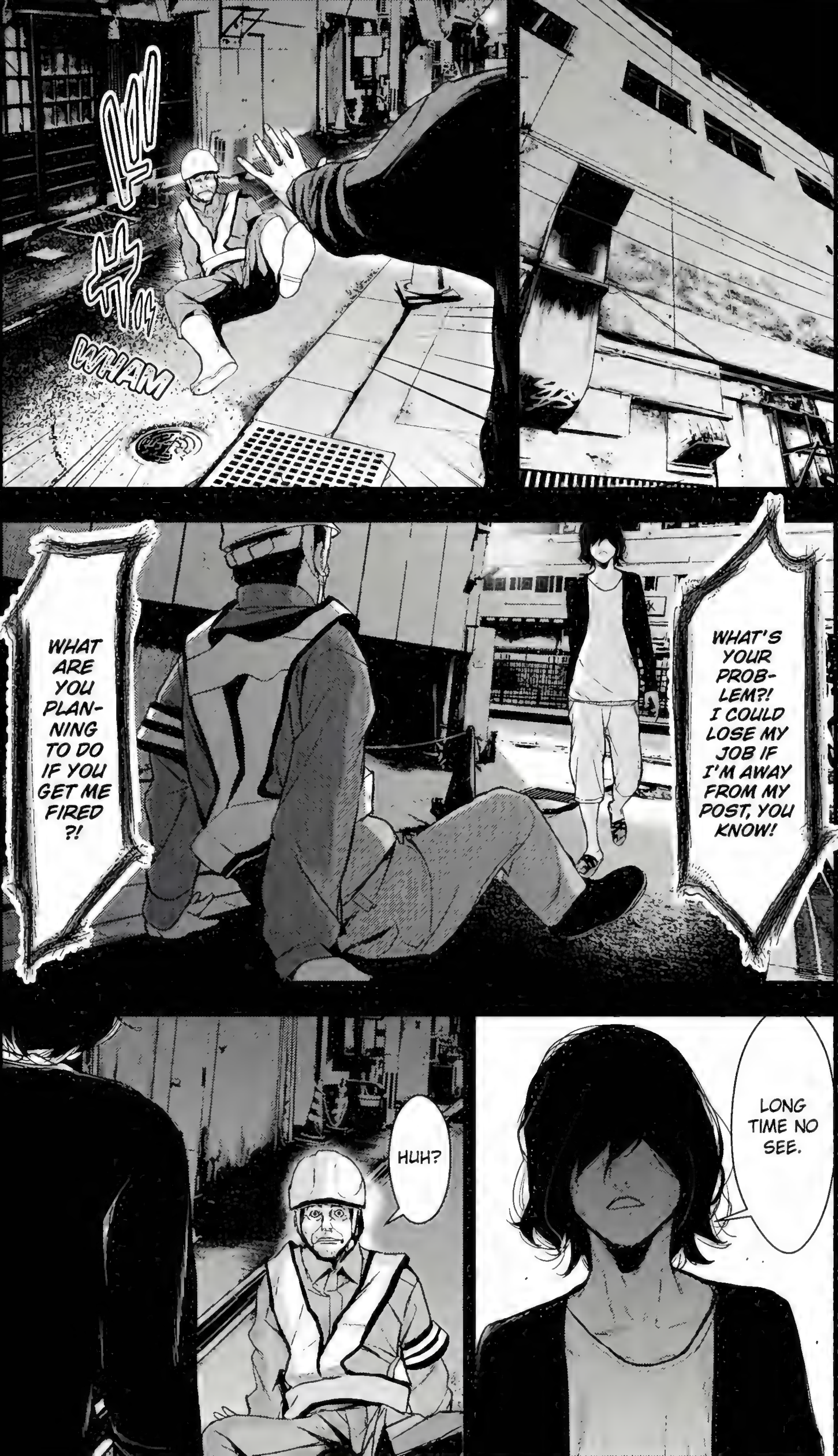

HUFF
SPLKT
SPLKT
PUFF
SPLKKT
HUFF
PUFF
ZSHHFF
ZSHHFF
IT HURTS ...
HUFF
PUFF
IT HURTS ...
ZSHF
SPLKKT
...BUT ...

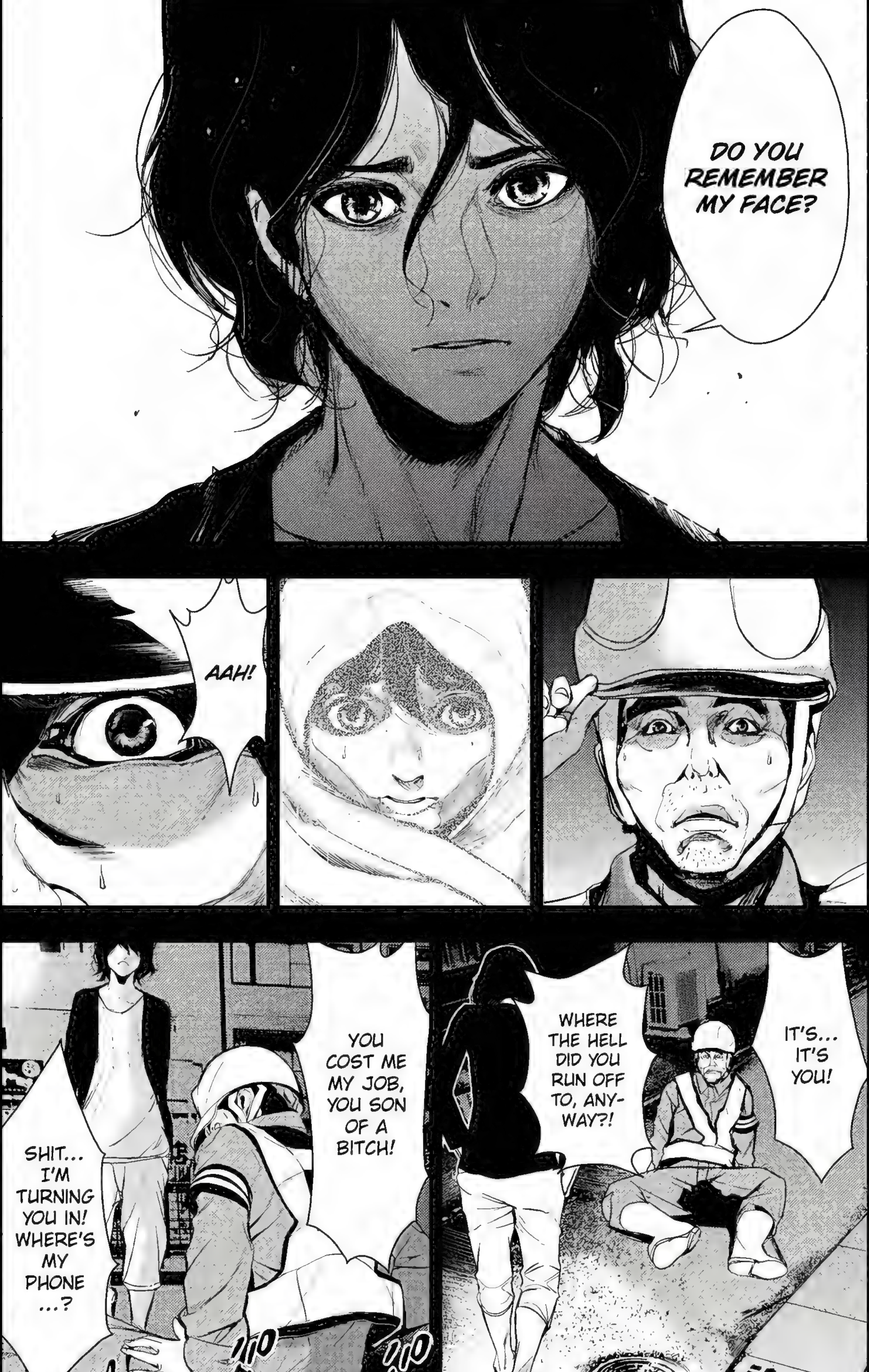

I'VE GOT TO RUN.
I'VE GOT TO RUN!
HUFF
SPLASH
PUFF
MOMMY ...
...SAID SO!
HUFF
PUFF
ZSHHFF
ZSHHFF
MOMMY TOLD ME...
...TO RUN!
HUFF
SPLSHH
SPLSHH
PUFF
HUH?
IT DOESN'T HURT...

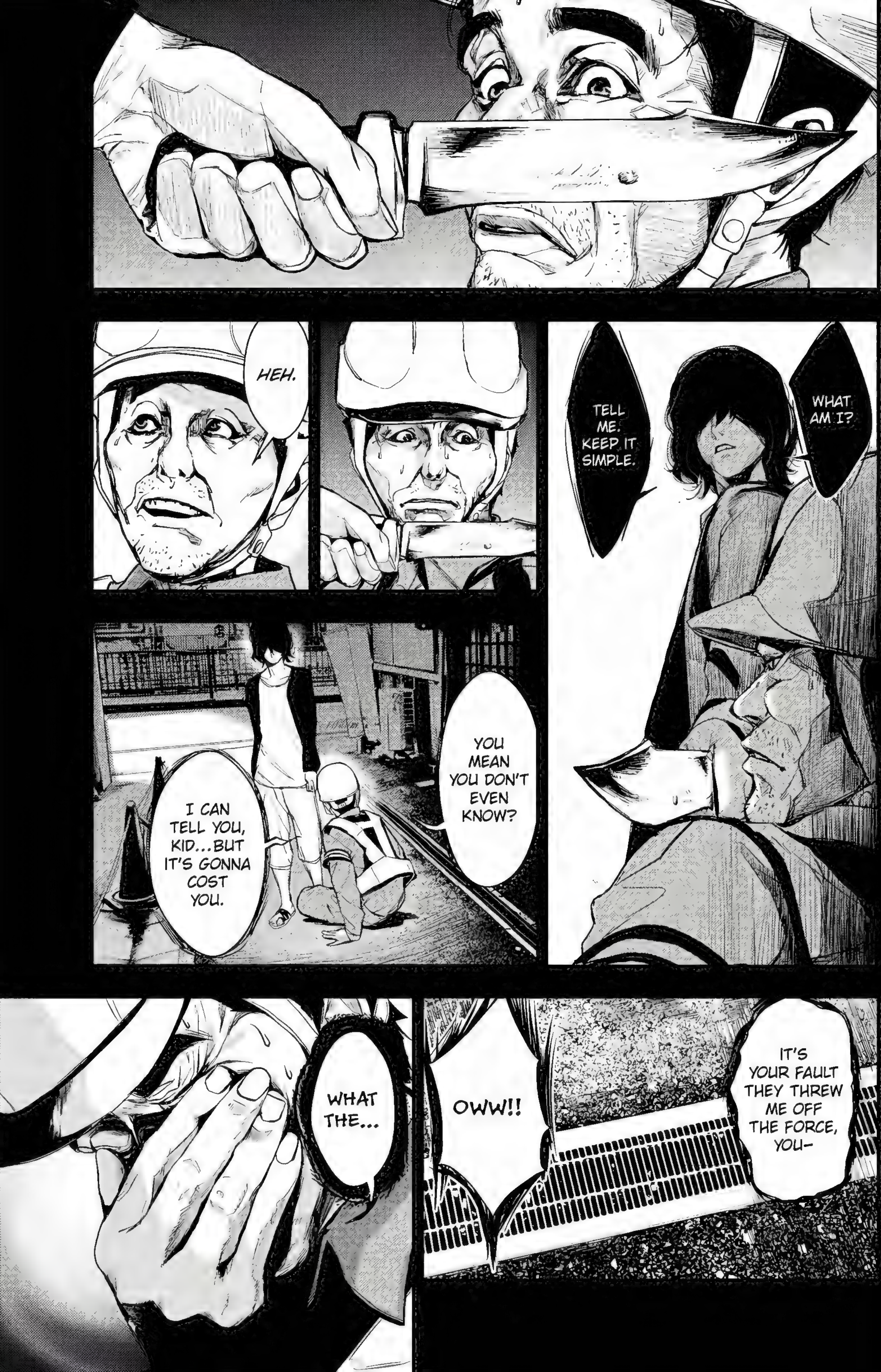

HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
IS THIS…
…MOMMY'S MAGIC?
HUFF
PUFF

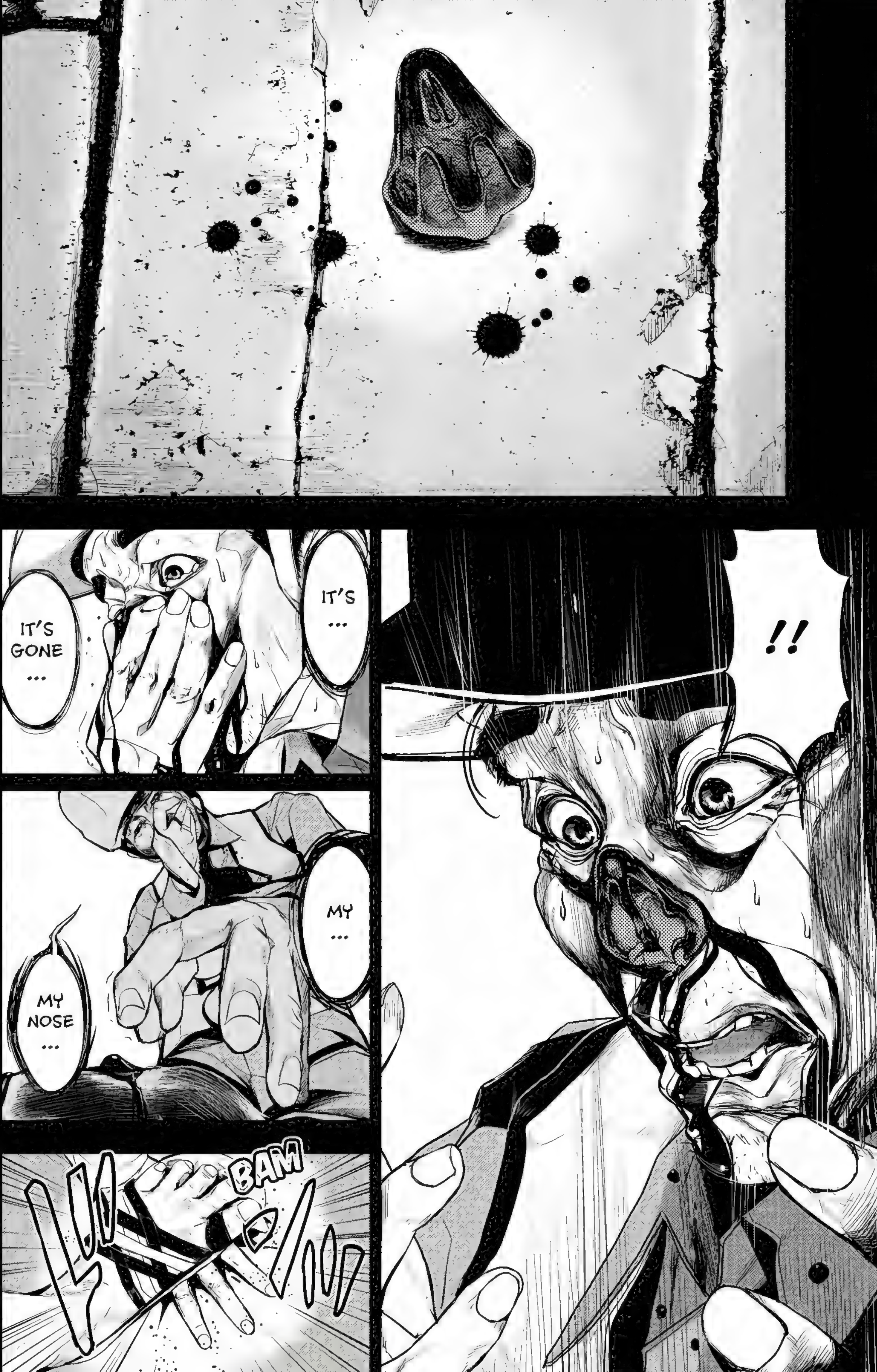

A FEW YEARS LATER
VROOM
DNK
DNK
DNK
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
wiei 無料
入居受付
SORRY, SIR. CAN I ASK YOU TO TAKE A DETOUR?
YOU'RE ...
...TSUSHIMA-SAN, AREN'T YOU?

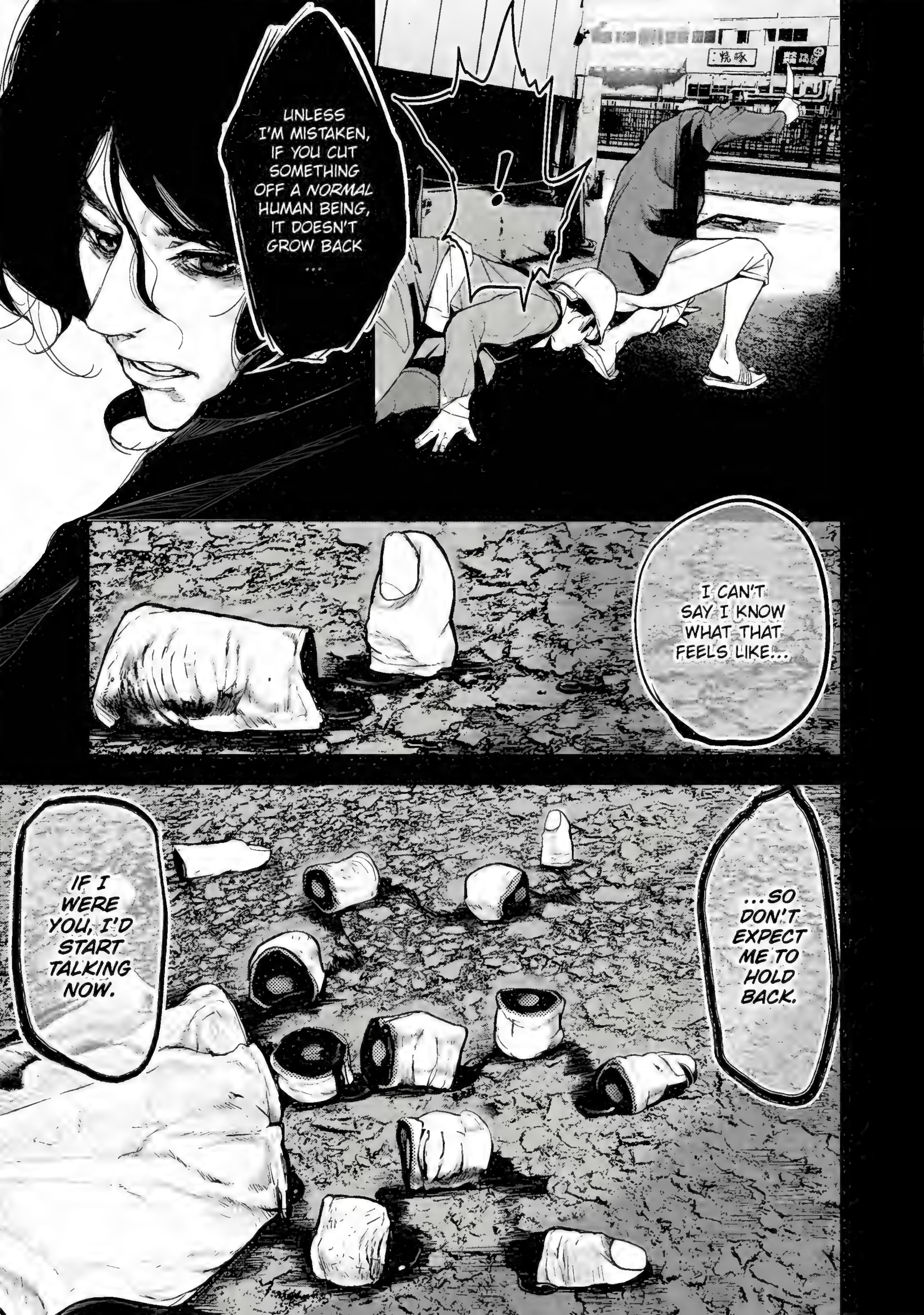

HUH?
CLAAAANG
DNK DNK DNK DNK
HONK HONK
HONK HONK HONK HOOONK HONK HONK
WHAT GIVES?
LET US THROUGH!!
HEY! WHERE'S OUR GODDAMN CROSSING GUARD?!
FOR GOD'S SAKE!
THUMP THUMP THUMP
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
HUH?
HE'S GONE...

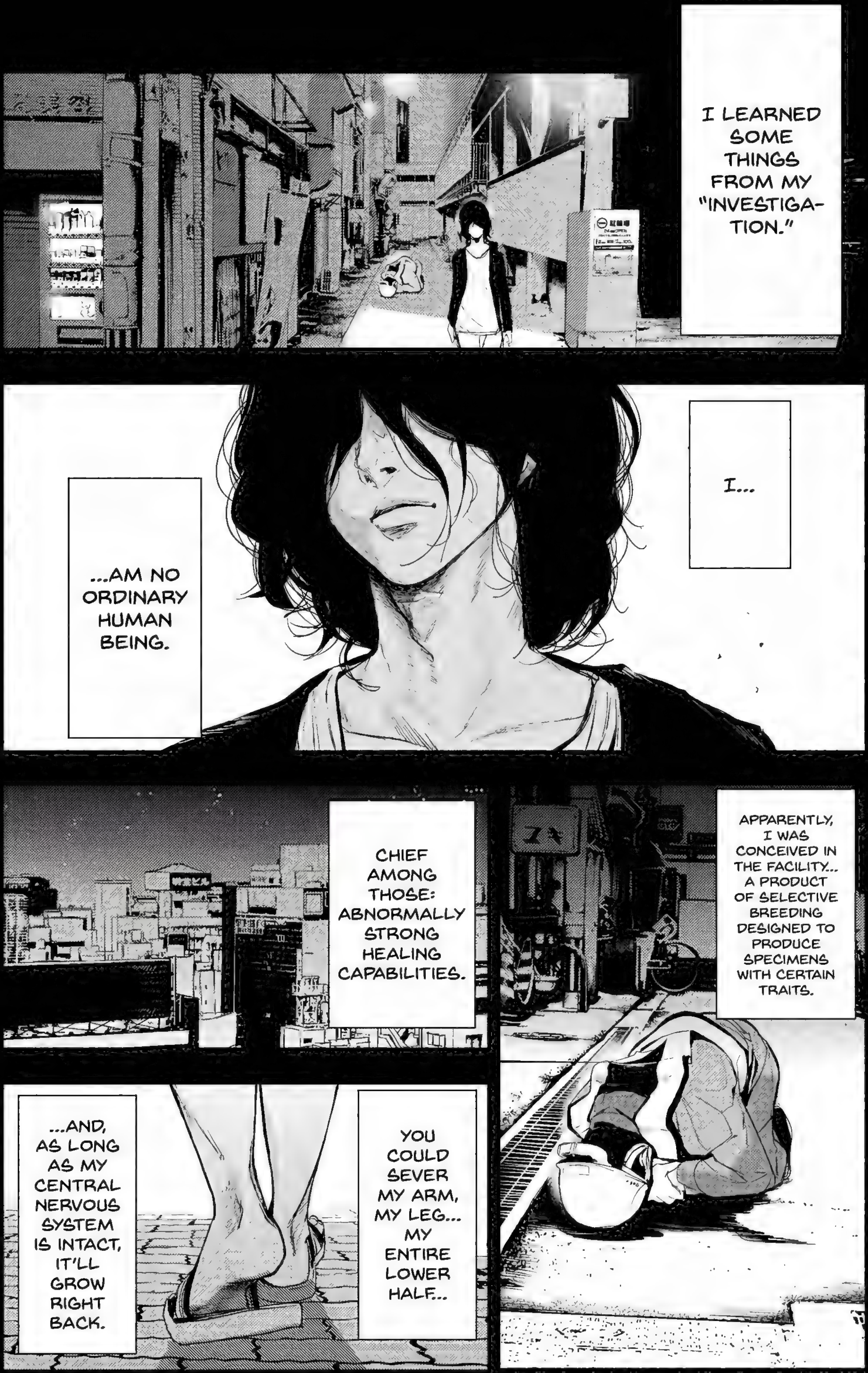

WHAM
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?! I COULD LOSE MY JOB IF I'M AWAY FROM MY POST, YOU KNOW!
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO IF YOU GET ME FIRED?!
LONG TIME NO SEE.
HUH?

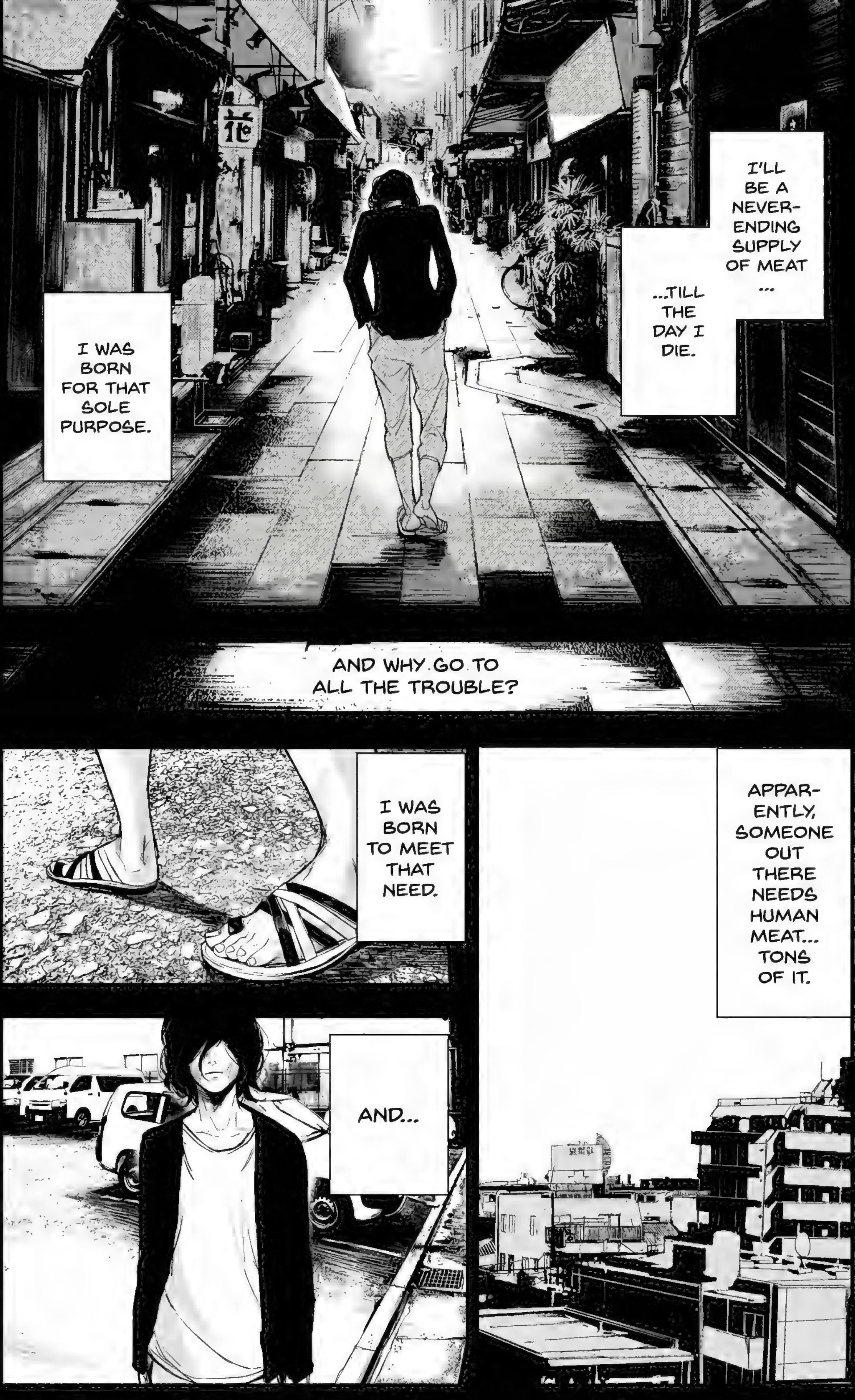

DO YOU REMEMBER MY FACE?
AAH!
IT'S... IT'S YOU!
WHERE THE HELL DID YOU RUN OFF TO, ANYWAY?!
YOU COST ME MY JOB, YOU SON OF A BITCH!
SHIT... I'M TURNING YOU IN! WHERE'S MY PHONE...?
PAT
PAT
PAT

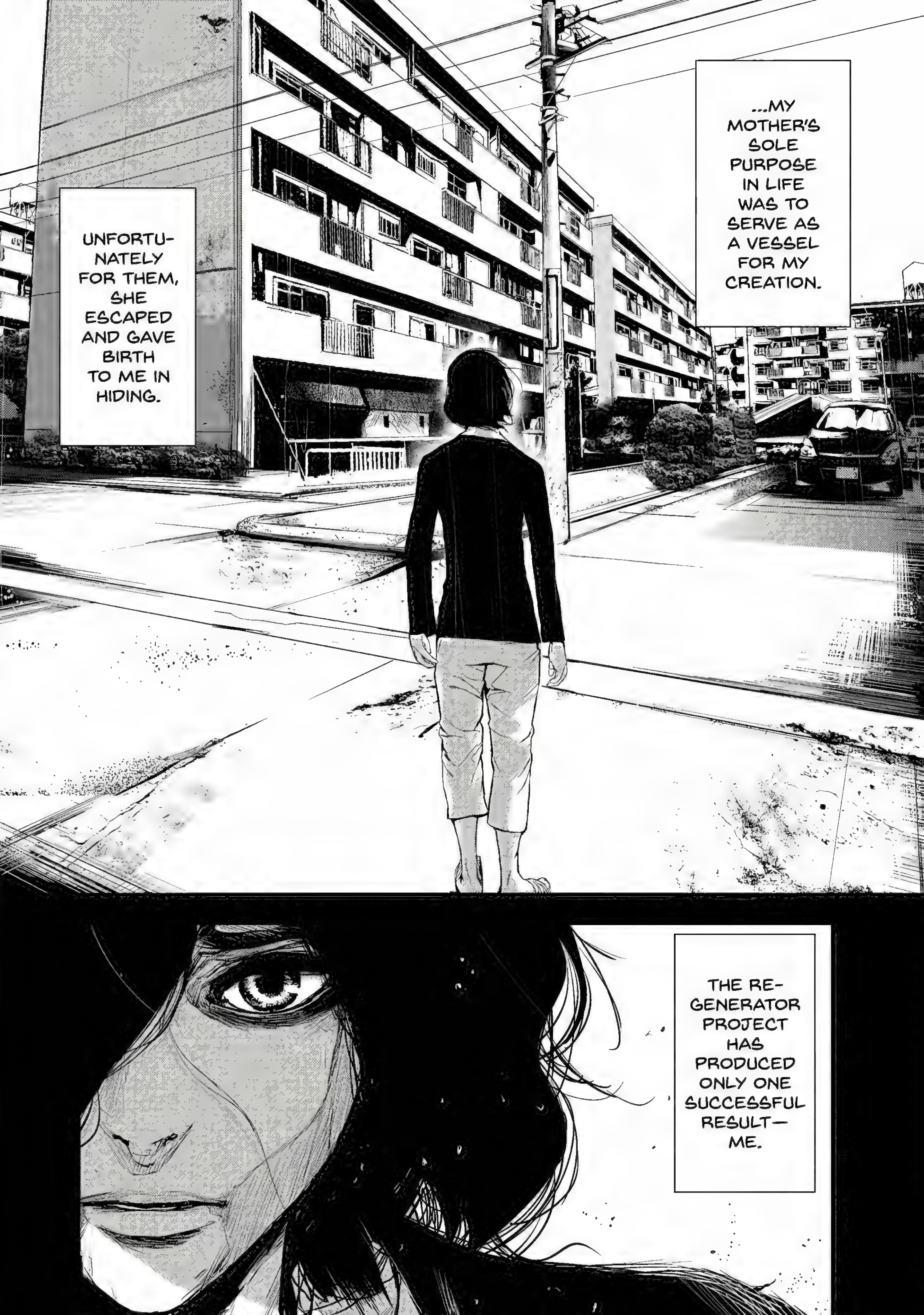

WHAT AM I?
TELL ME. KEEP IT SIMPLE.
HEH.
YOU MEAN YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW?
I CAN TELL YOU, KID...BUT IT'S GONNA COST YOU.
IT'S YOUR FAULT THEY THREW ME OFF THE FORCE, YOU–
OWW!!
WHAT THE...

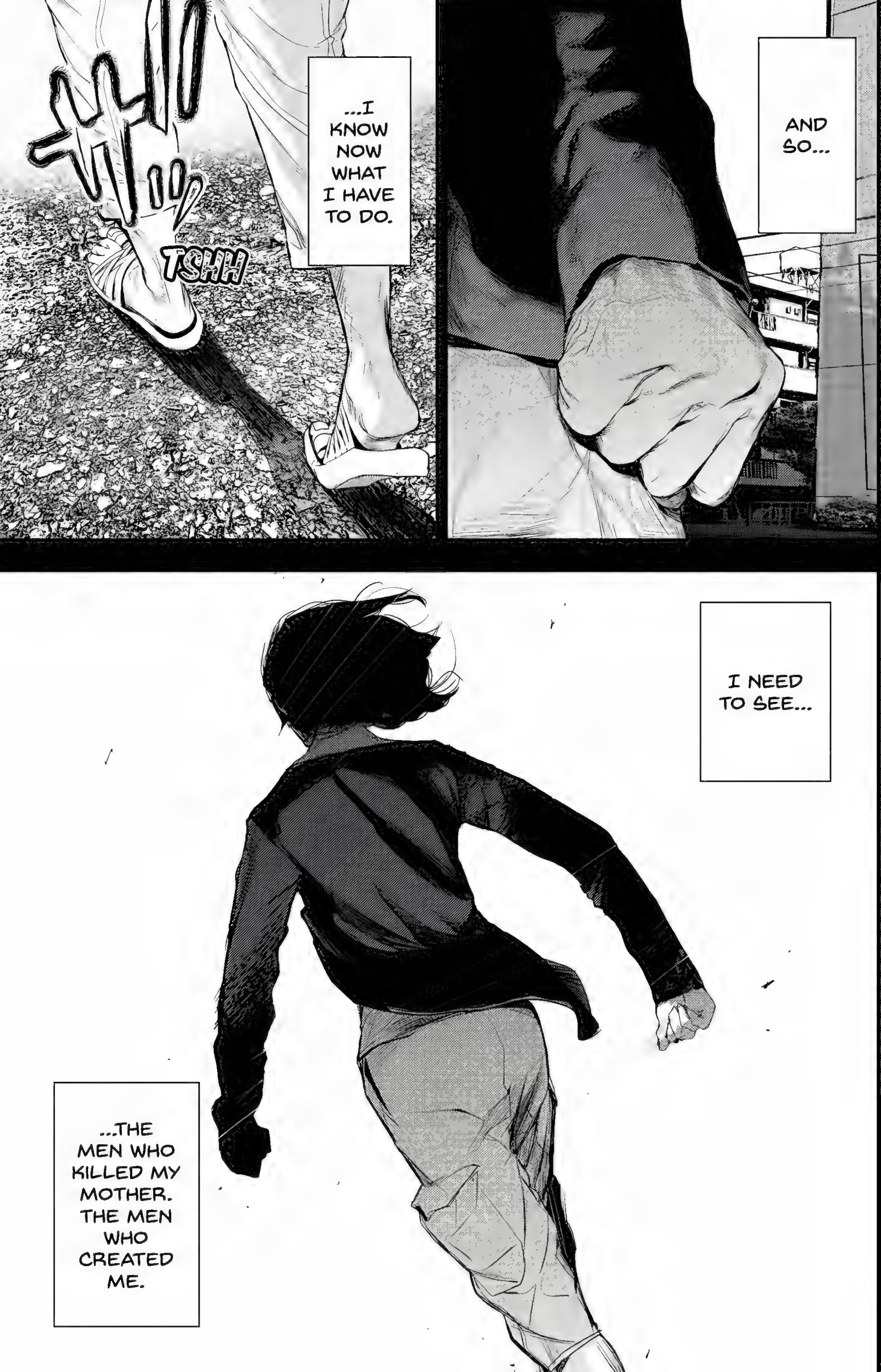

!!
IT'S ...
IT'S GONE ...
MY ...
MY NOSE ...
BAM

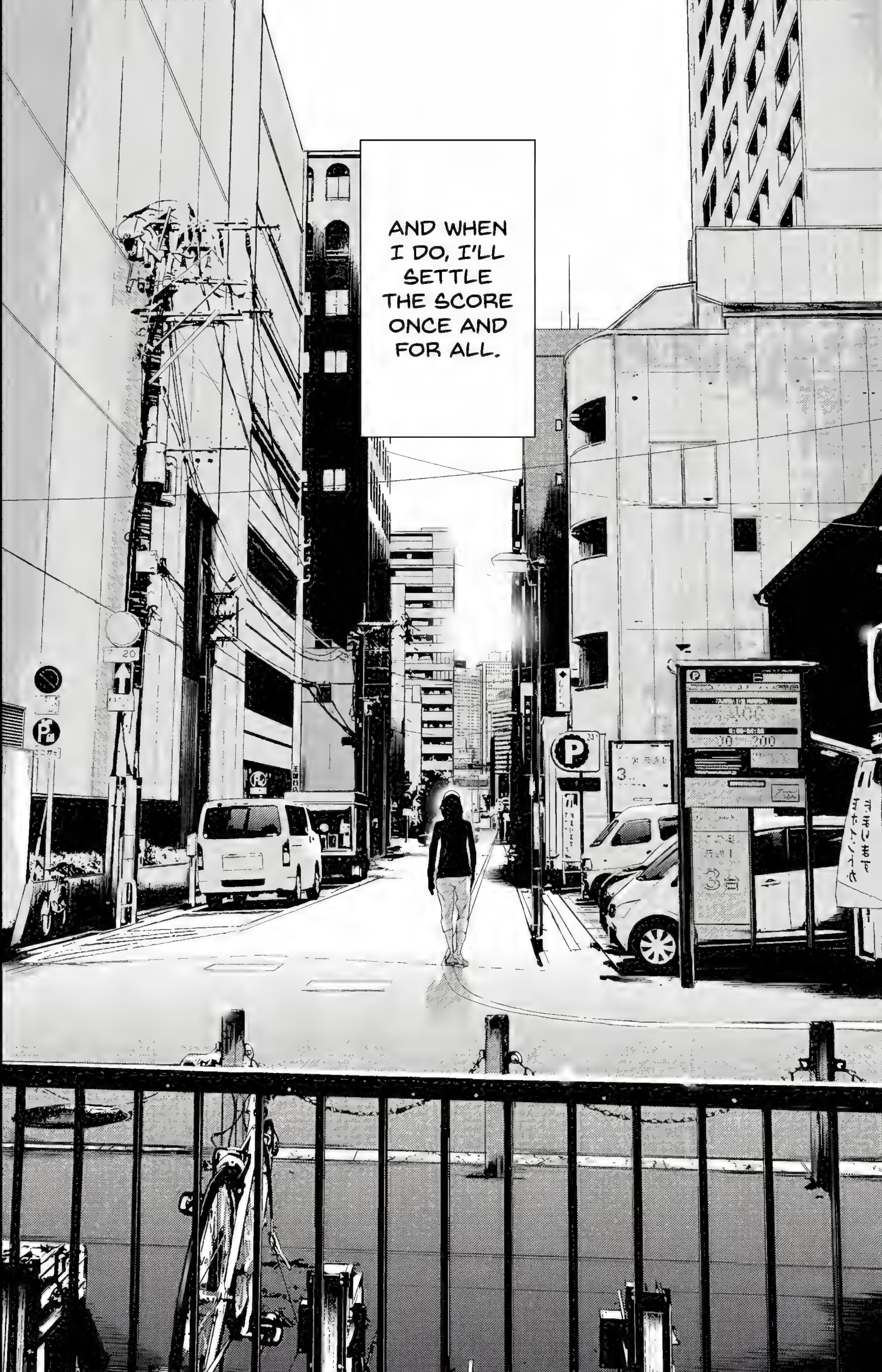

焼豚
!
UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, IF YOU CUT SOMETHING OFF A *NORMAL* HUMAN BEING, IT DOESN'T GROW BACK ...
I CAN'T SAY I KNOW WHAT THAT FEELS LIKE...
...SO DON'T EXPECT ME TO HOLD BACK.
IF I WERE YOU, I'D START TALKING NOW.


I LEARNED SOME THINGS FROM MY "INVESTIGATION."
I...
...AM NO ORDINARY HUMAN BEING.
APPARENTLY, I WAS CONCEIVED IN THE FACILITY... A PRODUCT OF SELECTIVE BREEDING DESIGNED TO PRODUCE SPECIMENS WITH CERTAIN TRAITS.
CHIEF AMONG THOSE: ABNORMALLY STRONG HEALING CAPABILITIES.
YOU COULD SEVER MY ARM, MY LEG... MY ENTIRE LOWER HALF...
...AND, AS LONG AS MY CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM IS INTACT, IT'LL GROW RIGHT BACK.

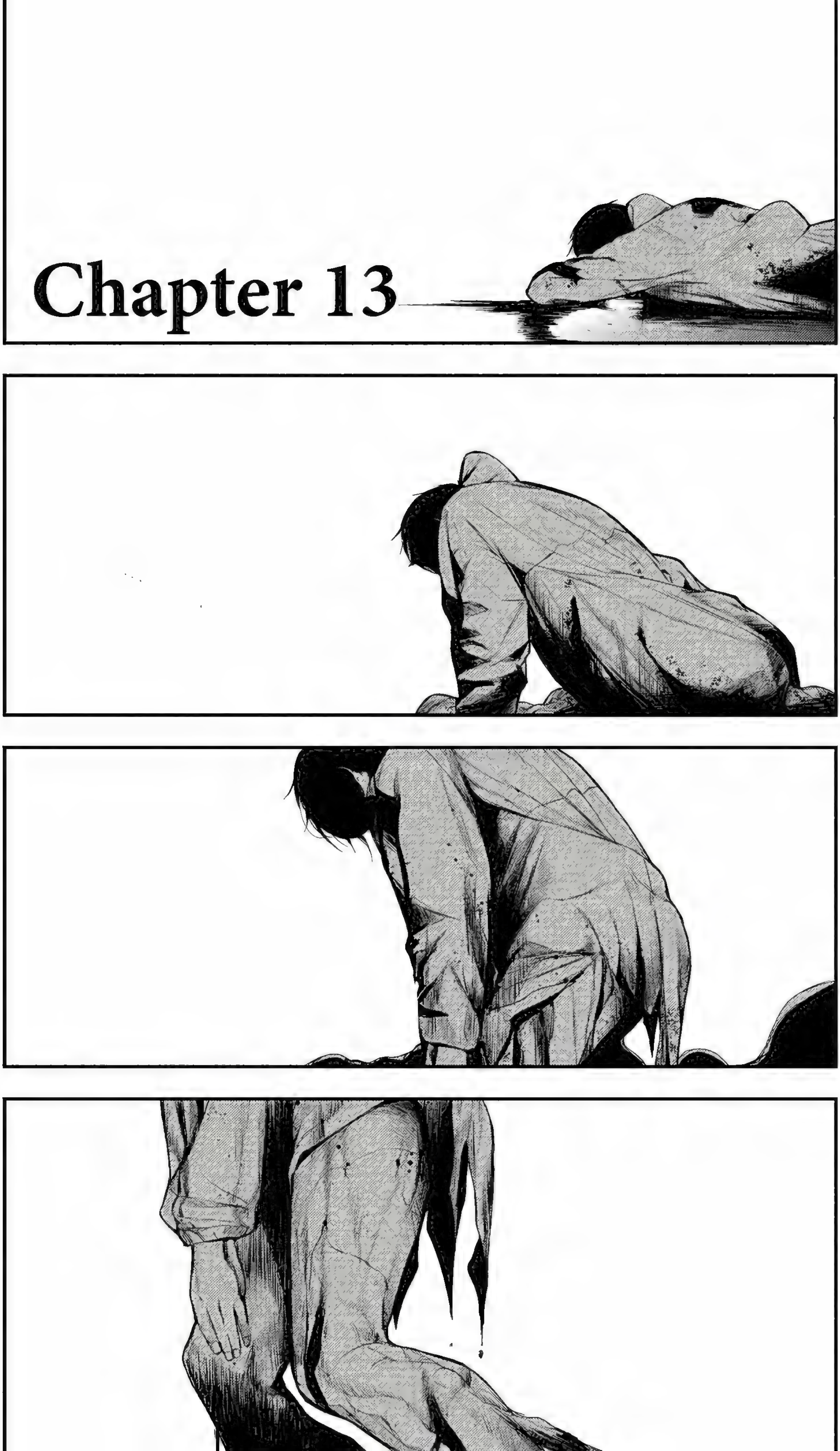

I'LL BE A NEVER-ENDING SUPPLY OF MEAT ...
...TILL THE DAY I DIE.
I WAS BORN FOR THAT SOLE PURPOSE.
AND WHY GO TO ALL THE TROUBLE?
APPARENTLY, SOMEONE OUT THERE NEEDS HUMAN MEAT... TONS OF IT.
I WAS BORN TO MEET THAT NEED.
AND...

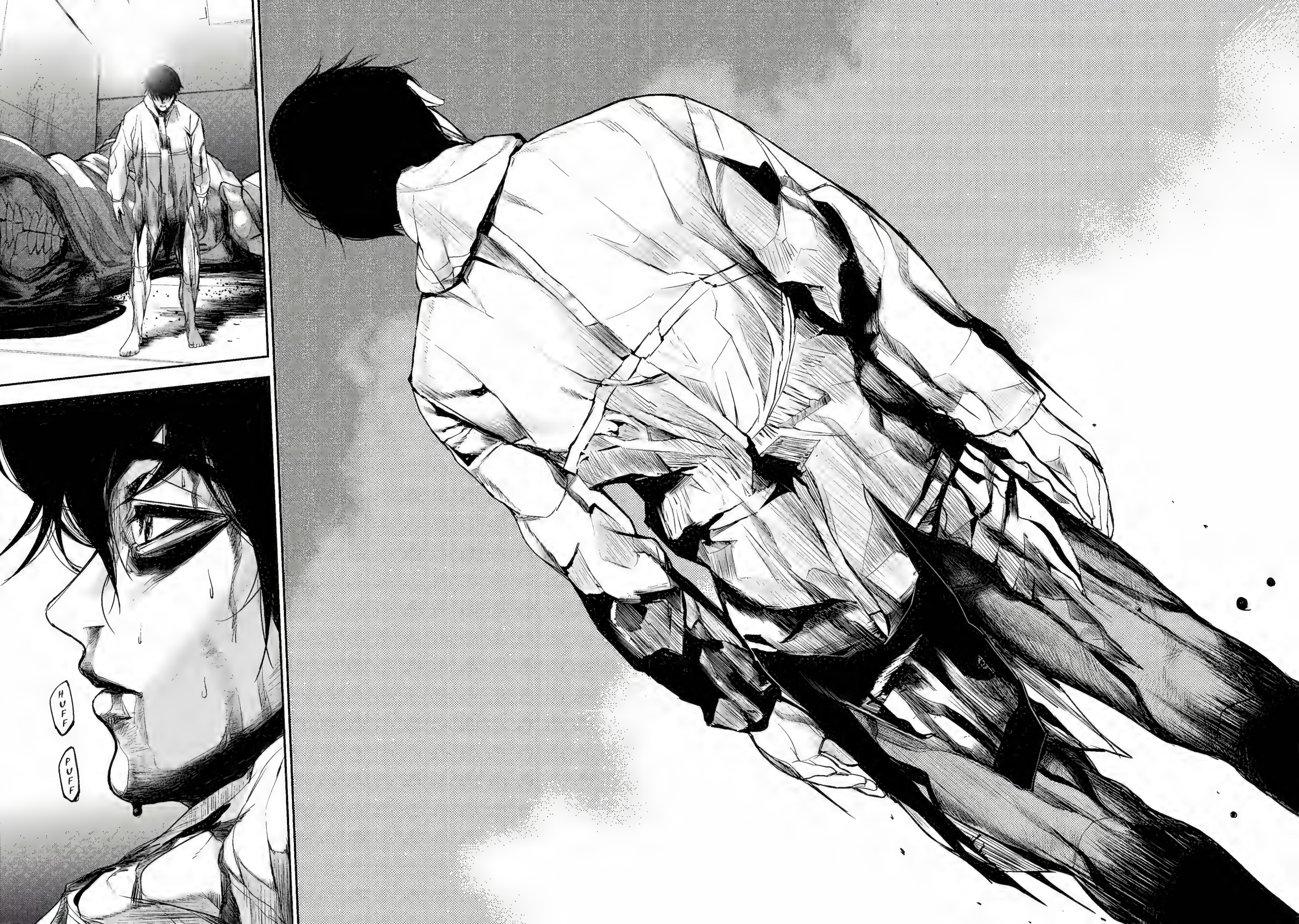

...MY MOTHER'S SOLE PURPOSE IN LIFE WAS TO SERVE AS A VESSEL FOR MY CREATION.
UNFORTUNATELY FOR THEM, SHE ESCAPED AND GAVE BIRTH TO ME IN HIDING.
THE REGENERATOR PROJECT HAS PRODUCED ONLY ONE SUCCESSFUL RESULT—ME.

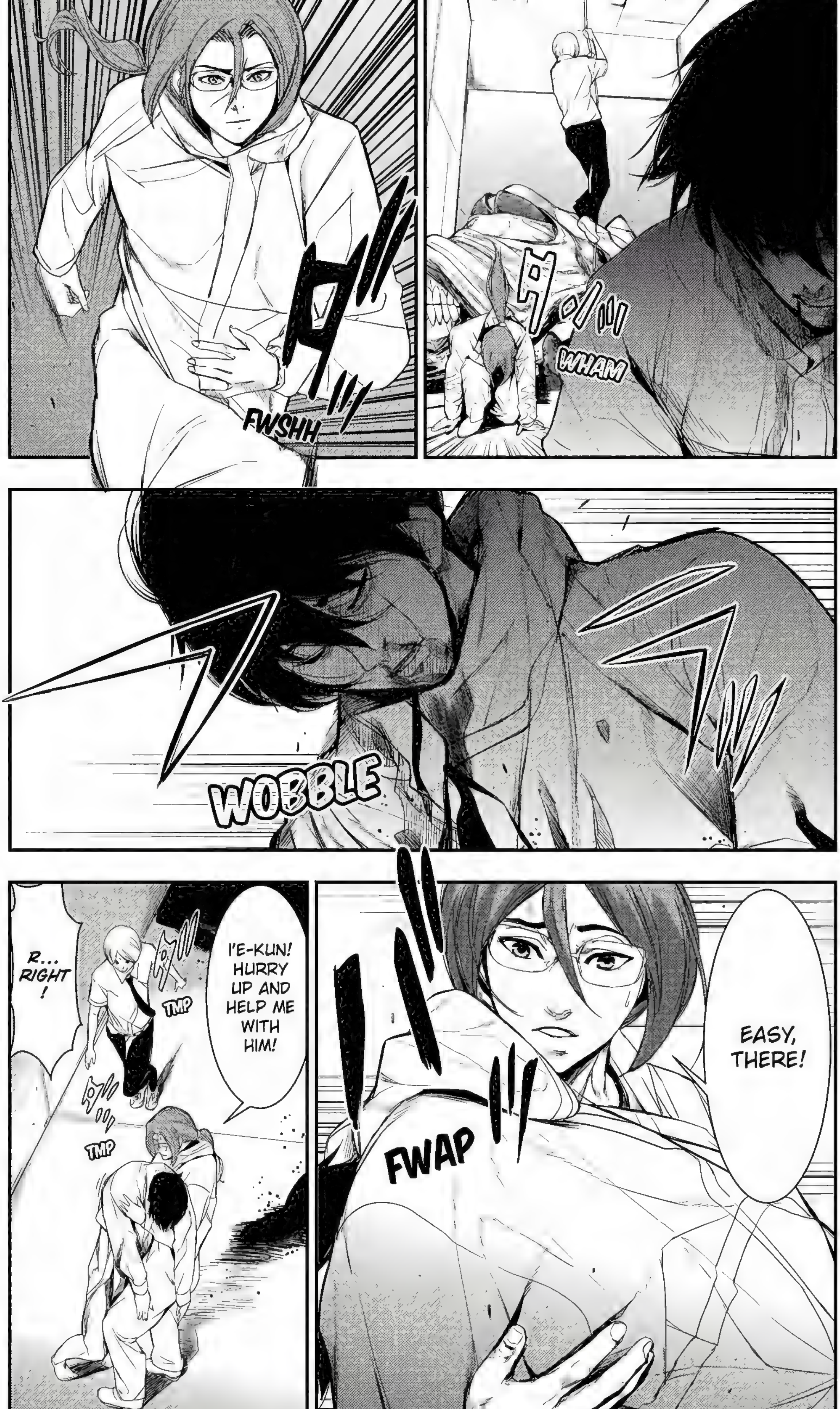

TSHH
...I KNOW NOW WHAT I HAVE TO DO.
AND SO...
I NEED TO SEE...
...THE MEN WHO KILLED MY MOTHER. THE MEN WHO CREATED ME.

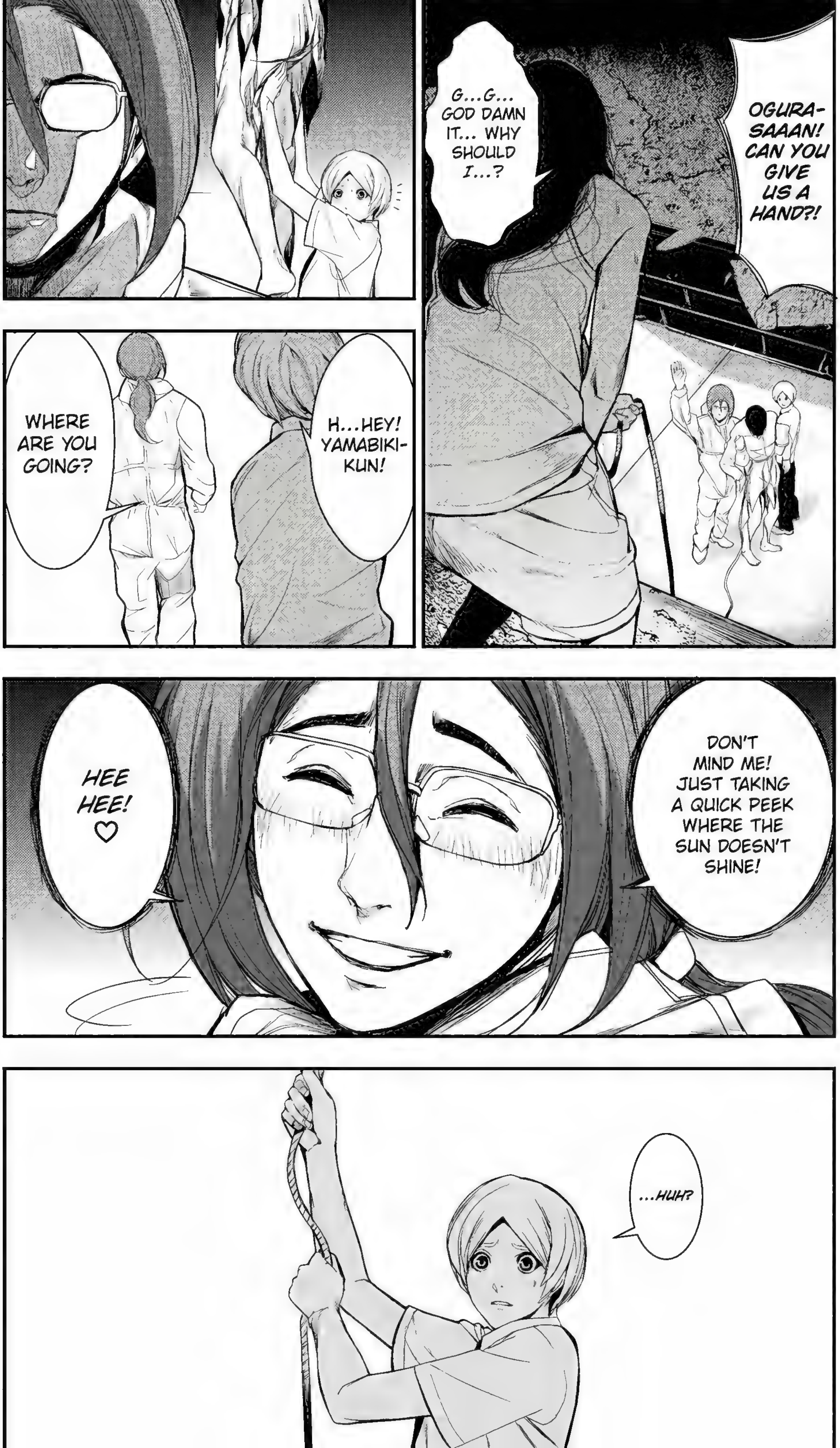

AND WHEN I DO, I'LL SETTLE THE SCORE ONCE AND FOR ALL.

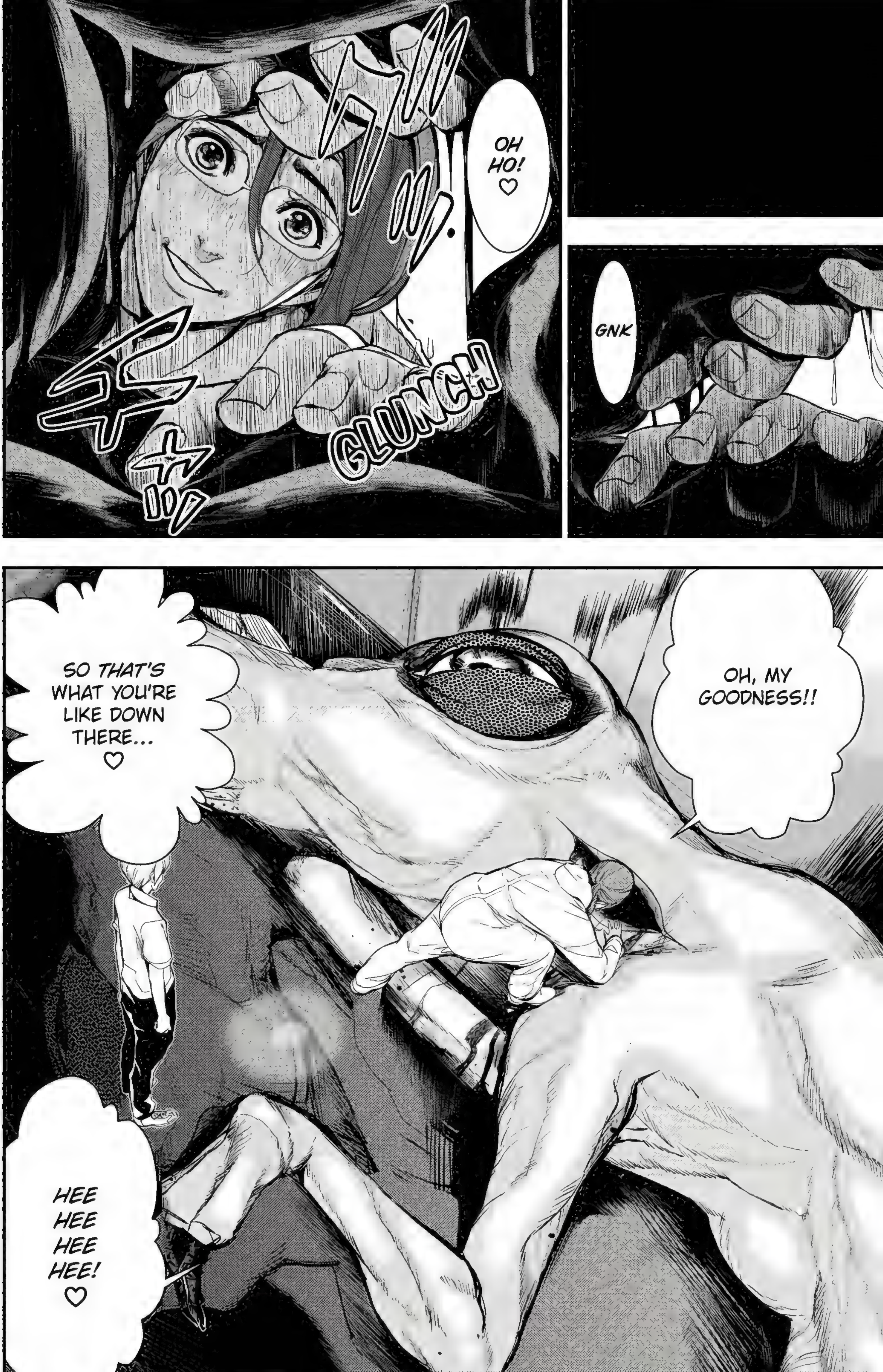
Chapter 13

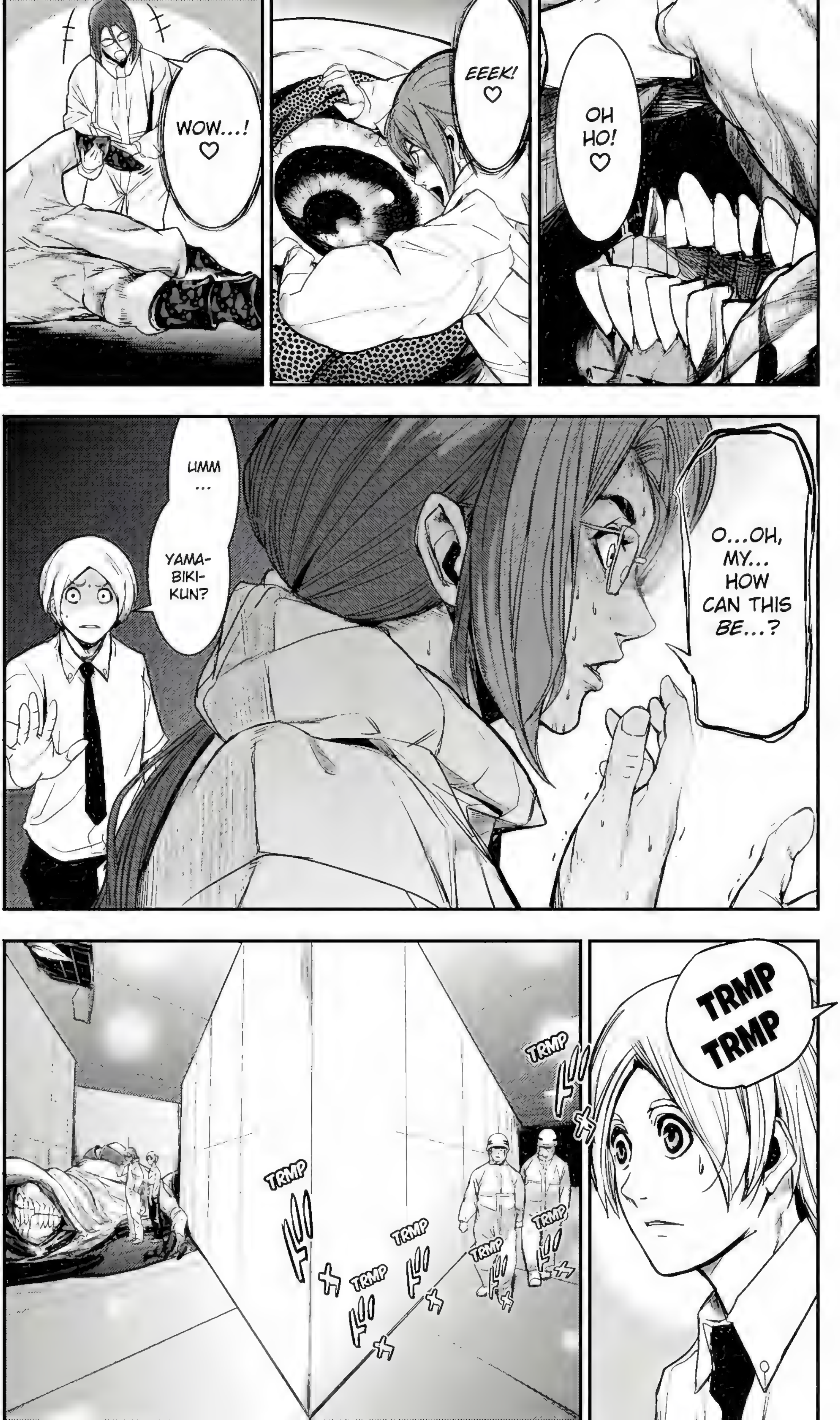


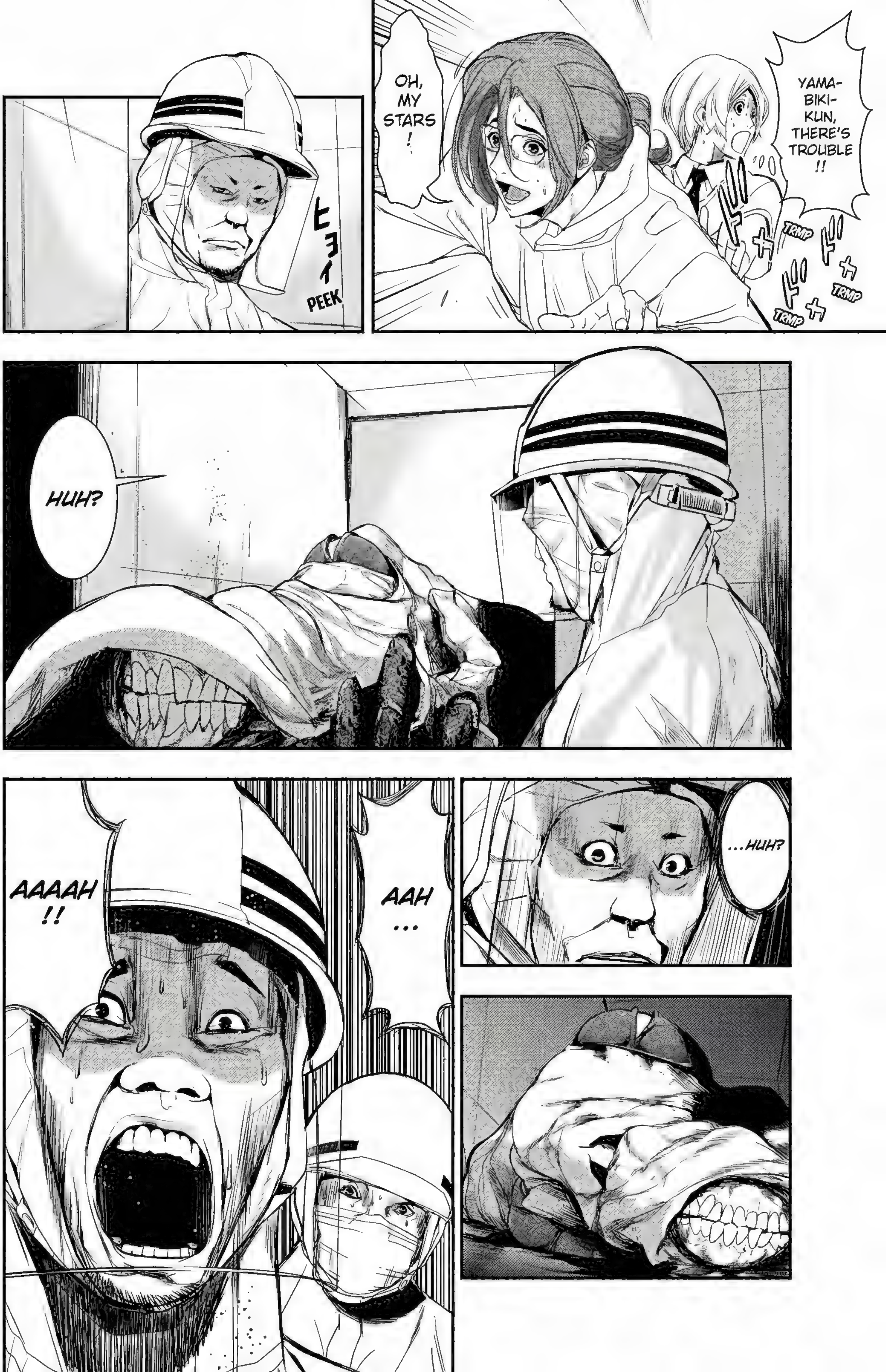

HUFF
PUFF

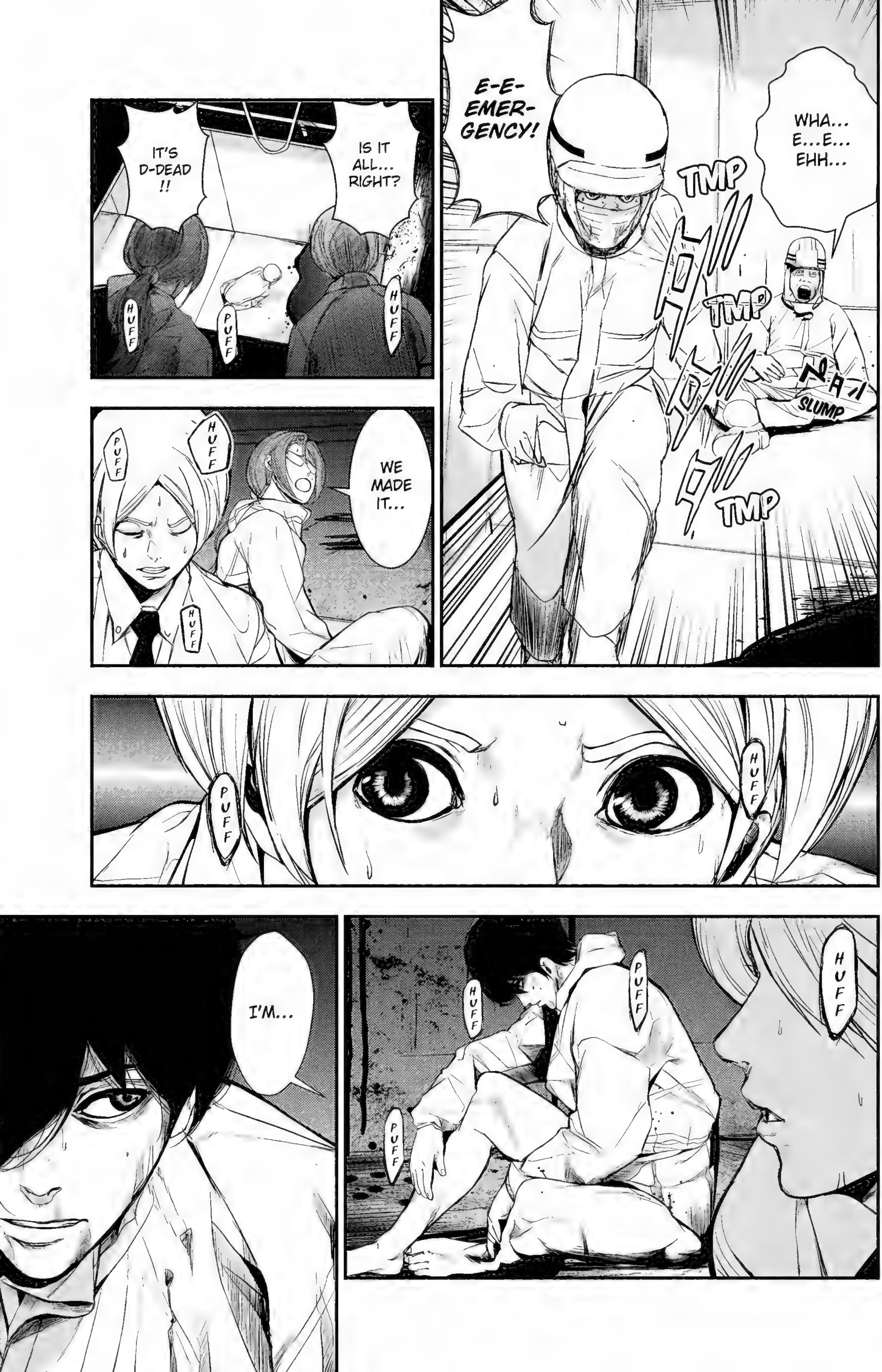

WHAM
FWSHH
WOBBLE
EASY, THERE!
FWAP
I'E-KUN! HURRY UP AND HELP ME WITH HIM!
R... RIGHT!
TMP
TMP

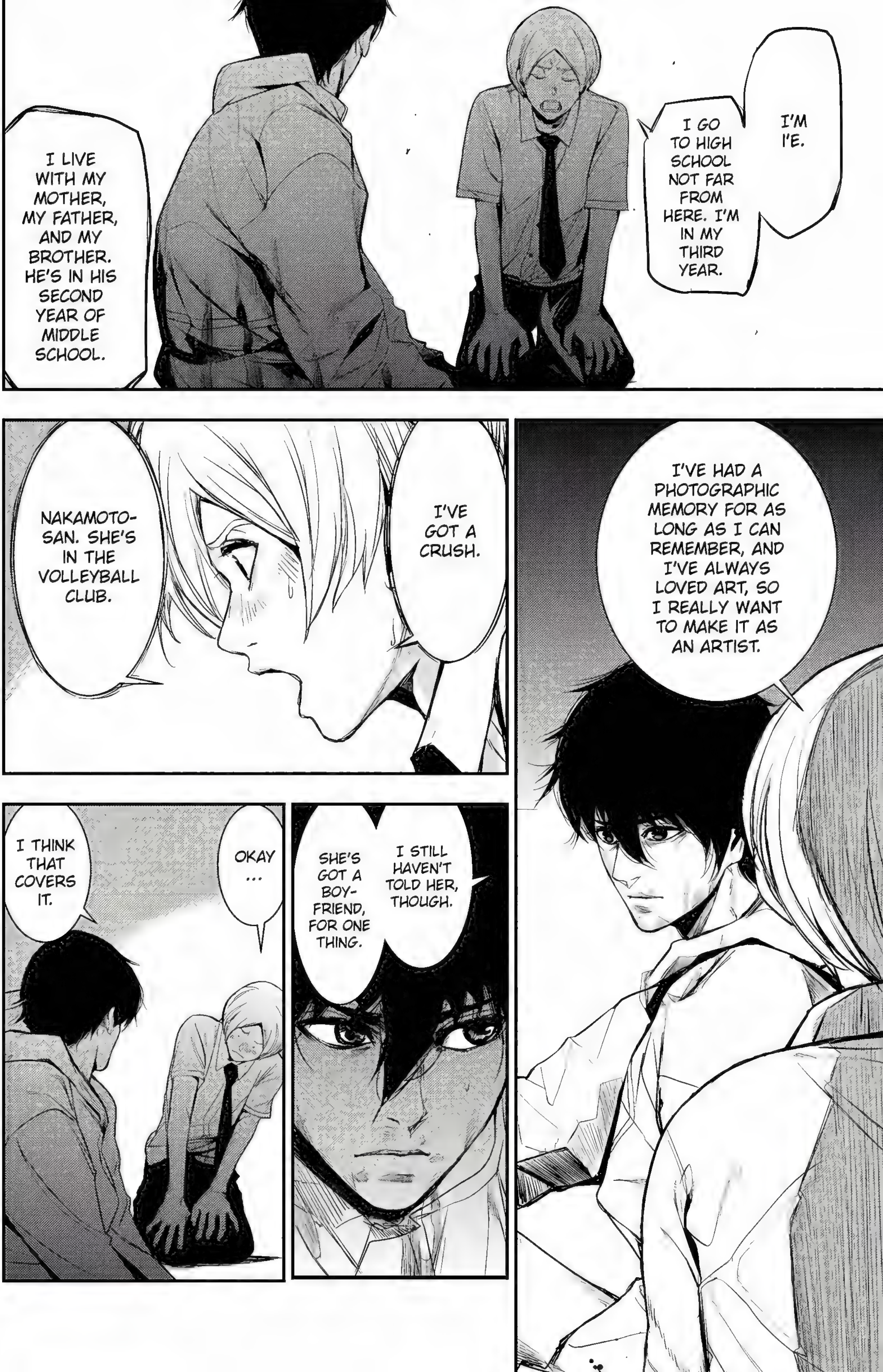

OGURA-SAAAN! CAN YOU GIVE US A HAND?!
G...G... GOD DAMN IT... WHY SHOULD I...?
H...HEY! YAMABIKI-KUN!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
DON'T MIND ME! JUST TAKING A QUICK PEEK WHERE THE SUN DOESN'T SHINE!
HEE HEE! ♡
...HUH?

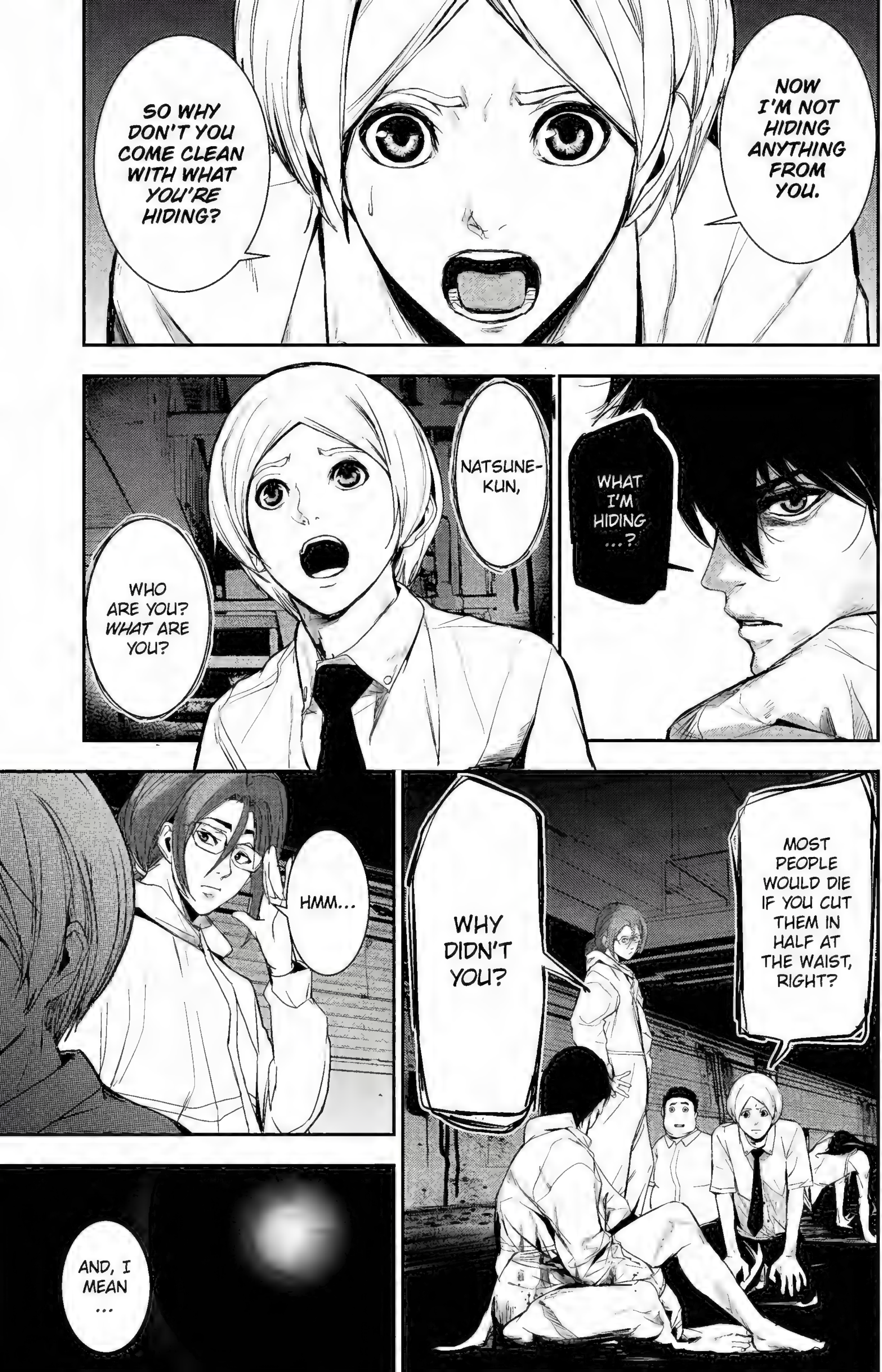

GNK
OH HO! ♡
GLUNCH
OH, MY GOODNESS!!
SO THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE LIKE DOWN THERE... ♡
HEE HEE HEE HEE! ♡

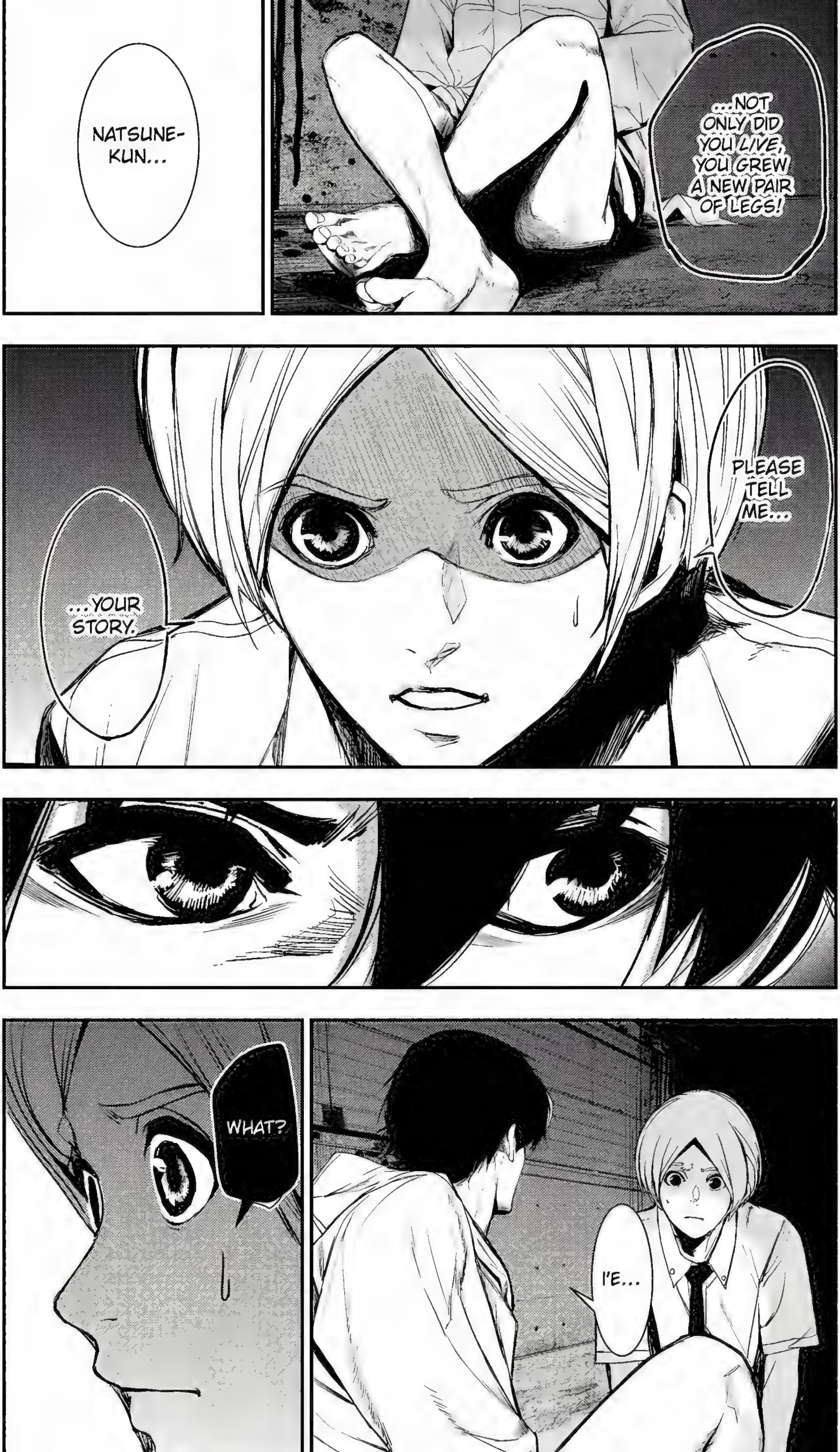

OH HO! ♡
EEEK! ♡
WOW...! ♡
O...OH, MY... HOW CAN THIS BE...?
UMM... YAMA-BIKI-KUN?
TRMP TRMP
TRMP
TRMP
TRMP
TRMP
TRMP
TRMP

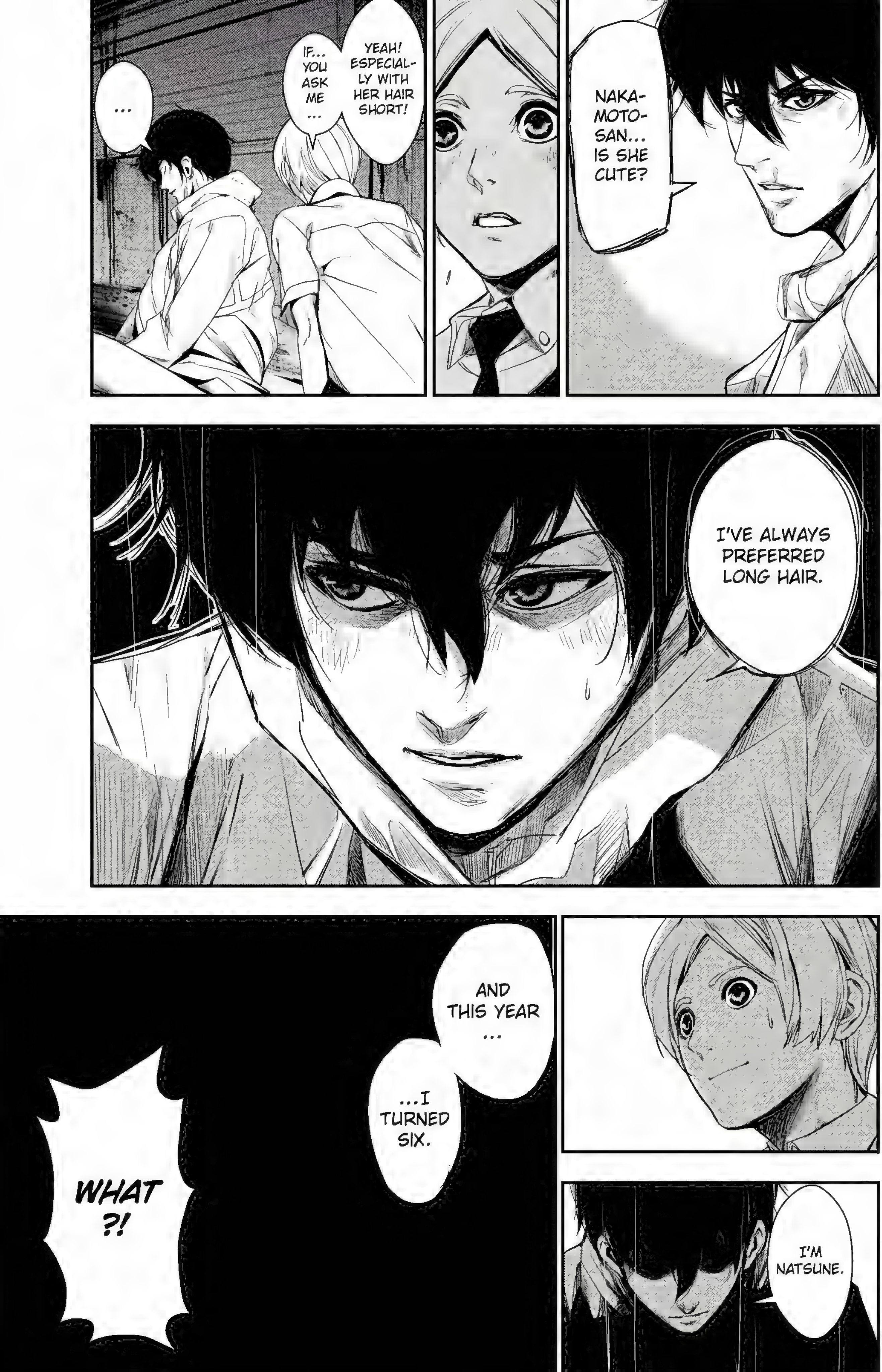

YAMA-BIKI-KUN, THERE'S TROUBLE!!
ドドドド TRMP TRMP TRMP
OH, MY STARS!
ヒョイ PEEK
HUH?
...HUH?
AAH...
AAAAH!!

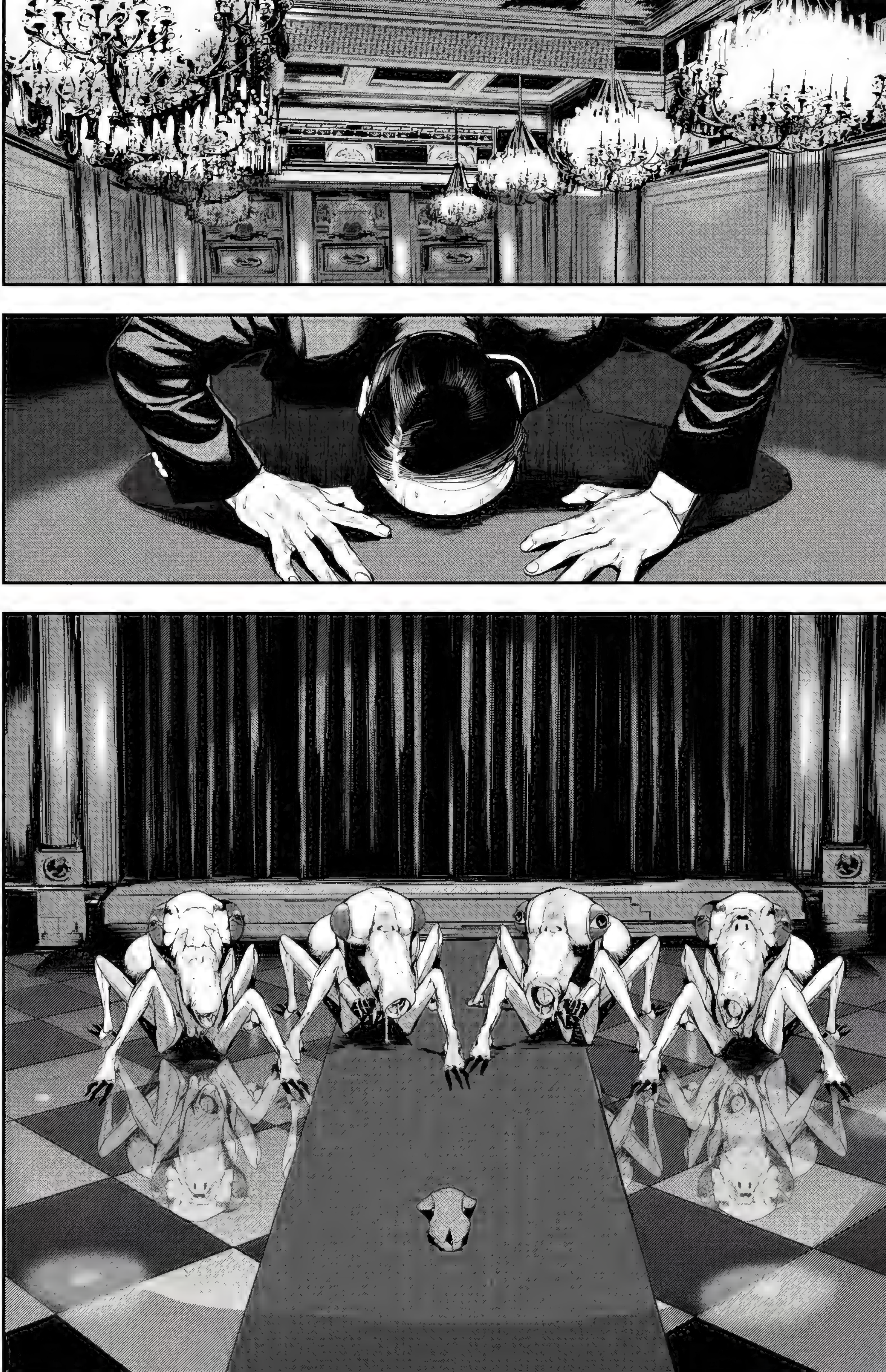

WHA... E...E... EHH...
E-E-EMERGENCY!
TMP
TMP
TMP
SLUMP
IS IT ALL... RIGHT?
IT'S D-DEAD !!
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
WE MADE IT...
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
I'M...

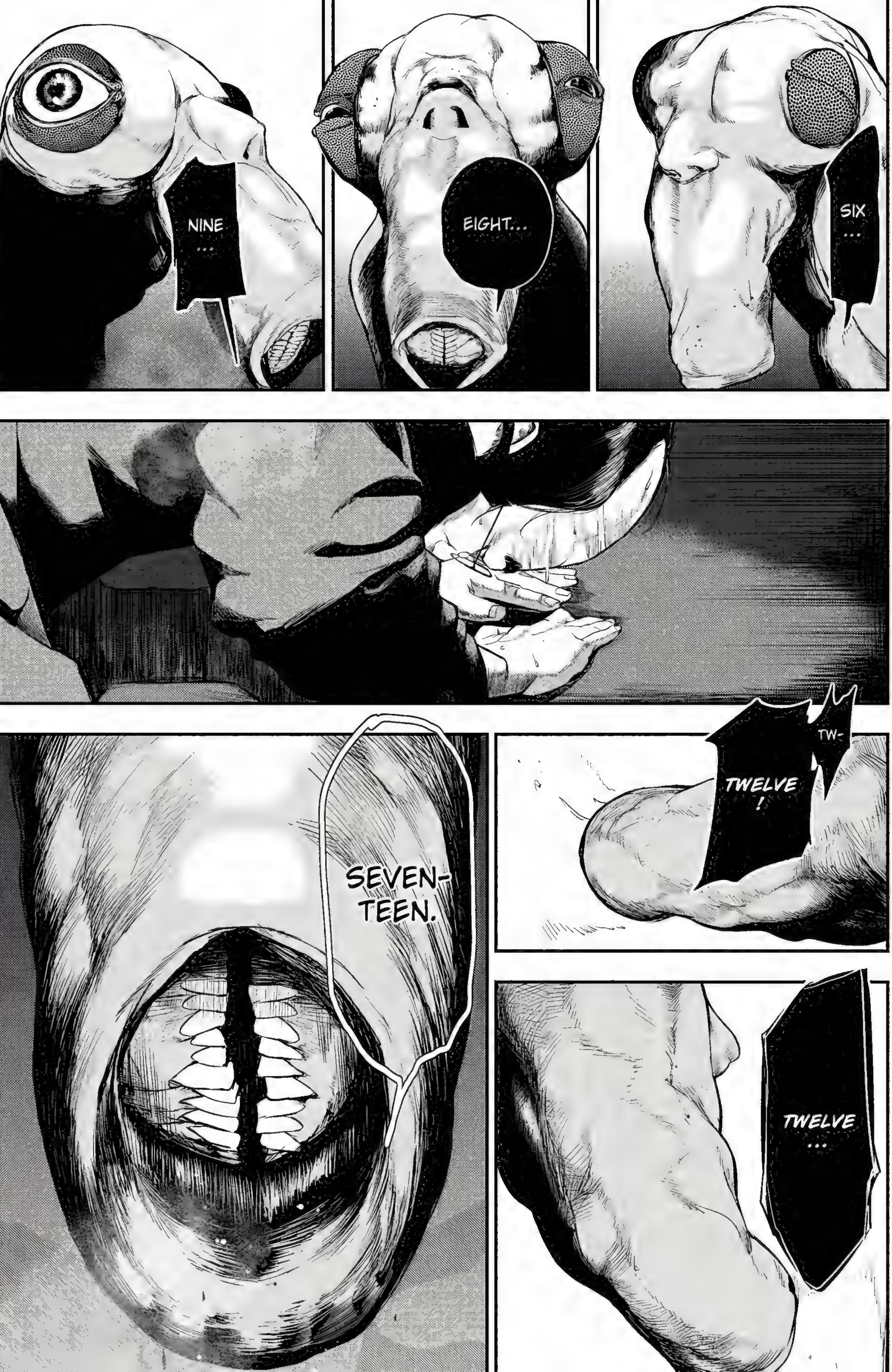

I'M I'E.
I GO TO HIGH SCHOOL NOT FAR FROM HERE. I'M IN MY THIRD YEAR.
I LIVE WITH MY MOTHER, MY FATHER, AND MY BROTHER. HE'S IN HIS SECOND YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL.
I'VE HAD A PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER, AND I'VE ALWAYS LOVED ART, SO I REALLY WANT TO MAKE IT AS AN ARTIST.
I'VE GOT A CRUSH.
NAKAMOTO-SAN. SHE'S IN THE VOLLEYBALL CLUB.
I STILL HAVEN'T TOLD HER, THOUGH.
SHE'S GOT A BOYFRIEND, FOR ONE THING.
OKAY ...
I THINK THAT COVERS IT.

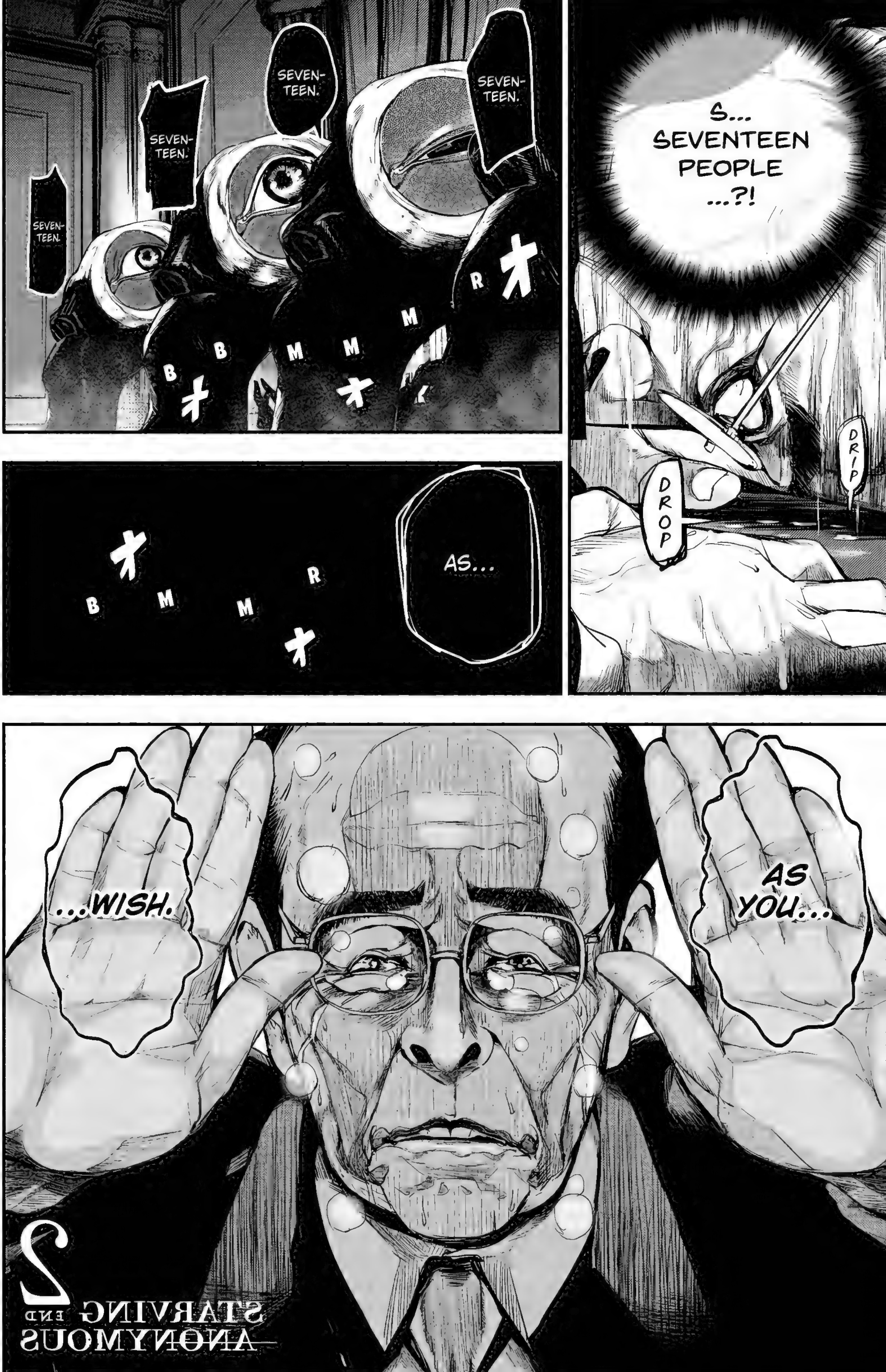

NOW I'M NOT HIDING ANYTHING FROM YOU.
SO WHY DON'T YOU COME CLEAN WITH WHAT YOU'RE HIDING?
WHAT I'M HIDING ...?
NATSUNE-KUN,
WHO ARE YOU? *WHAT* ARE YOU?
MOST PEOPLE WOULD DIE IF YOU CUT THEM IN HALF AT THE WAIST, RIGHT?
WHY DIDN'T YOU?
HMM...
AND, I MEAN ...


...NOT ONLY DID YOU *LIVE*, YOU GREW A NEW PAIR OF LEGS!
NATSUNE-KUN...
PLEASE TELL ME...
...YOUR STORY.
I'E...
WHAT?

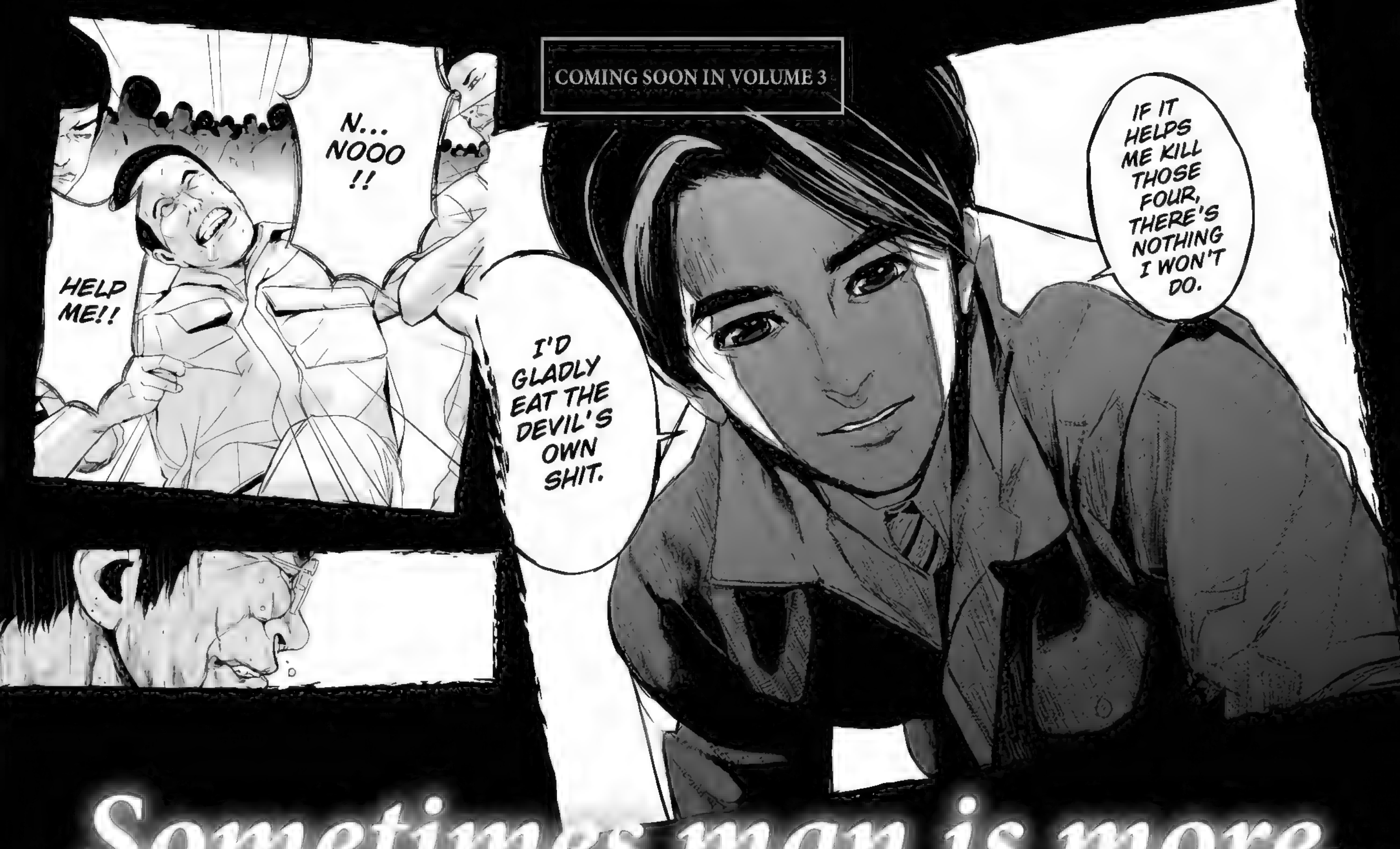

NAKA-MOTO-SAN... IS SHE CUTE?
YEAH! ESPECIALLY WITH HER HAIR SHORT!
IF... YOU ASK ME...
...
I'VE ALWAYS PREFERRED LONG HAIR.
AND THIS YEAR...
...I TURNED SIX.
WHAT?!
I'M NATSUNE.




SIX...
EIGHT...
NINE...
TW-
TWELVE!
TWELVE...
SEVENTEEN.

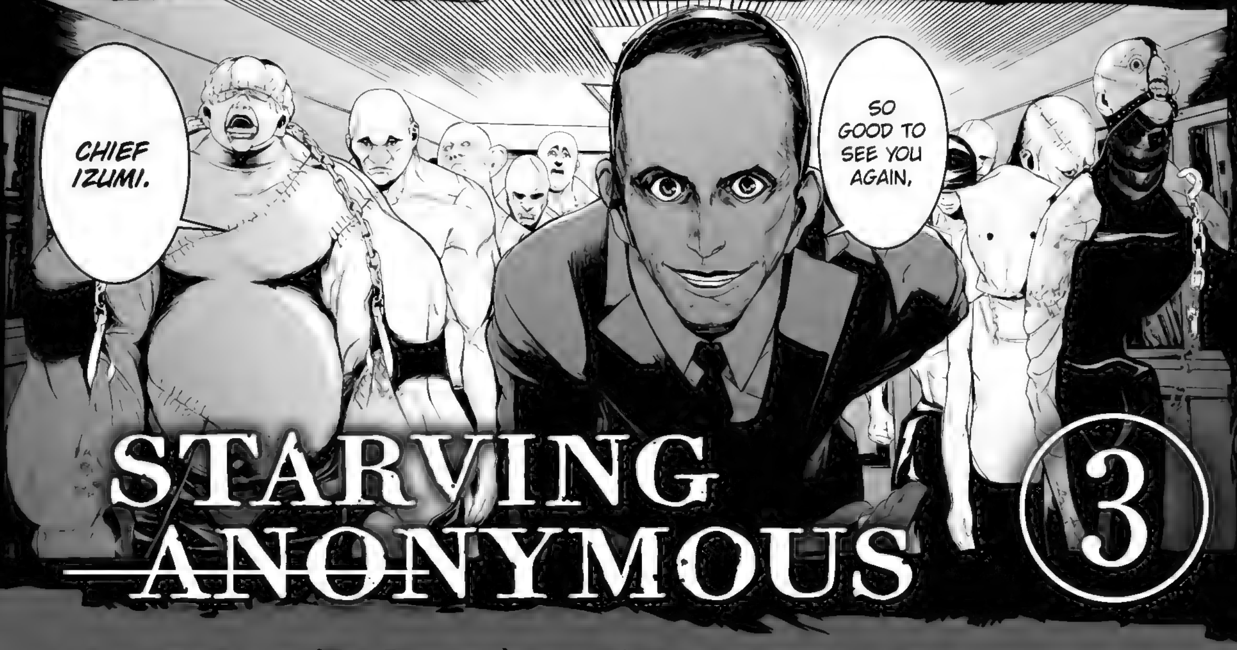

S... SEVENTEEN PEOPLE ...?!
DRIP
DROP
SEVENTEEN.
SEVENTEEN.
SEVENTEEN.
SEVENTEEN.
BBMMMR オ
AS...
BMMR オ
AS YOU...
...WISH.
2 END STARVING ANONYMOUS

COMING SOON IN VOLUME 3


IF IT HELPS ME KILL THOSE FOUR, THERE'S NOTHING I WON'T DO.
I'D GLADLY EAT THE DEVIL'S OWN SHIT.
N... NOOO!!
HELP ME!!

Sometimes man is more terrifying than beast.

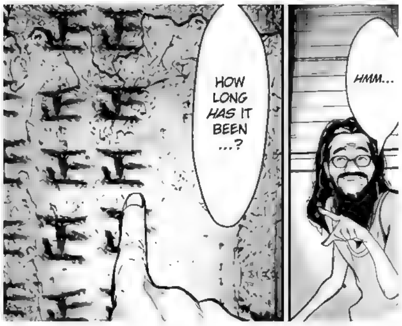
"Seventeen," decree the masters of the facility, setting their sinister staff in motion. Those who should, by all rights, have nothing, pursue I'e and his companions with a menace beyond imagination...


SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN,
CHIEF IZUMI.

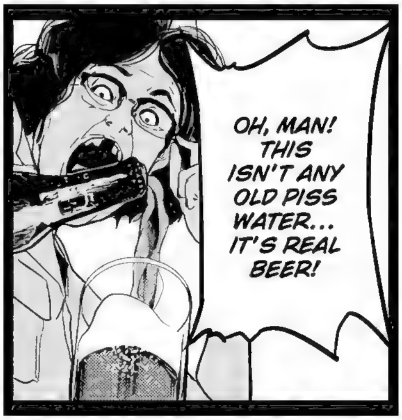
STARVING ANONYMOUS ③

Translation Notes

Ogura's tally marks, page 35
[35.6]
In context, it's clear that the writing covering the walls of Ogura's hideaway are tally marks, even if they look a bit different from what a Western reader might expect. For the curious, the character he's writing is *sei*, meaning "true." Japanese people often use this character for counting, rather than the "bundle of sticks" tally mark more common in the English-speaking world.


HMM...
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN ...?

Piss water, page 43
[43.4]
Just as in the original Japanese, this line in the English translation serves to communicate that the Cradle's new recruits come from a background of abject poverty. We did change this line just slightly, though, because the original line was a reference to *happoshu*, an alcoholic drink sold in Japan with an extremely low malt content—67% or less—making it similar to a very weak beer. Japanese beer taxes are based on the malt content of the beverage, and the 67% cutoff of *happoshu* means it's taxed at a lower rate than actual beer and other malt beverages.


OH, MAN! THIS ISN'T ANY OLD PISS WATER... IT'S REAL BEER!

Since *happoshu* is an uncommon sight outside of Japan, we elected to use a phrase that Western readers might find more immediately evocative of cheap booze. More literally, the line might be translated as:

"Whoa! This isn't *happoshu*...it's real beer, isn't it?!"

Starving Anonymous 2

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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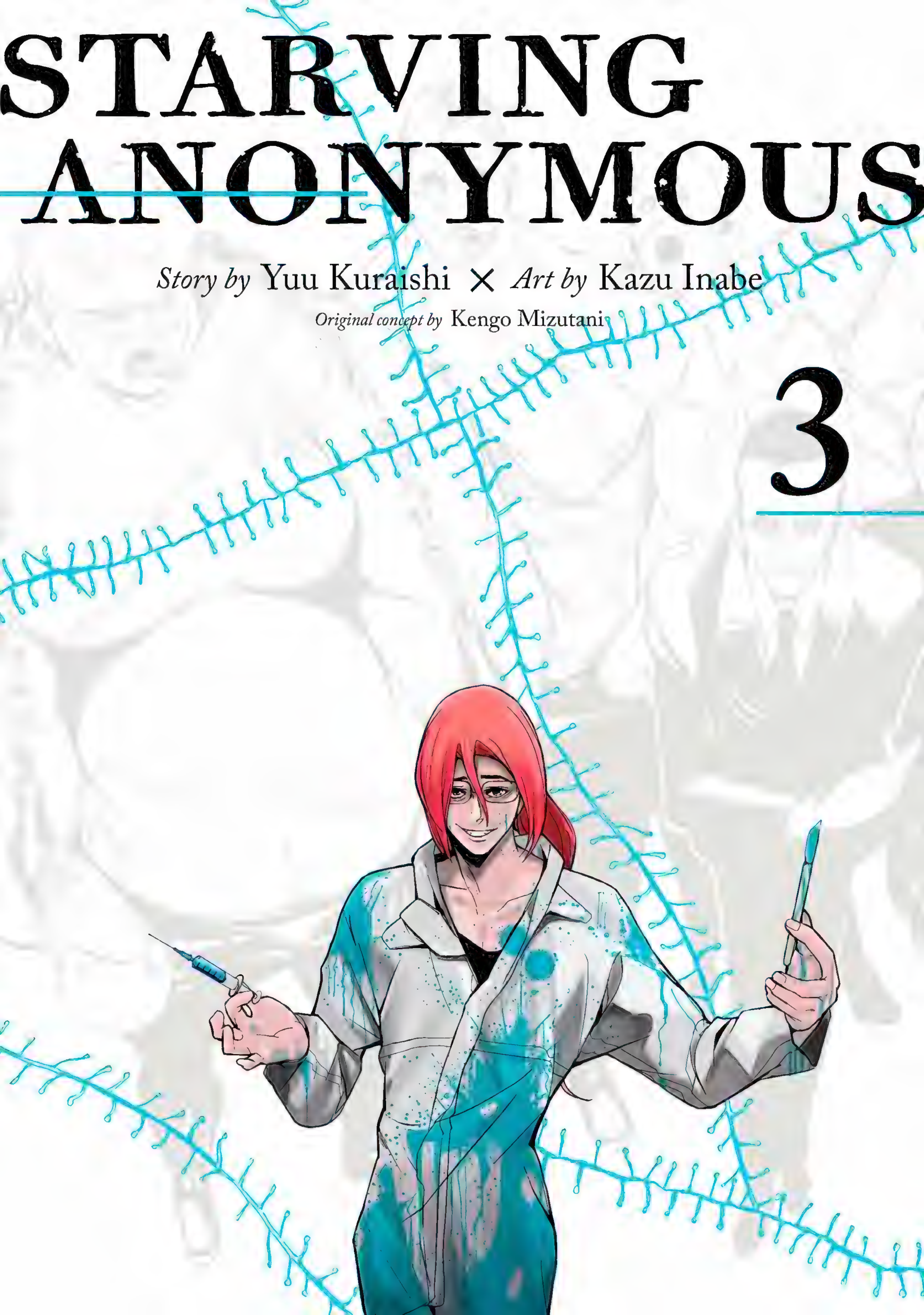
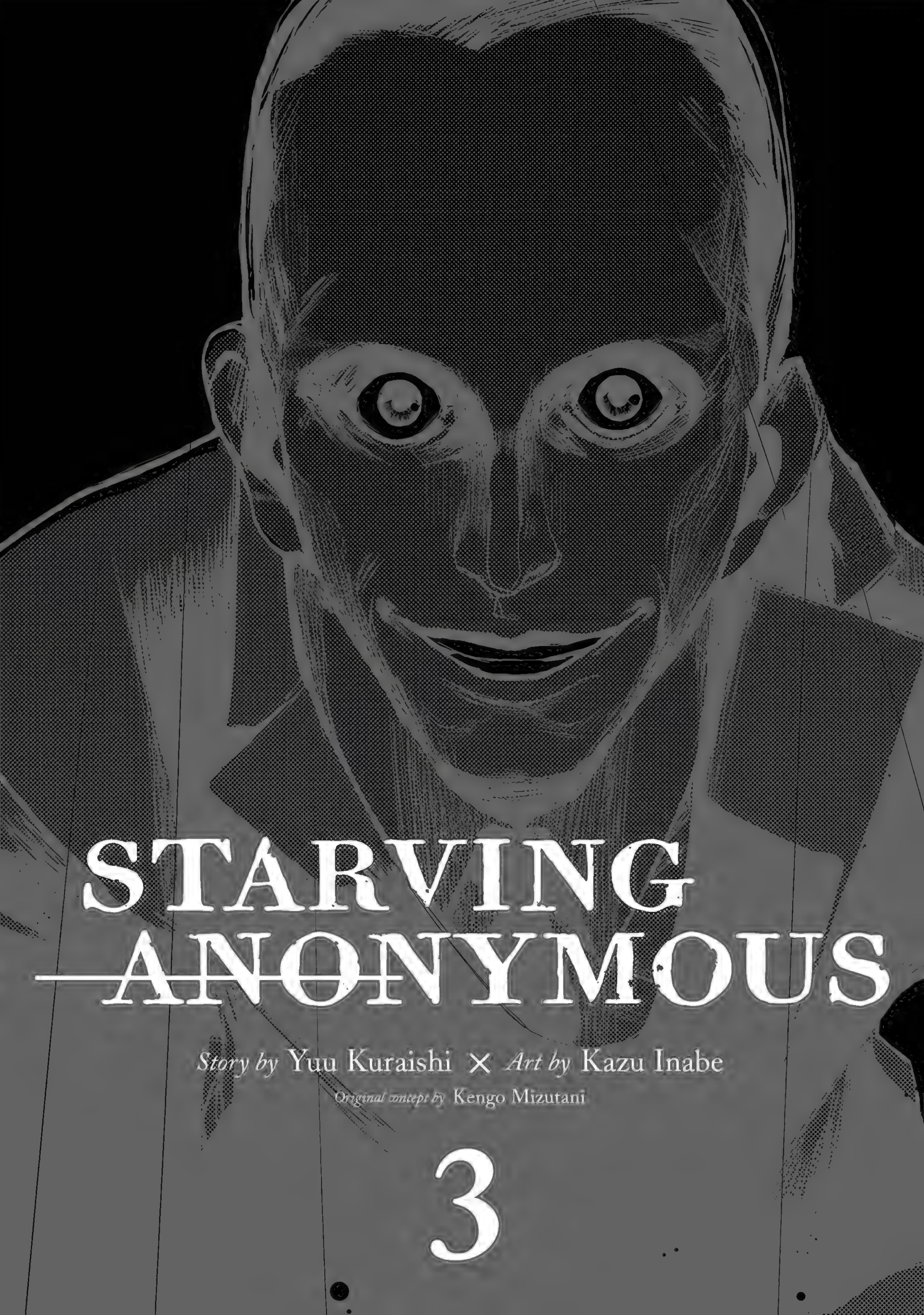
Original concept by Kengo Mizutani

3





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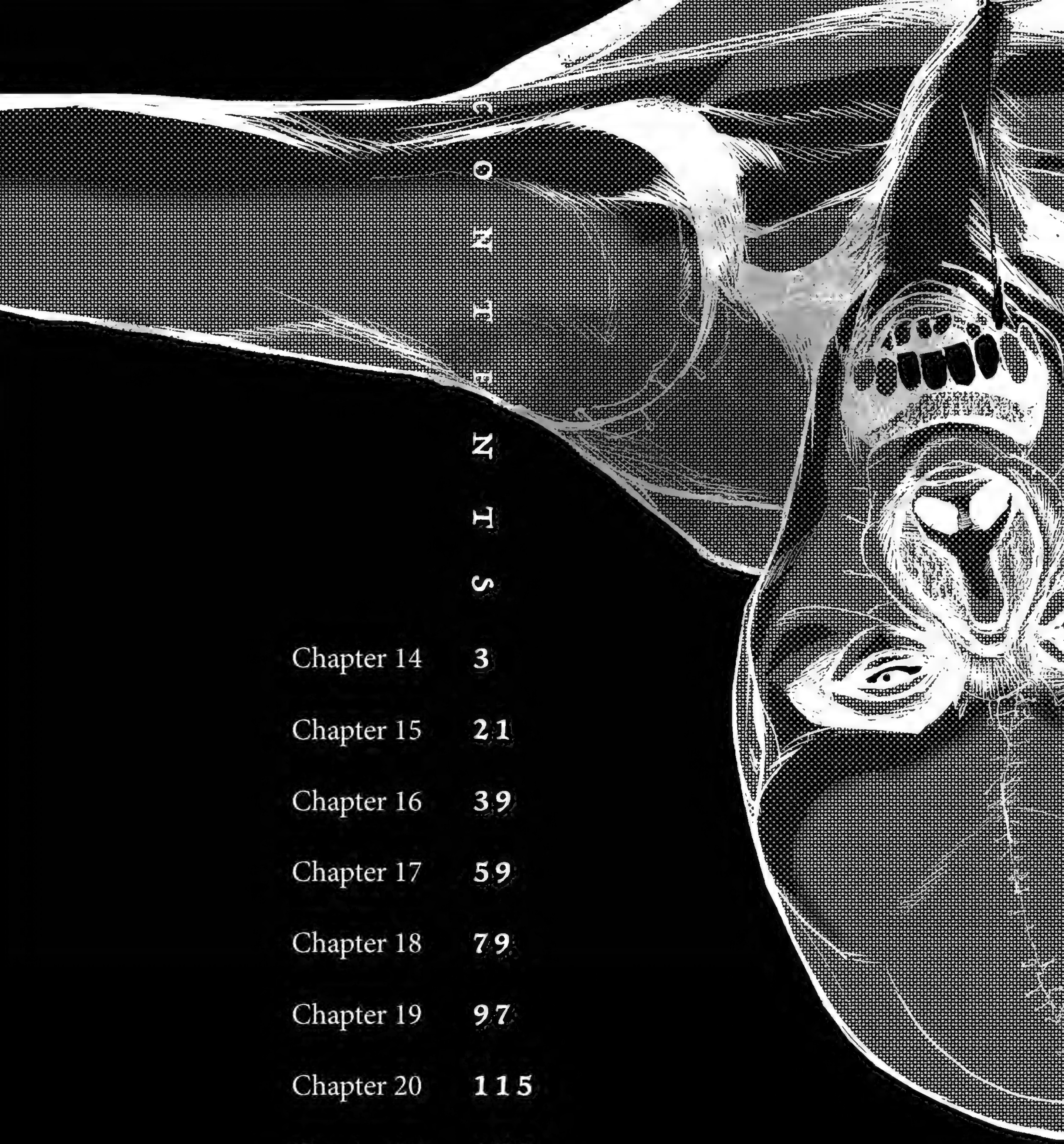

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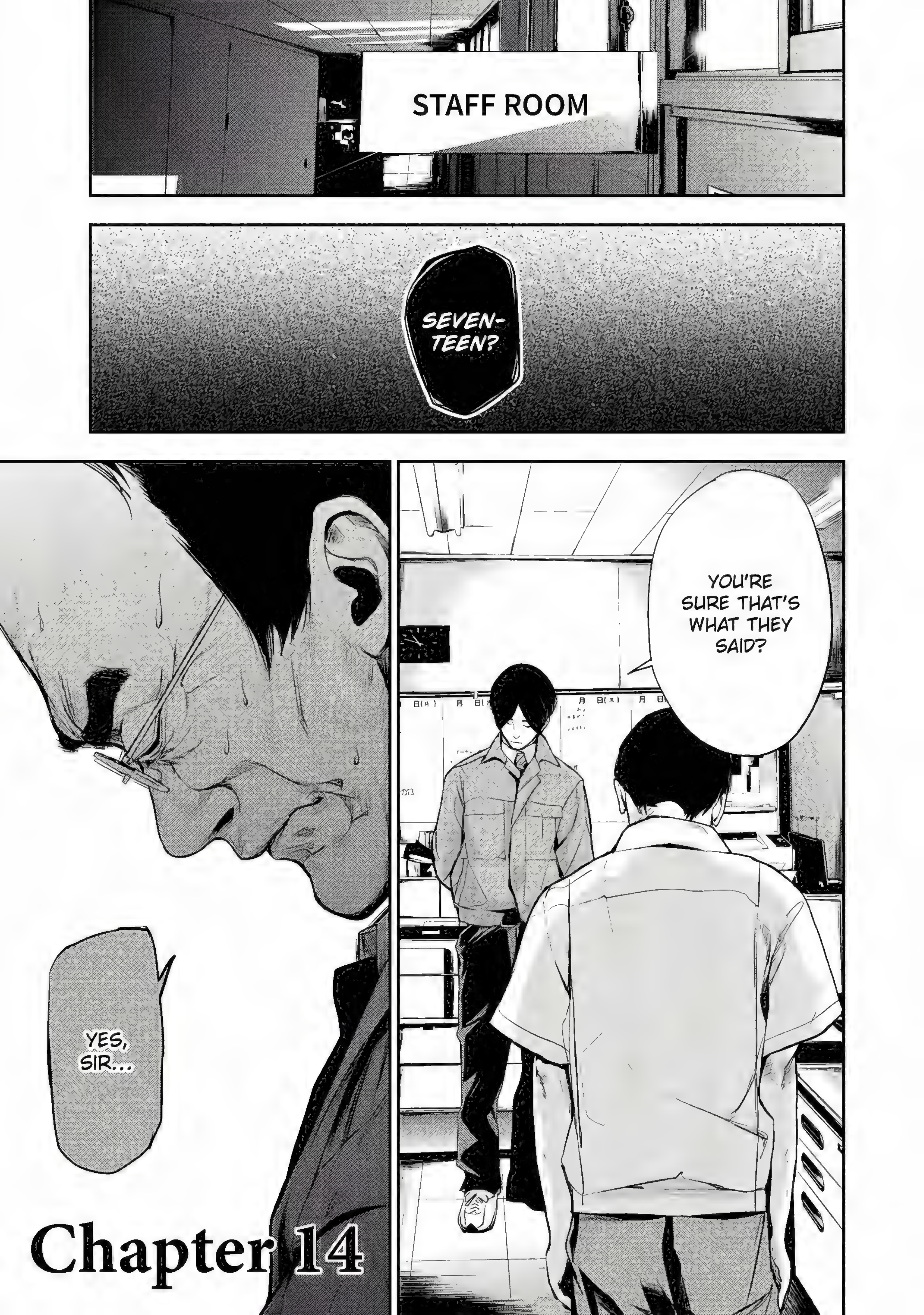
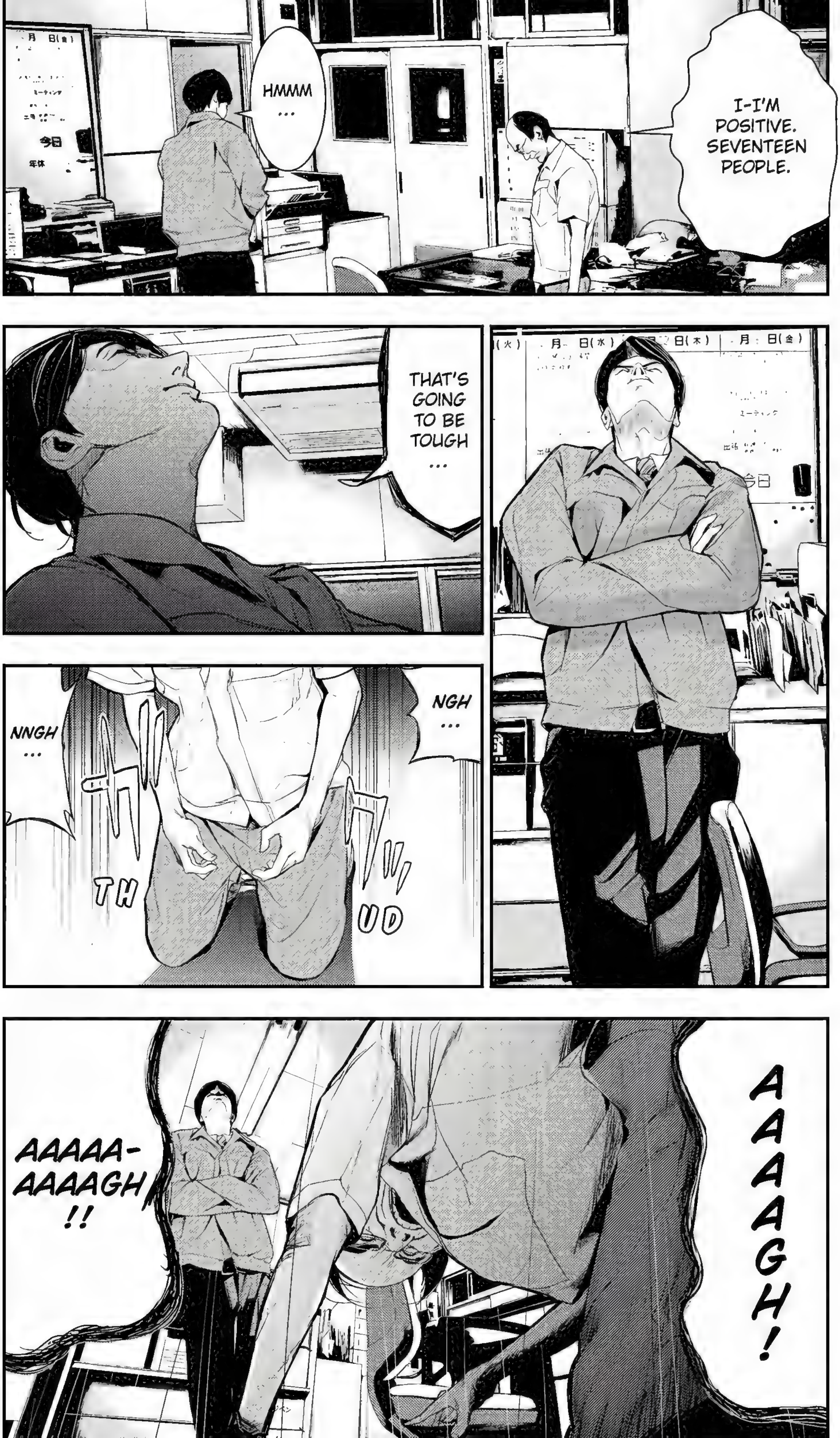
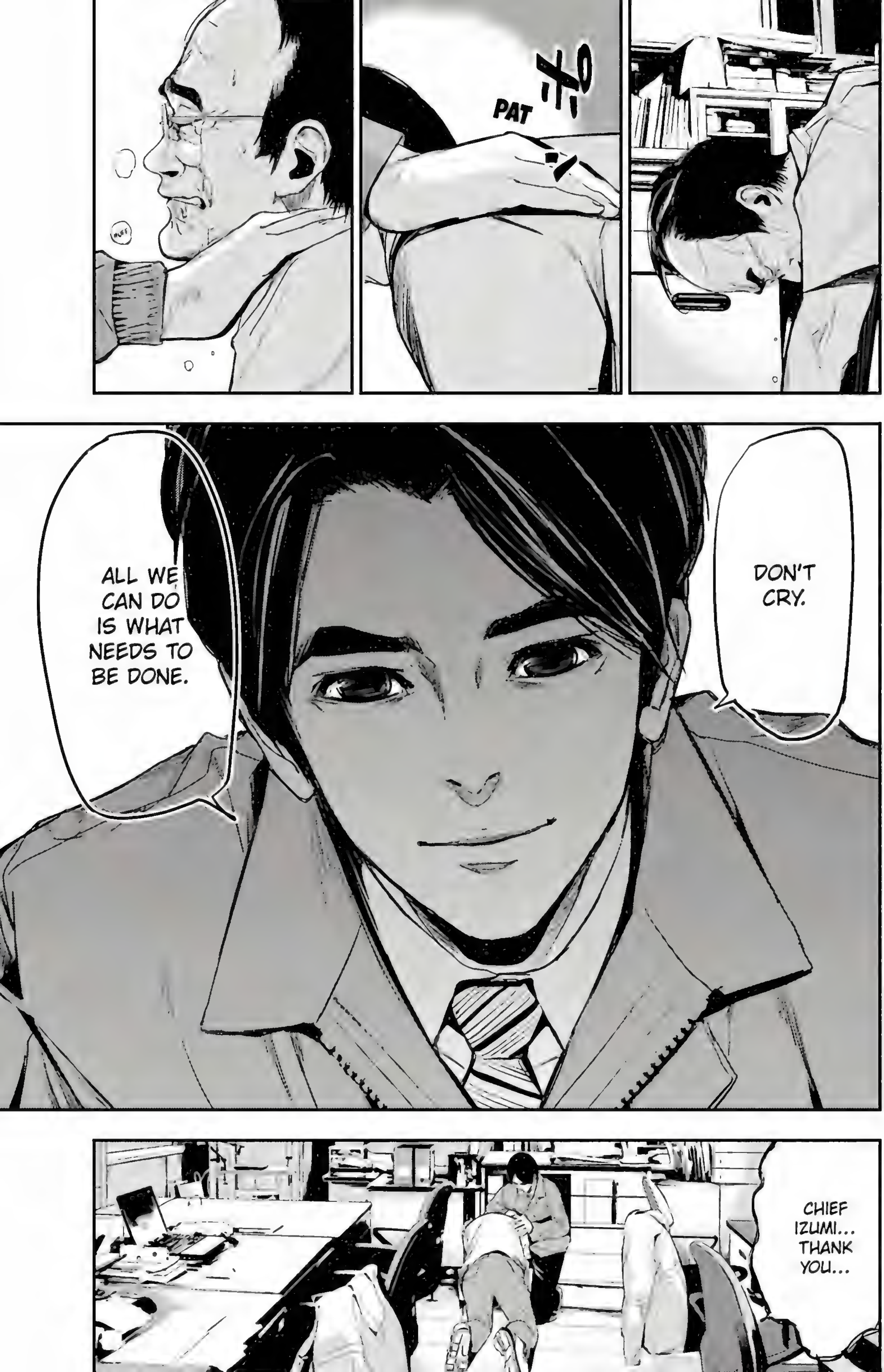
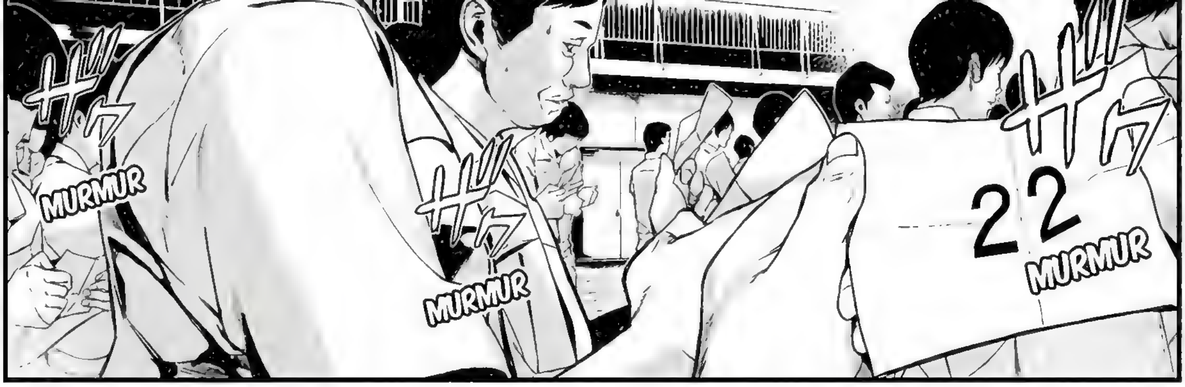
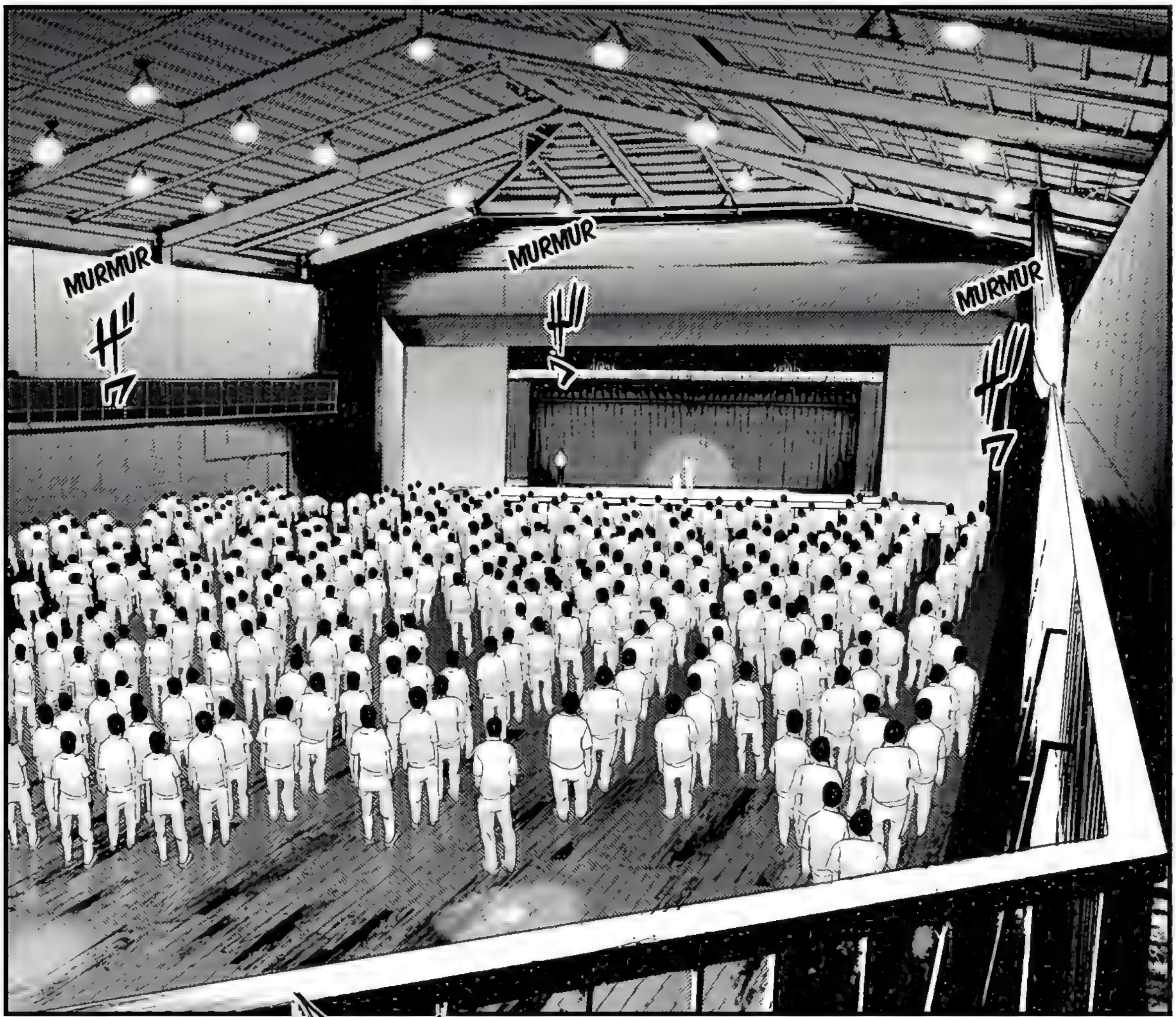

STAFF ROOM
SEVENTEEN?
YOU'RE SURE THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID?
YES, SIR...

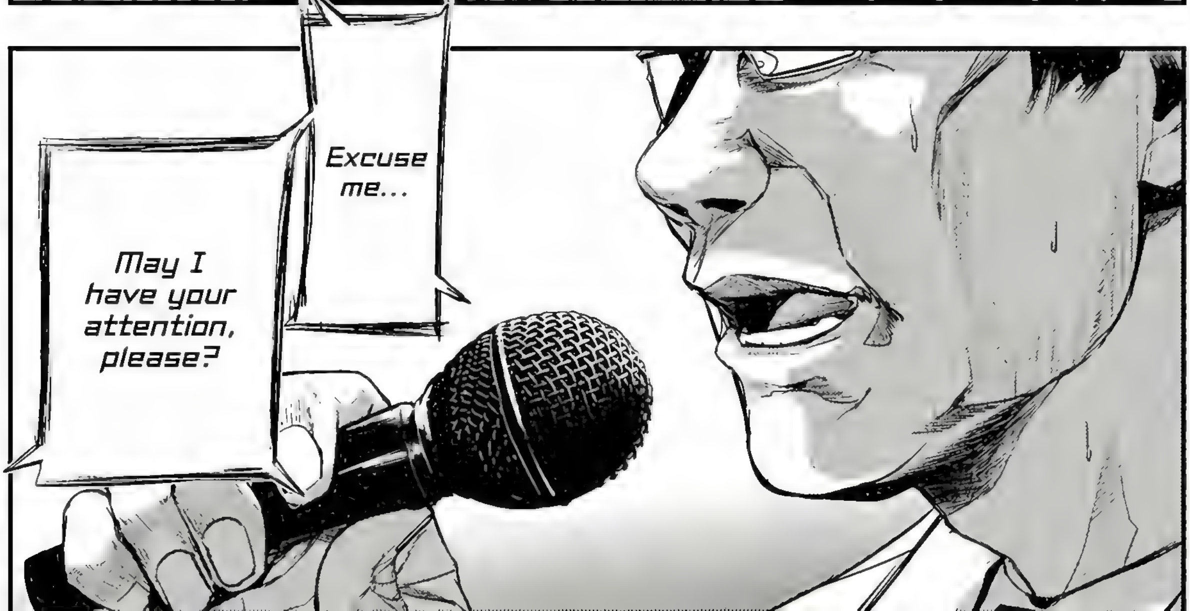
Chapter 14

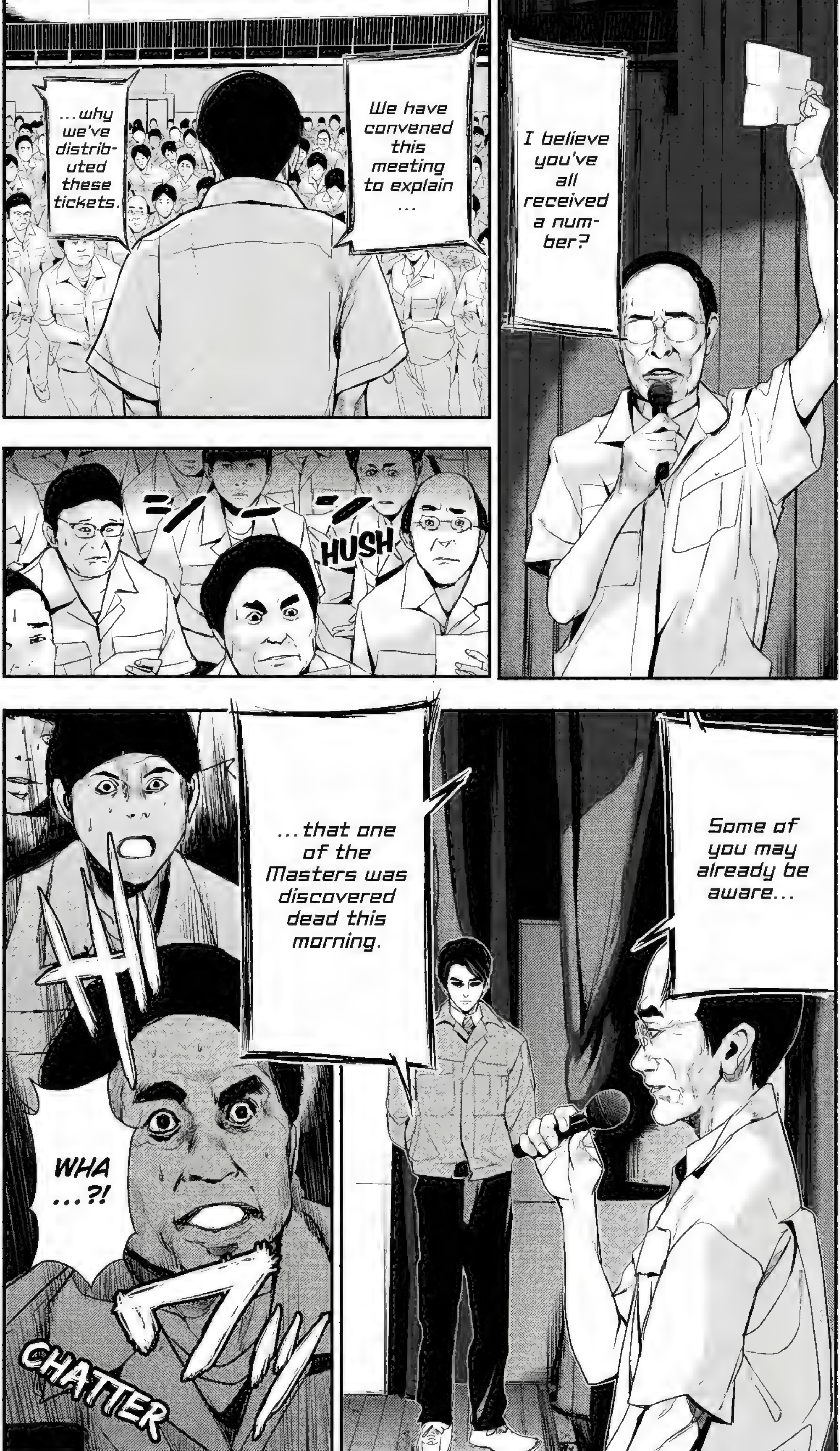

I-I'M POSITIVE. SEVENTEEN PEOPLE.
HMMM ...
THAT'S GOING TO BE TOUGH ...
NGH ...
NNGH ...
THUD
AAAAAGH!
AAAAA-AAAAGH!!

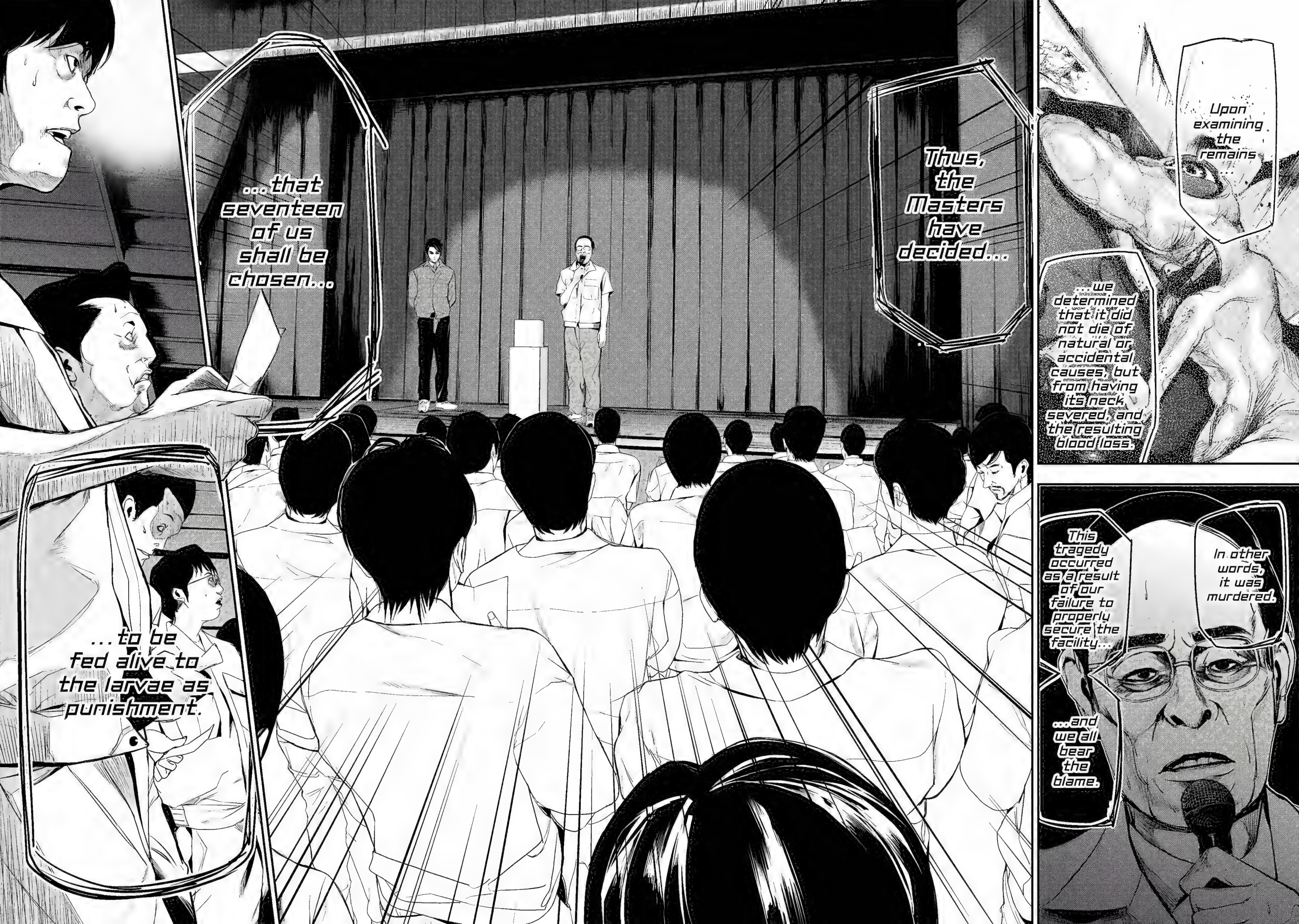

PAT
ポン
HUFF
DON'T CRY.
ALL WE CAN DO IS WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.
CHIEF IZUMI... THANK YOU...

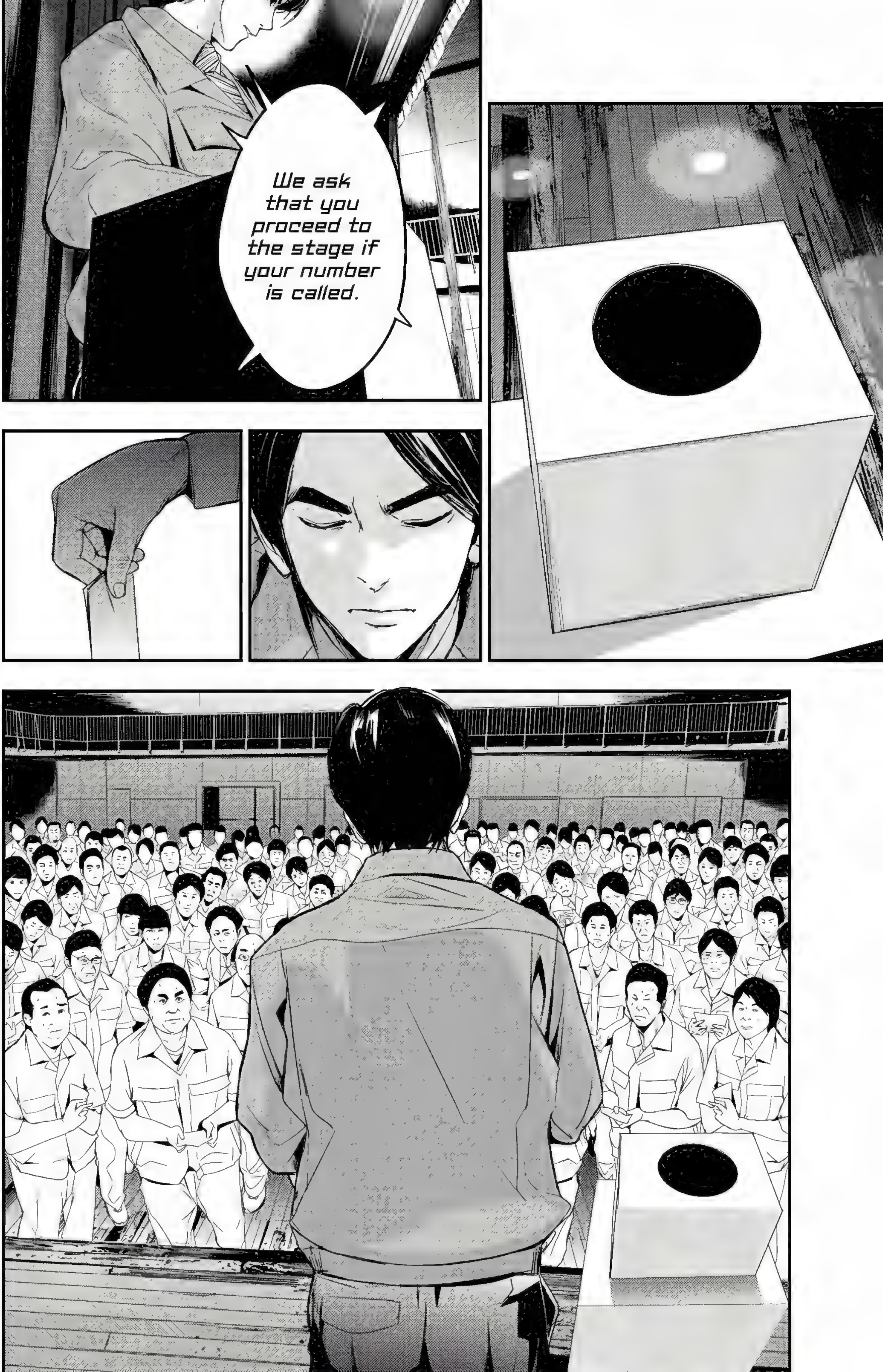

ザワ
22
MURMUR
ザワ
MURMUR
ザワ
MURMUR

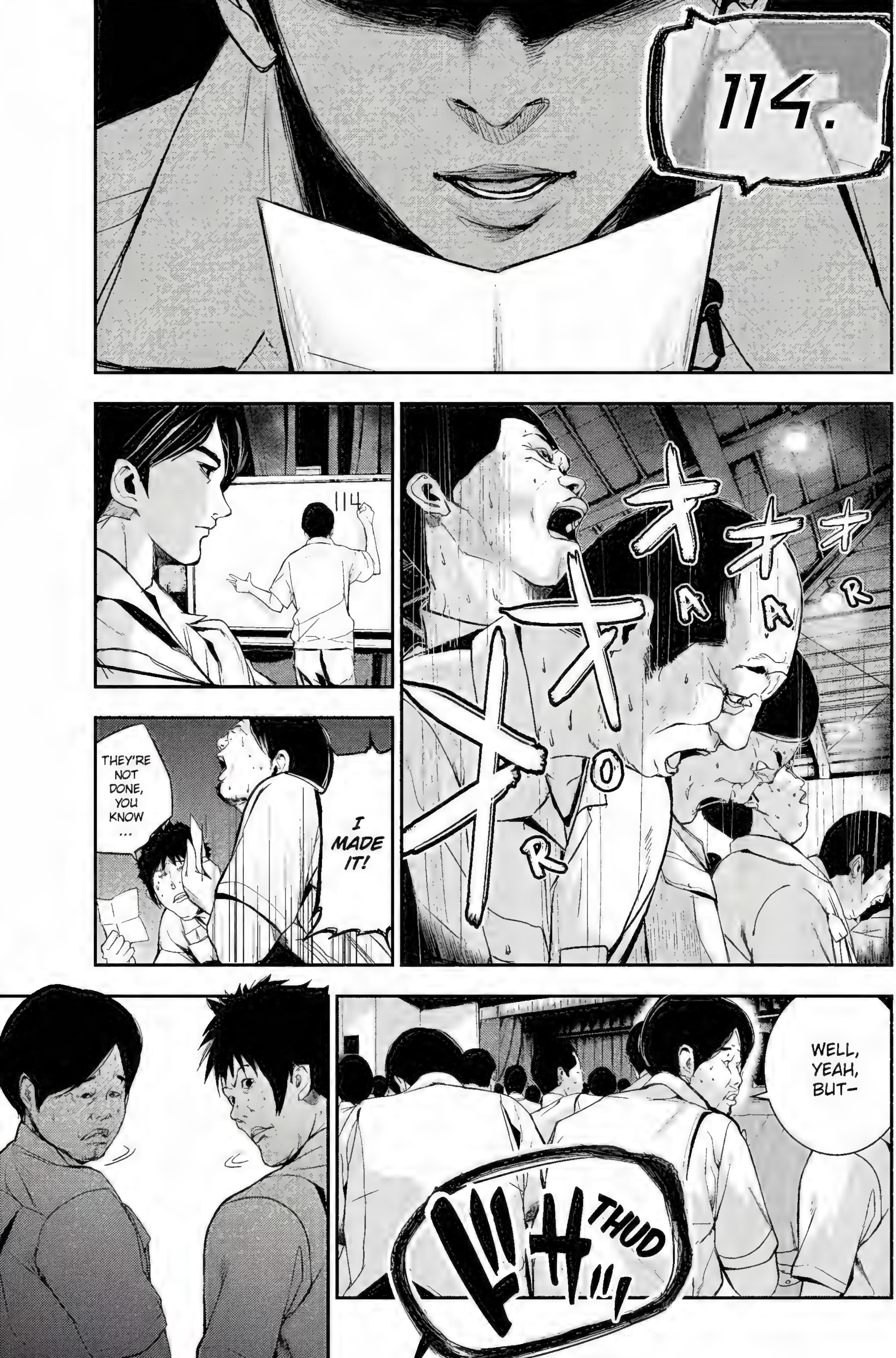

MURMUR
ザワ
MURMUR
ザワ
MURMUR
ザワ

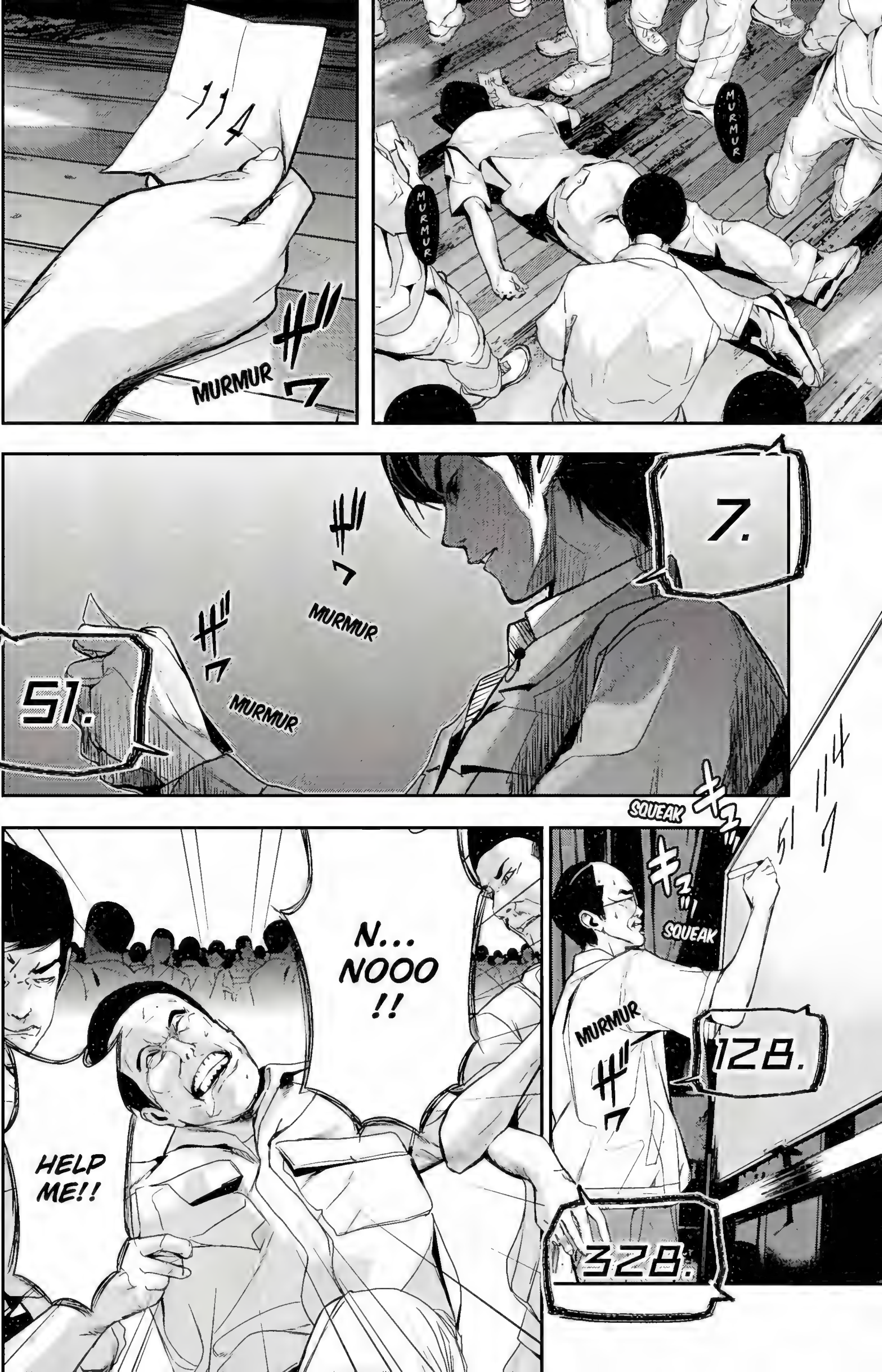

Excuse me...
May I have your attention, please?

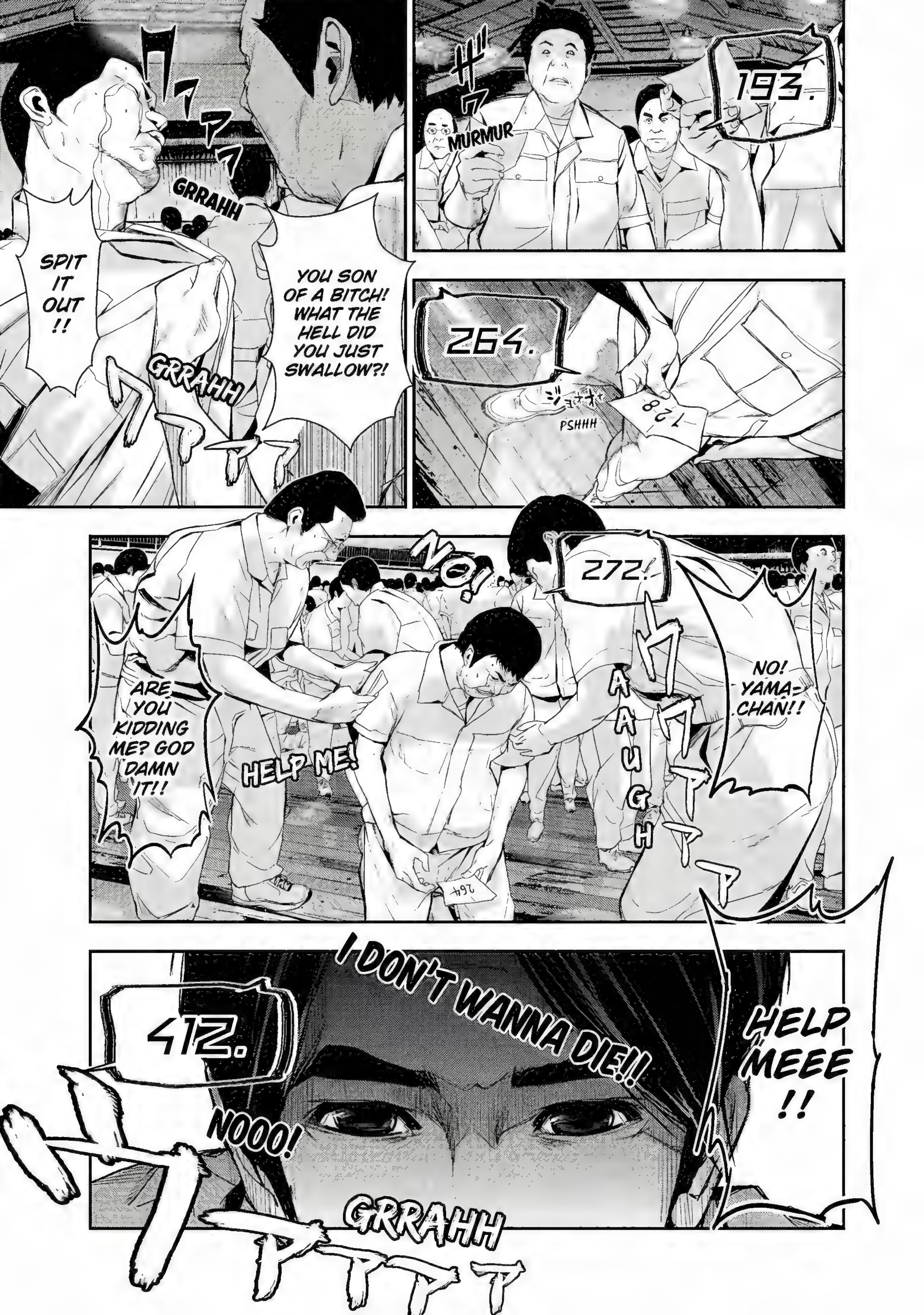

I believe you've all received a number?
We have convened this meeting to explain...
...why we've distributed these tickets.
HUSH
Some of you may already be aware...
...that one of the Masters was discovered dead this morning.
WHA...?!
CHATTER


Upon examining the remains...
...we determined that it did not die of natural or accidental causes, but from having its neck severed, and the resulting blood loss.
In other words, it was murdered.
This tragedy occurred as a result of our failure to properly secure the facility...
...and we all bear the blame.
Thus, the Masters have decided...
...that seventeen of us shall be chosen...
...to be fed alive to the larvae as punishment.

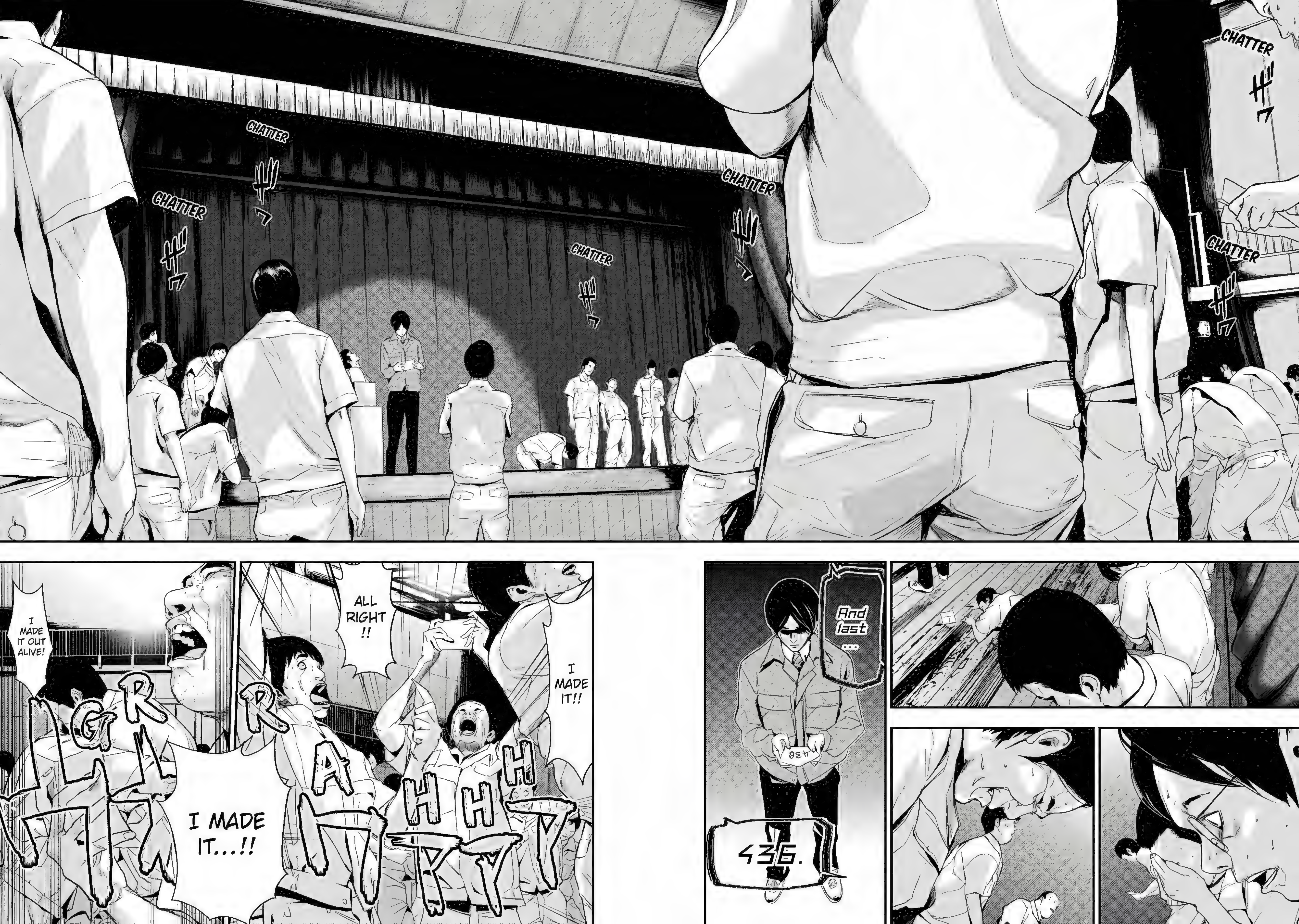

We ask that you proceed to the stage if your number is called.

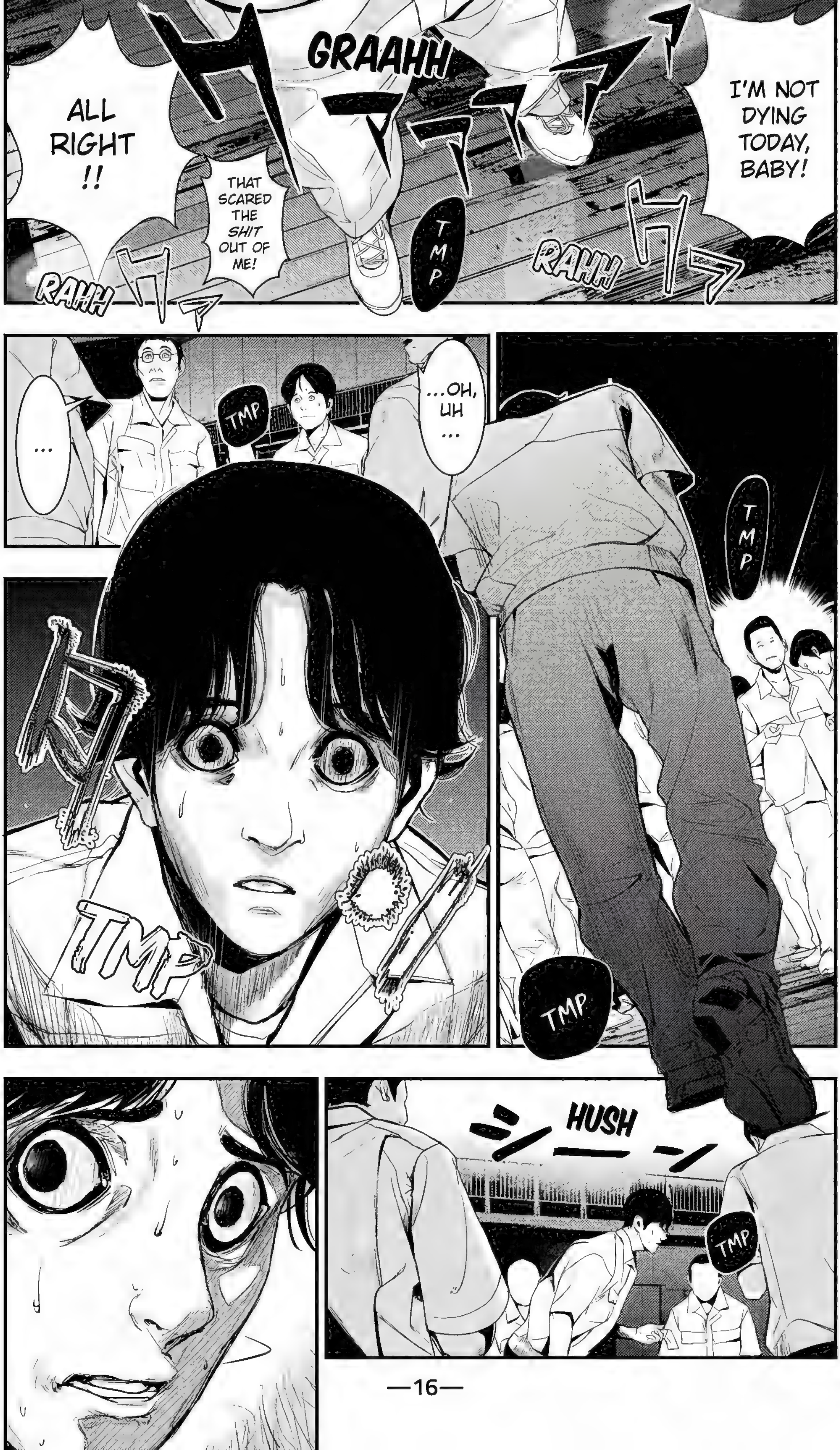

114.
オオオォ
ROAAR
114
I MADE IT!
THEY'RE NOT DONE, YOU KNOW ...
WELL, YEAH, BUT-
ドサ!!
THUD


MURMUR
MURMUR
114
MURMUR
7.
MURMUR
MURMUR
51.
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
51
114
7
128.
MURMUR
328.
N... NOOO!!
HELP ME!!

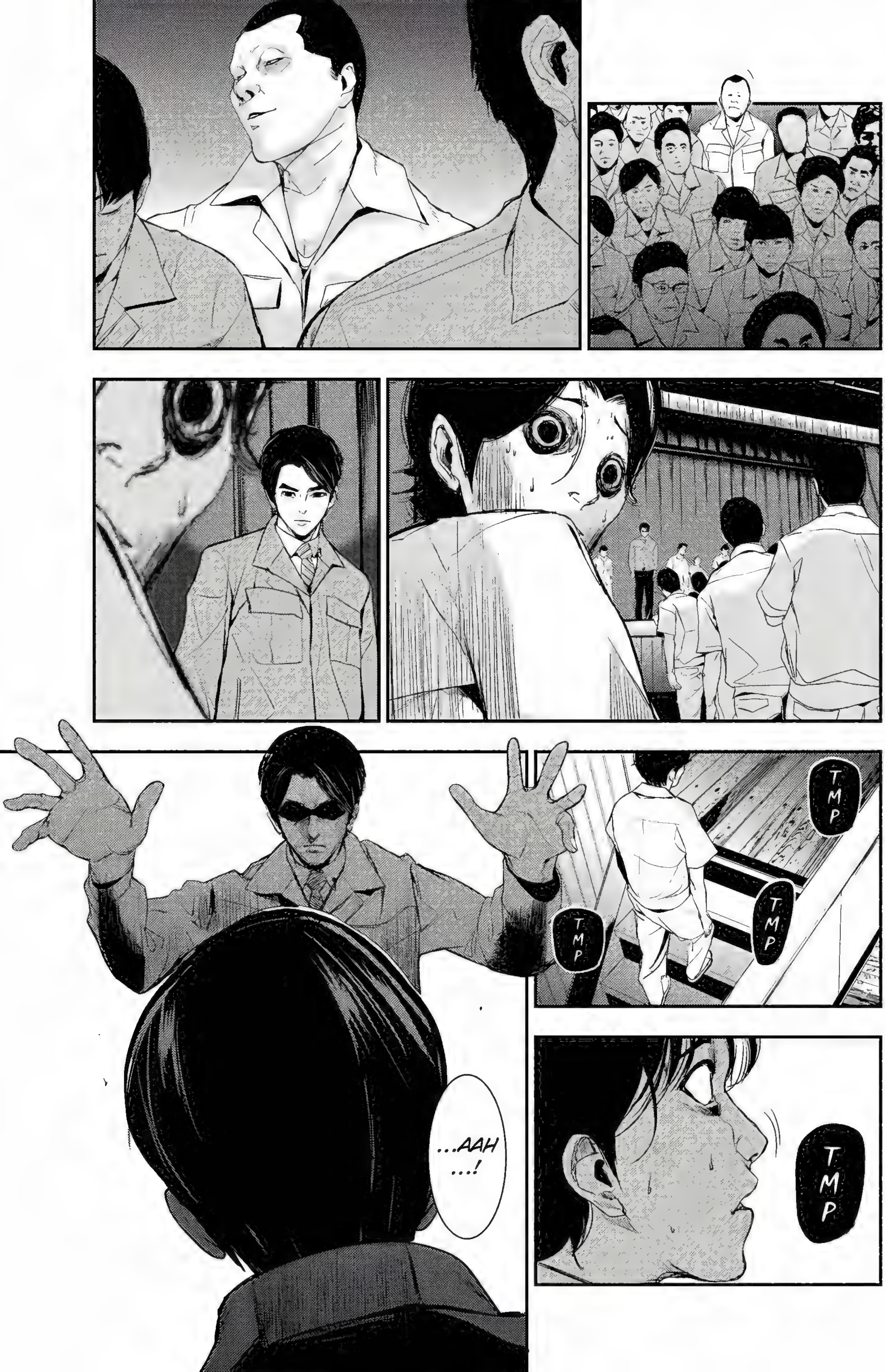


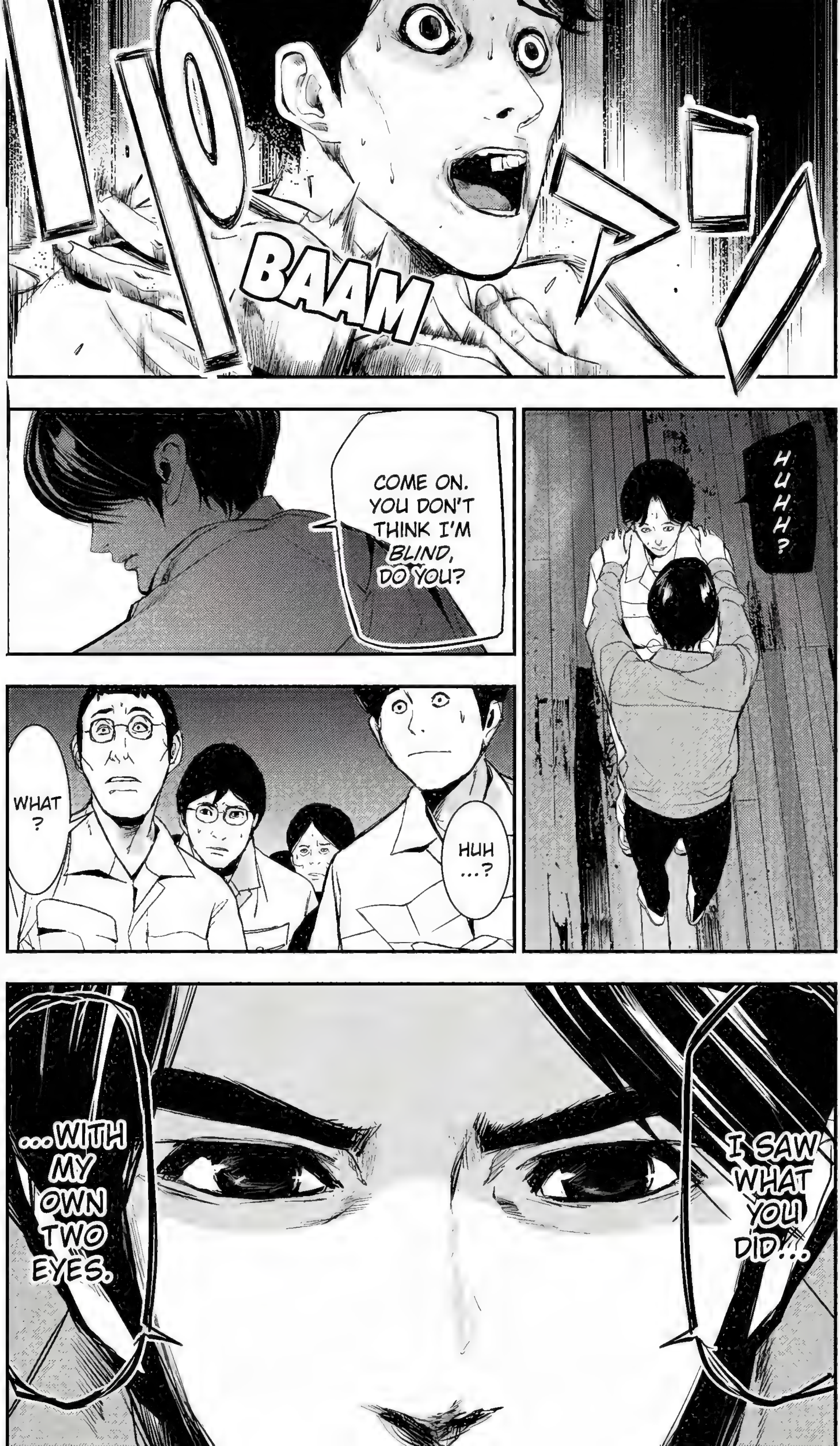
ザワ
MURMUR
193.
GRRAHH
SPIT IT OUT!!
YOU SON OF A BITCH! WHAT THE HELL DID YOU JUST SWALLOW?!
GRRAHH
264.
ジョォォ
PSHHH
128
272!
NO!
NO! YAMA-CHAN!!
AAUGH
HELP ME!
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? GOD DAMN IT!!
264
HELP MEEE!!
I DON'T WANNA DIE!!
412.
NOOO!
GRRAHH

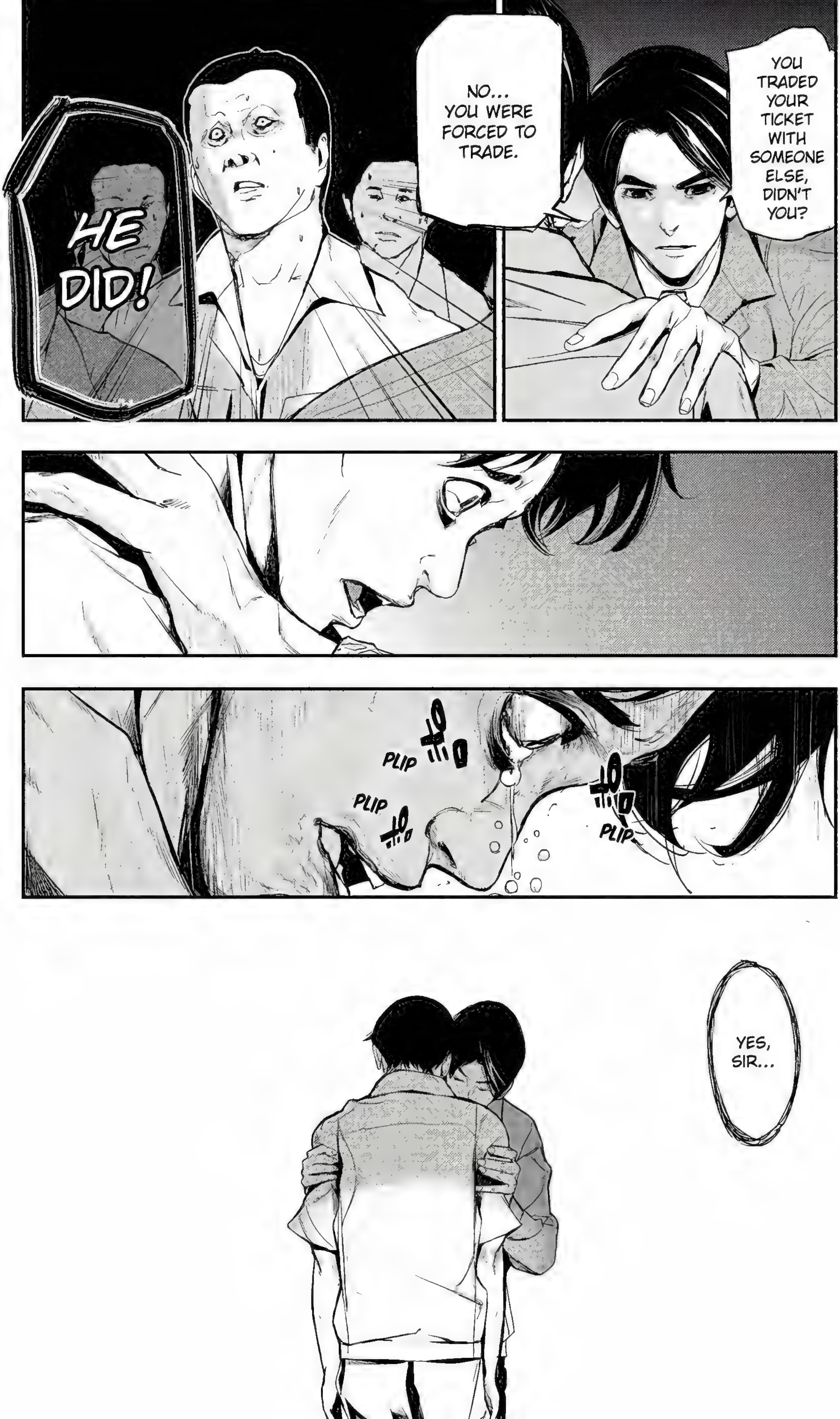

CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
And last...
436.
I MADE IT!!
ALL RIGHT!!
I MADE IT...!!
GRRAHHH
I MADE IT OUT ALIVE!

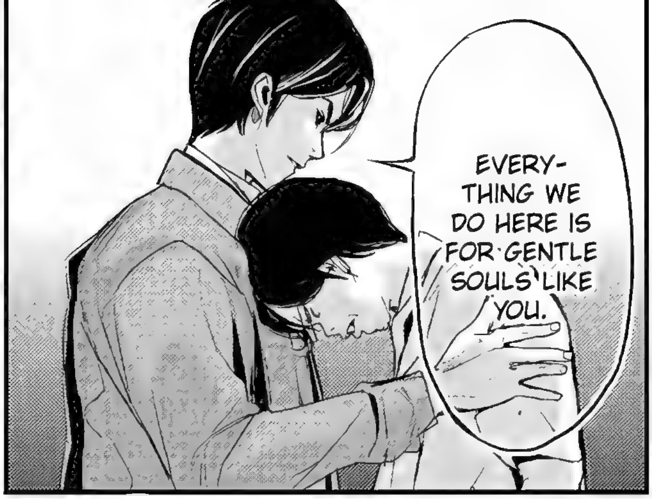


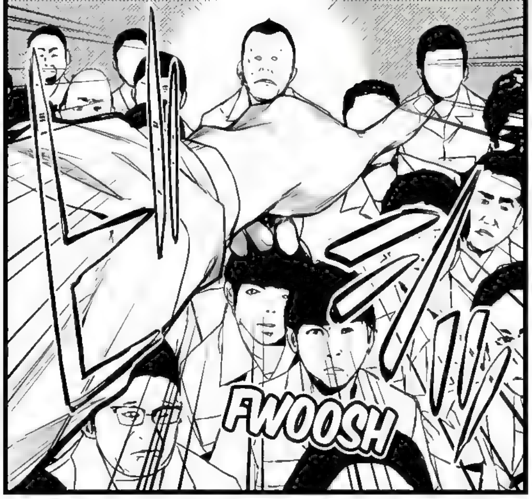
I'M NOT DYING TODAY, BABY!
GRAAHH
ALL RIGHT !!
THAT SCARED THE *SHIT* OUT OF ME!
TMP
RAHH
RAHH
...OH, UH ...
...
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
HUSH
TMP

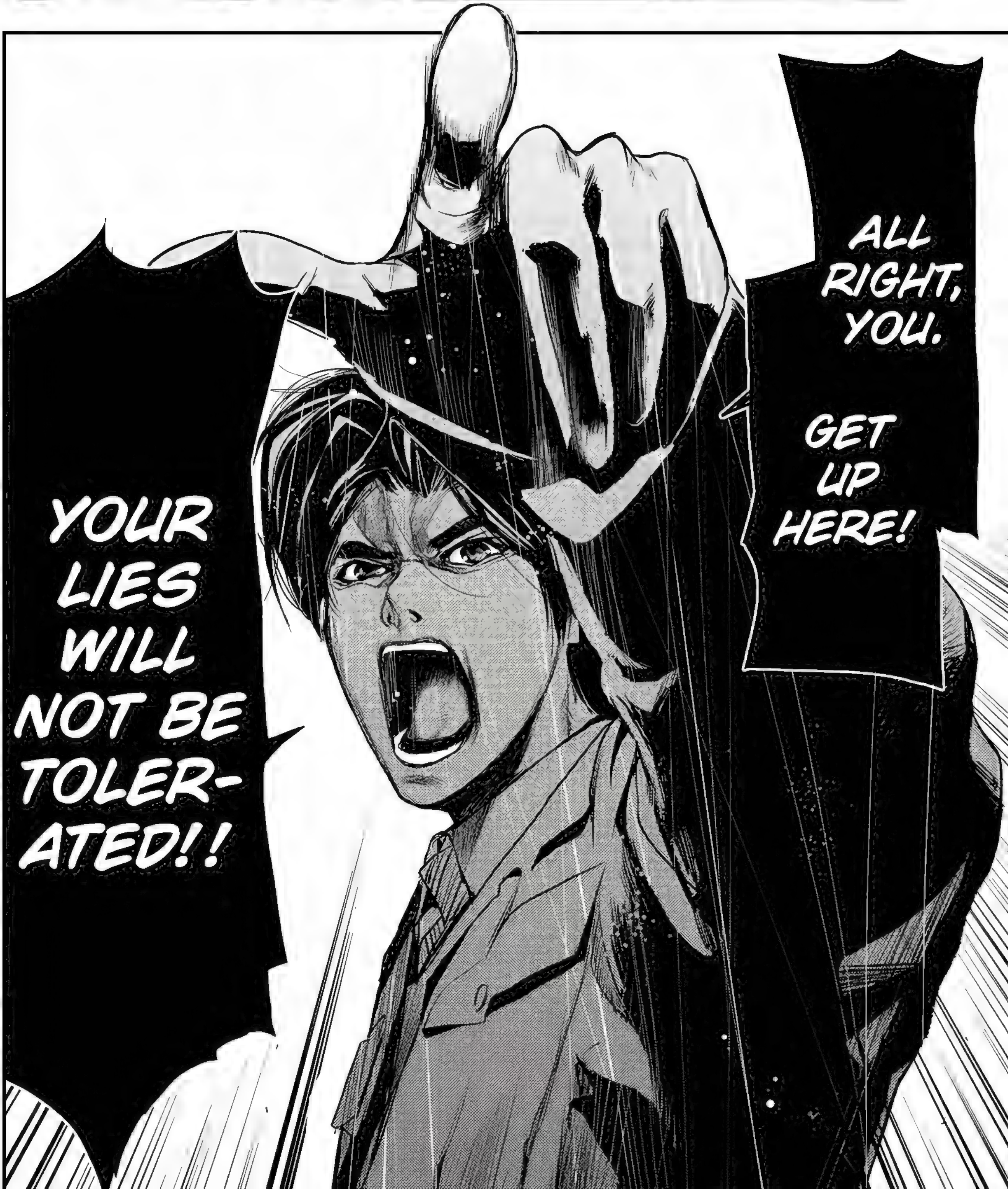

TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
...AAH ...!

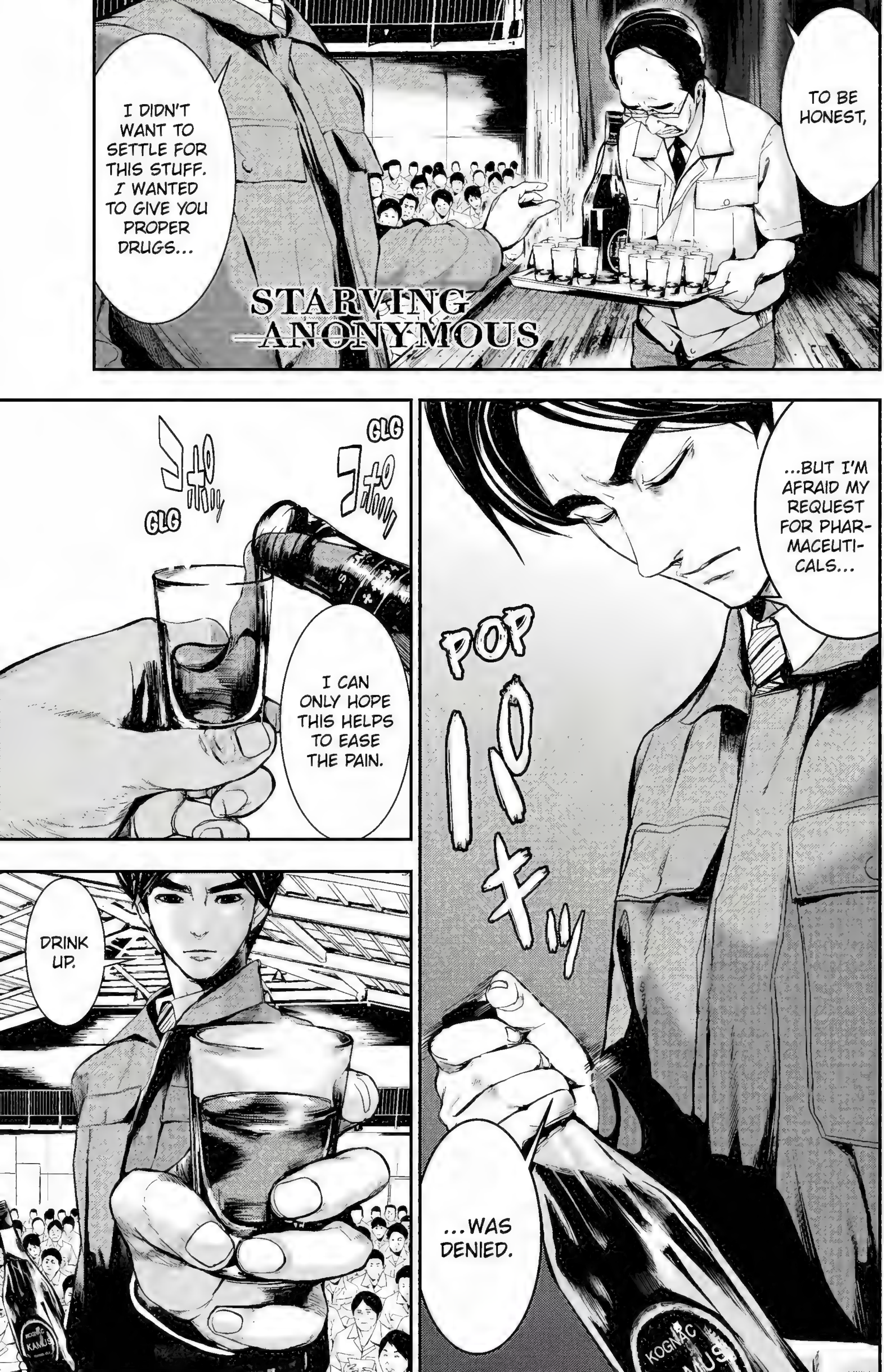

BAAM
HUHHH?
COME ON. YOU DON'T THINK I'M *BLIND*, DO YOU?
HUH ...?
WHAT ?
I SAW WHAT YOU DID...
...WITH MY OWN TWO EYES.


YOU TRADED YOUR TICKET WITH SOMEONE ELSE, DIDN'T YOU?
NO... YOU WERE FORCED TO TRADE.
HE DID!
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
YES, SIR...

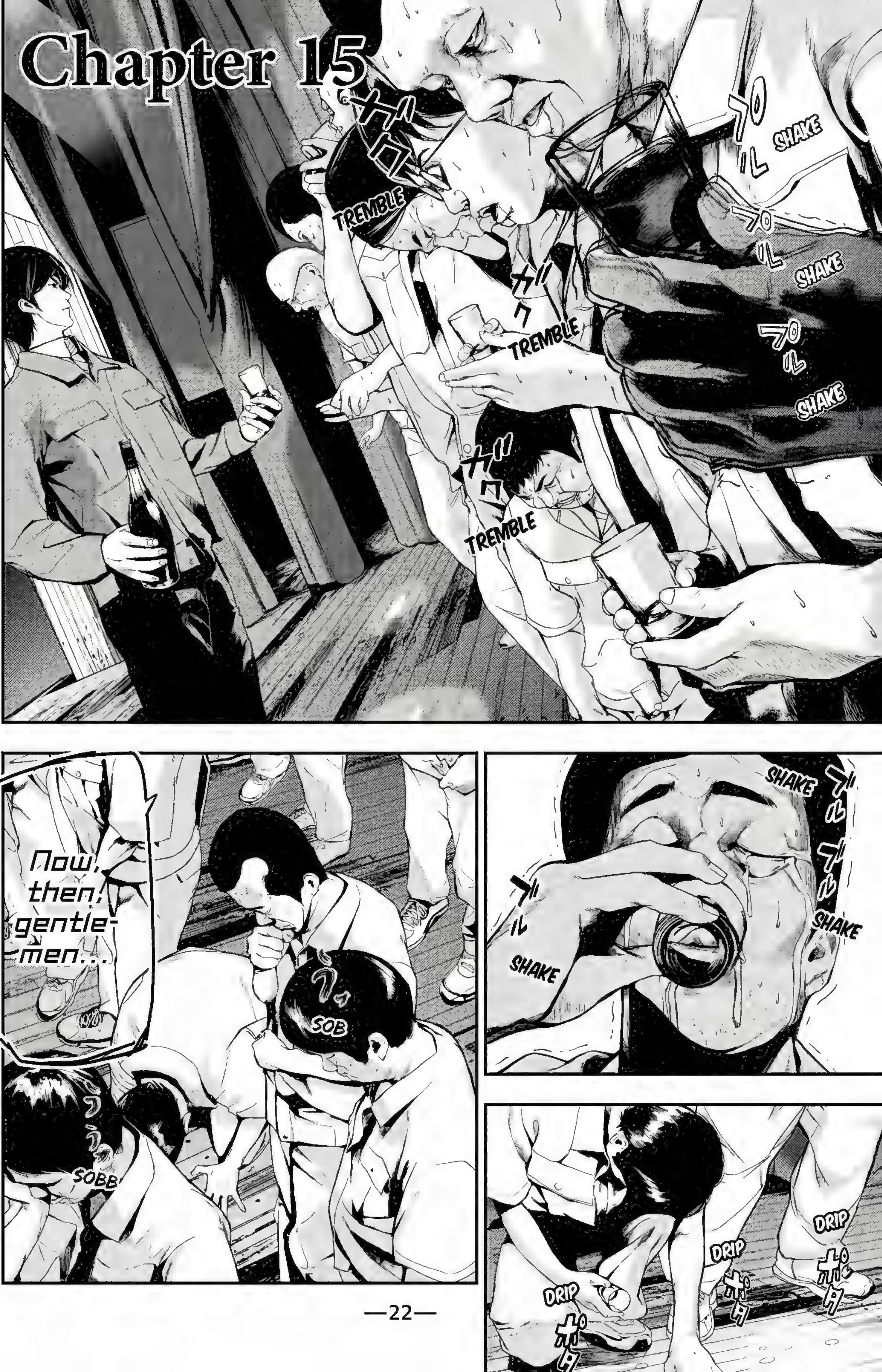

EVERY-THING WE DO HERE IS FOR GENTLE SOULS LIKE YOU.

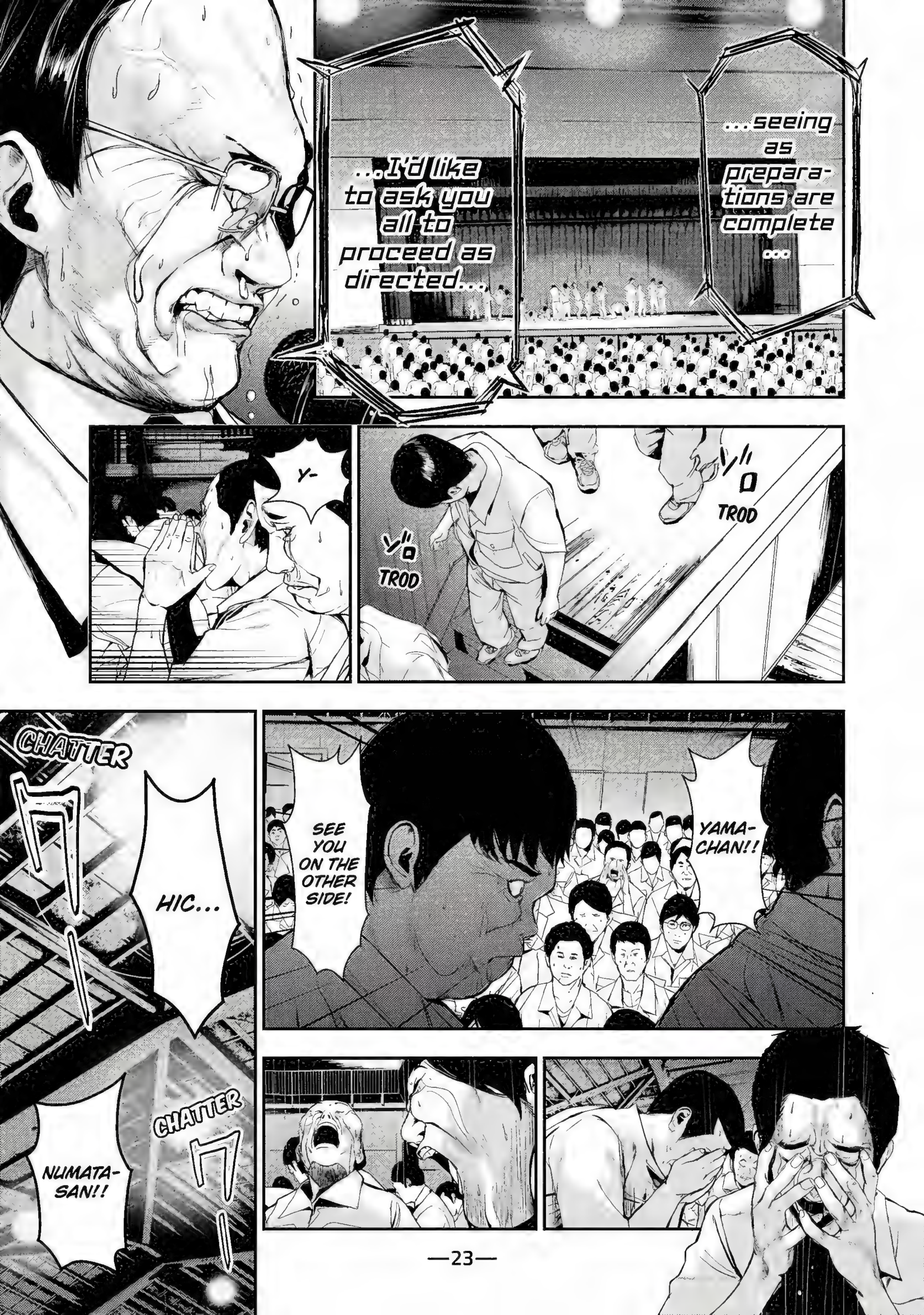

FWOOSH

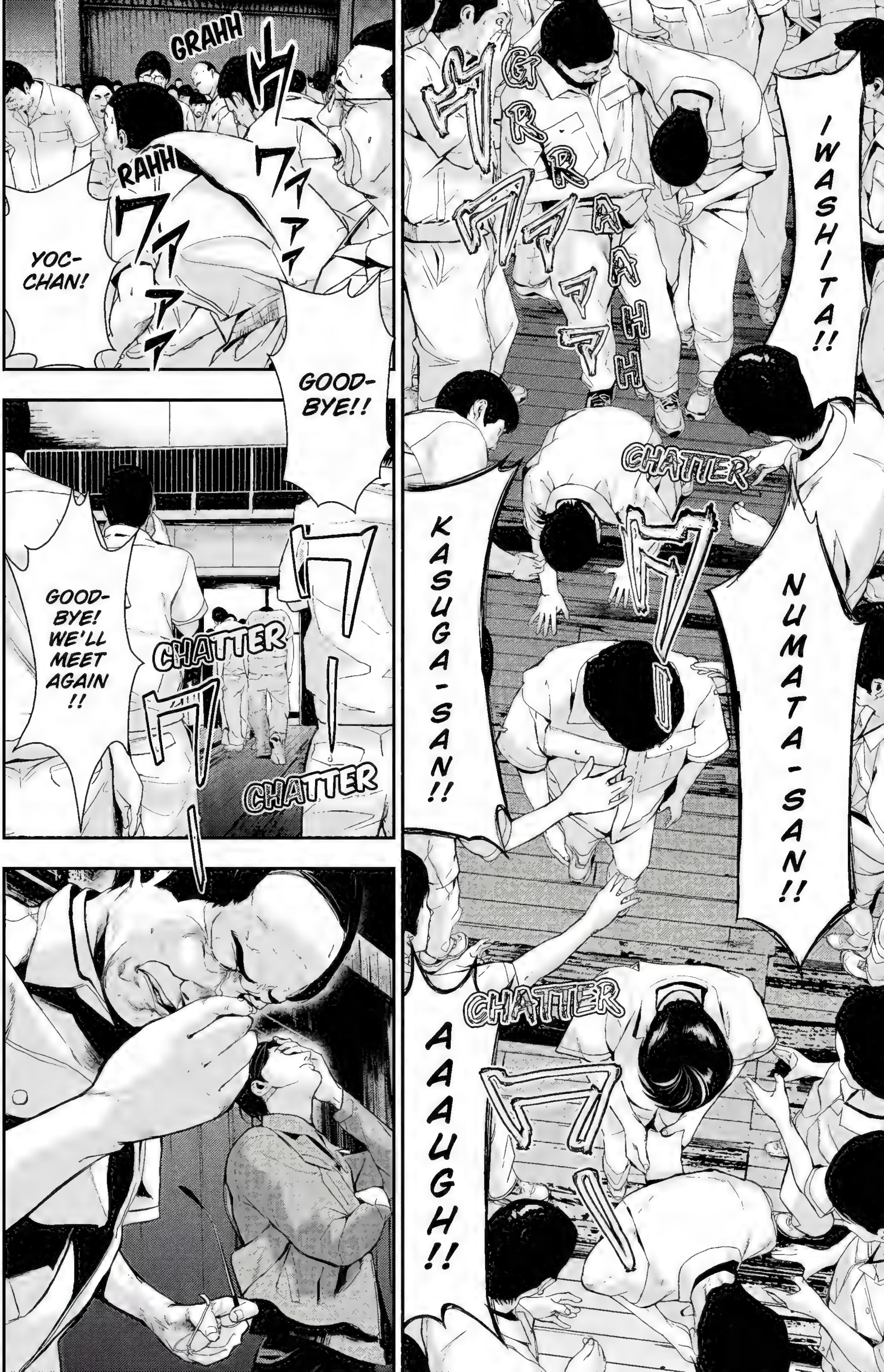

ALL RIGHT, YOU.
GET UP HERE!
YOUR LIES WILL NOT BE TOLER-ATED!!

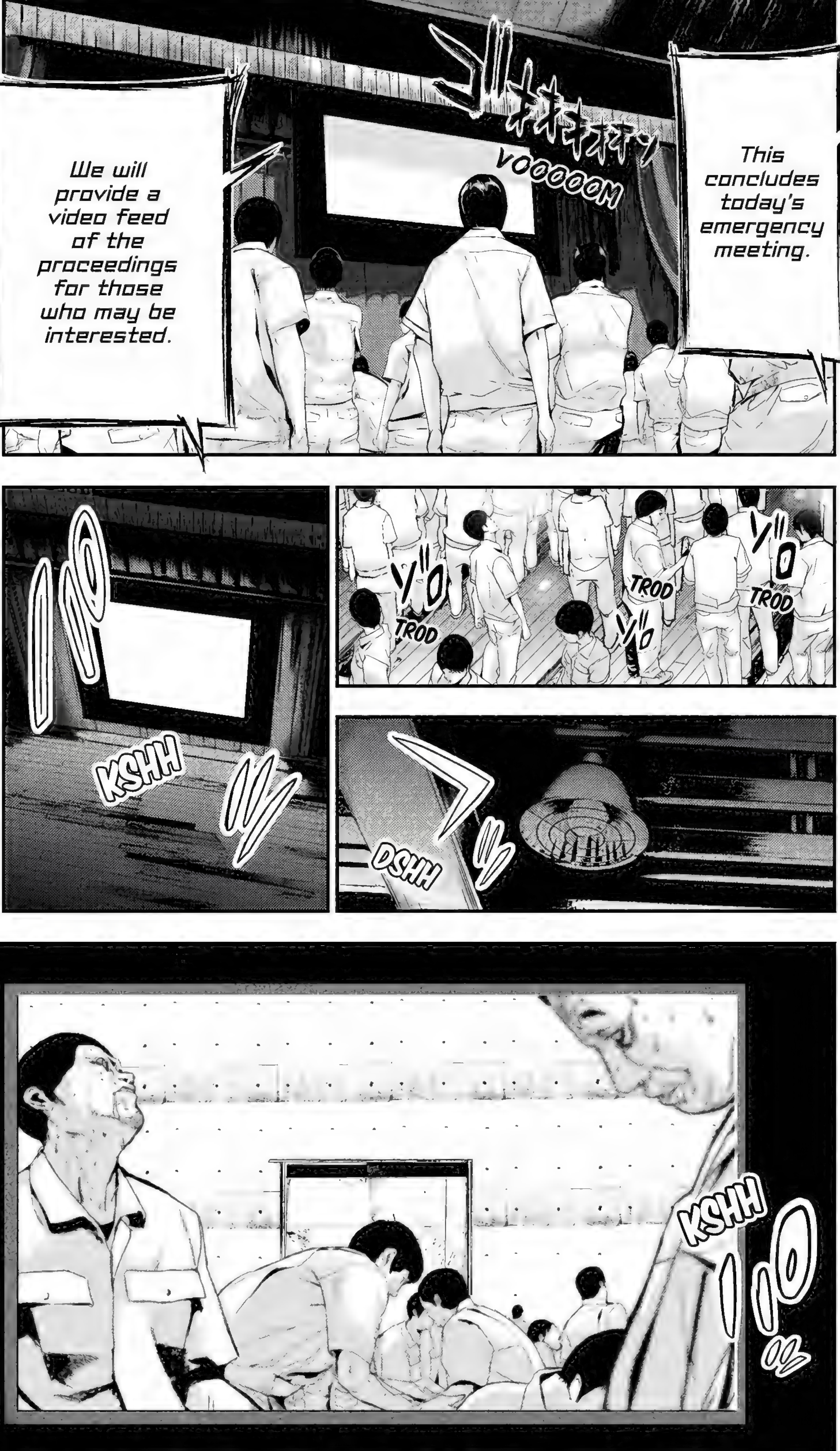

TO BE HONEST,
I DIDN'T WANT TO SETTLE FOR THIS STUFF. *I* WANTED TO GIVE YOU PROPER DRUGS...
STARVING ANONYMOUS
...BUT I'M AFRAID MY REQUEST FOR PHARMACEUTICALS...
POP
パキッ
...WAS DENIED.
KOGNAC KAMUS
GLG
コポポッ
GLG
コポポッ
I CAN ONLY HOPE THIS HELPS TO EASE THE PAIN.
DRINK UP.
KOGNAC KAMUS

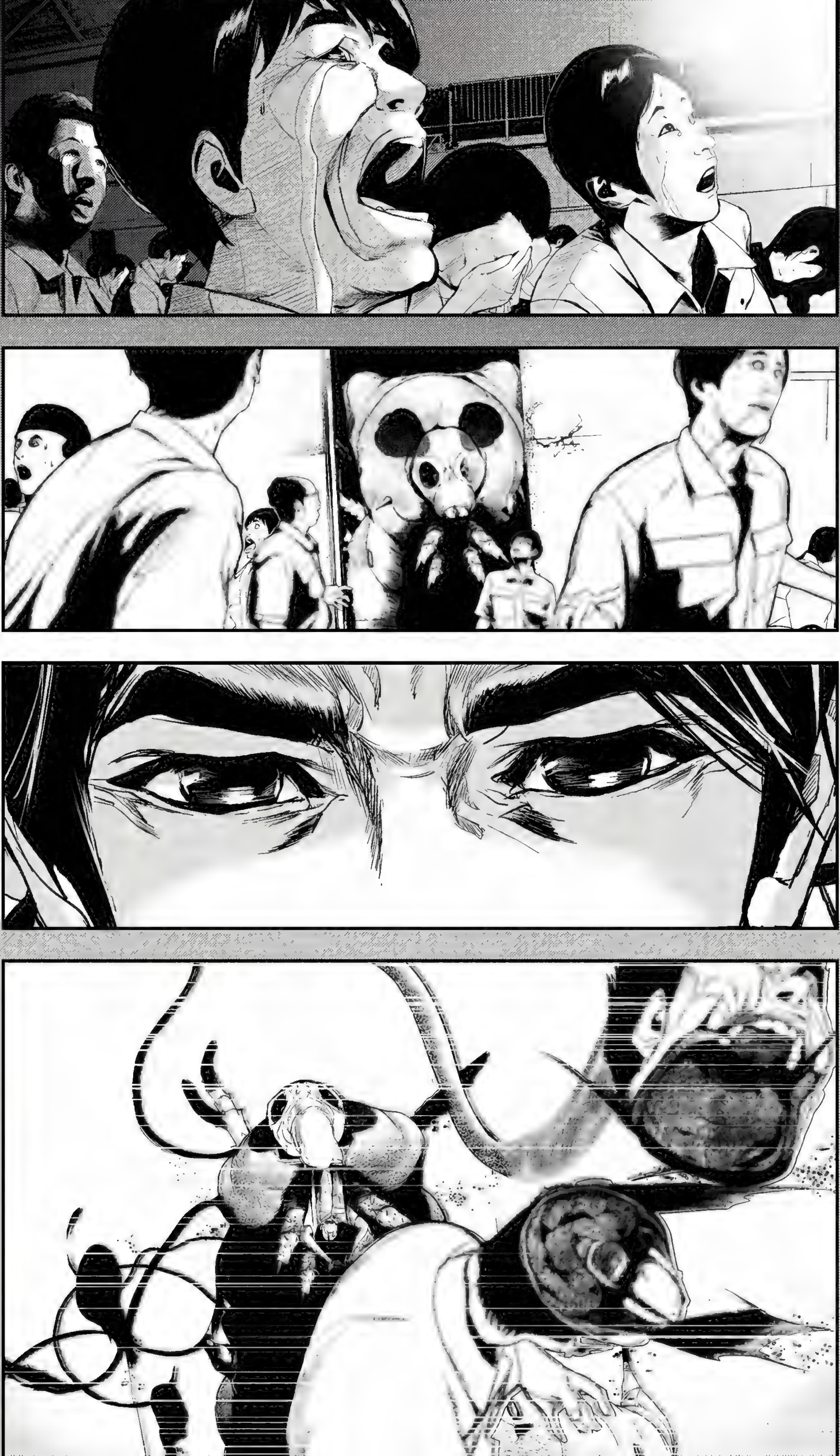
Chapter 15

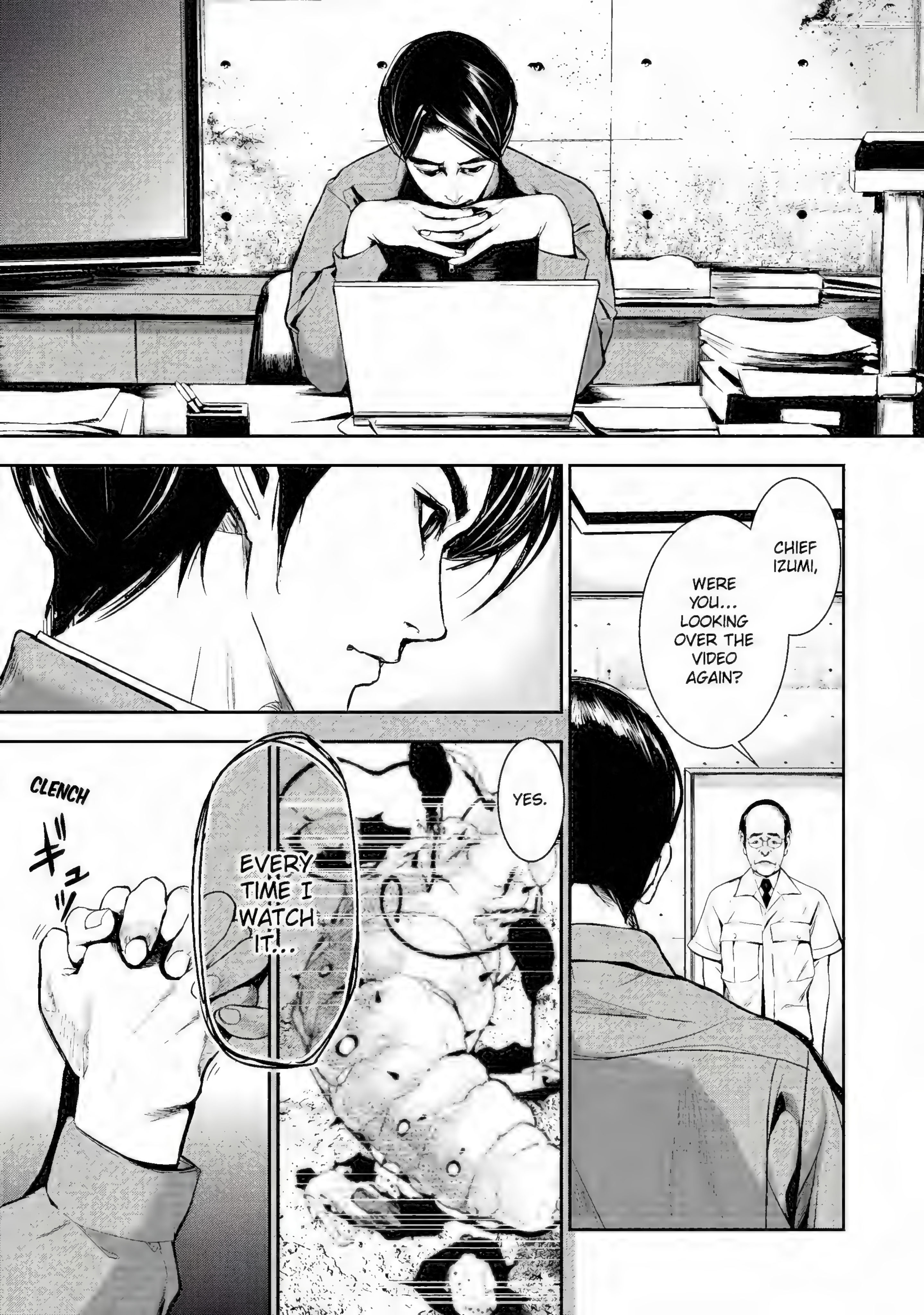

プルプル SHAKE
プルプル SHAKE
プルプル SHAKE
ガクガク TREMBLE
ガクガク TREMBLE
ガクガク TREMBLE
ブルブル SHAKE
ブルブル SHAKE
ブル SHAKE
ポタ DRIP
ポタ DRIP
ポタ DRIP
Now, then, gentlemen...
うっ SOB
ううう SOBB

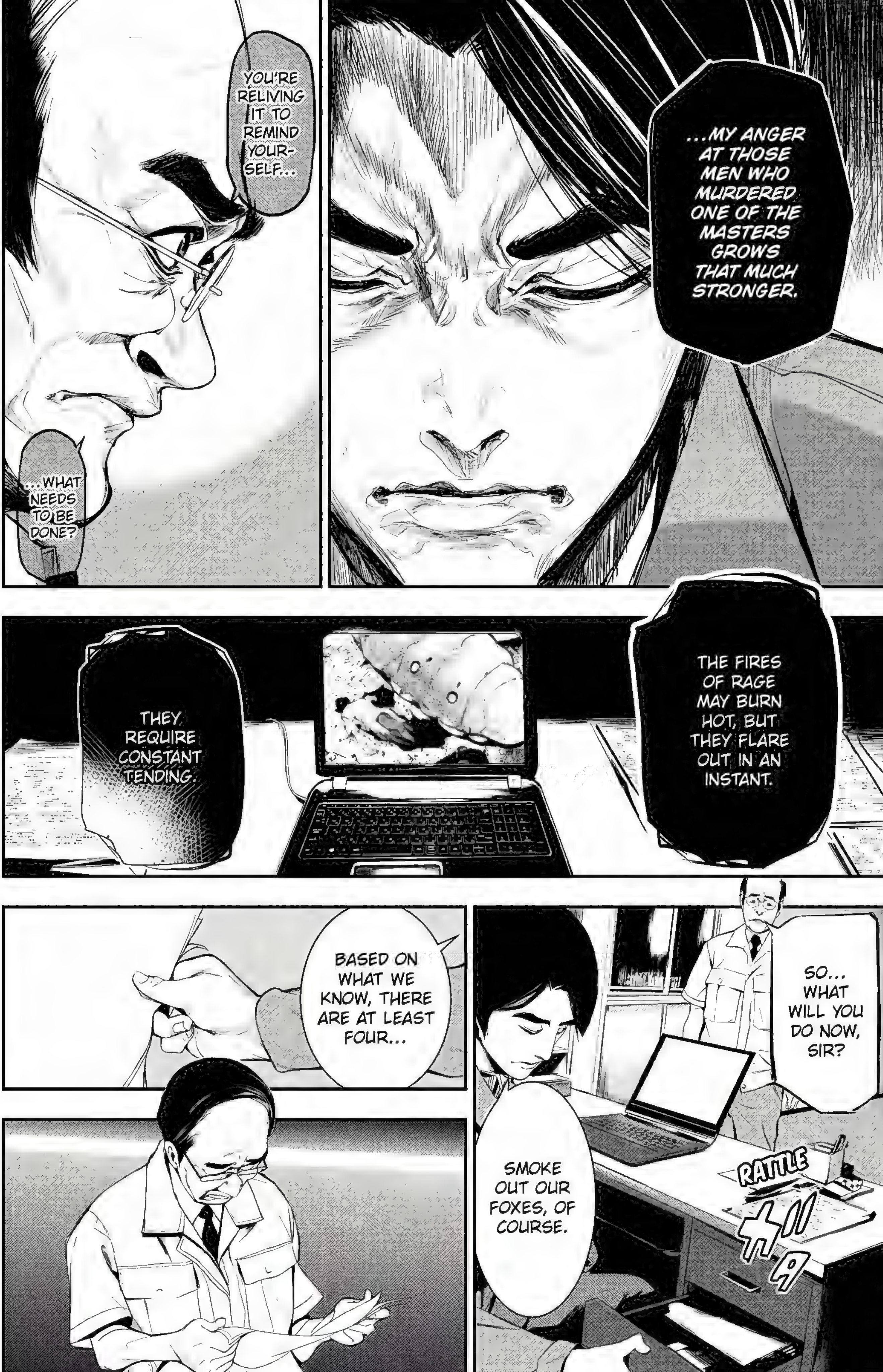

...seeing as preparations are complete...
...I'd like to ask you all to proceed as directed...
TROD
TROD
Y-
YAMA-CHAN!!
SEE YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE!
CHATTER
HIC...
CHATTER
NUMATA-SAN!!

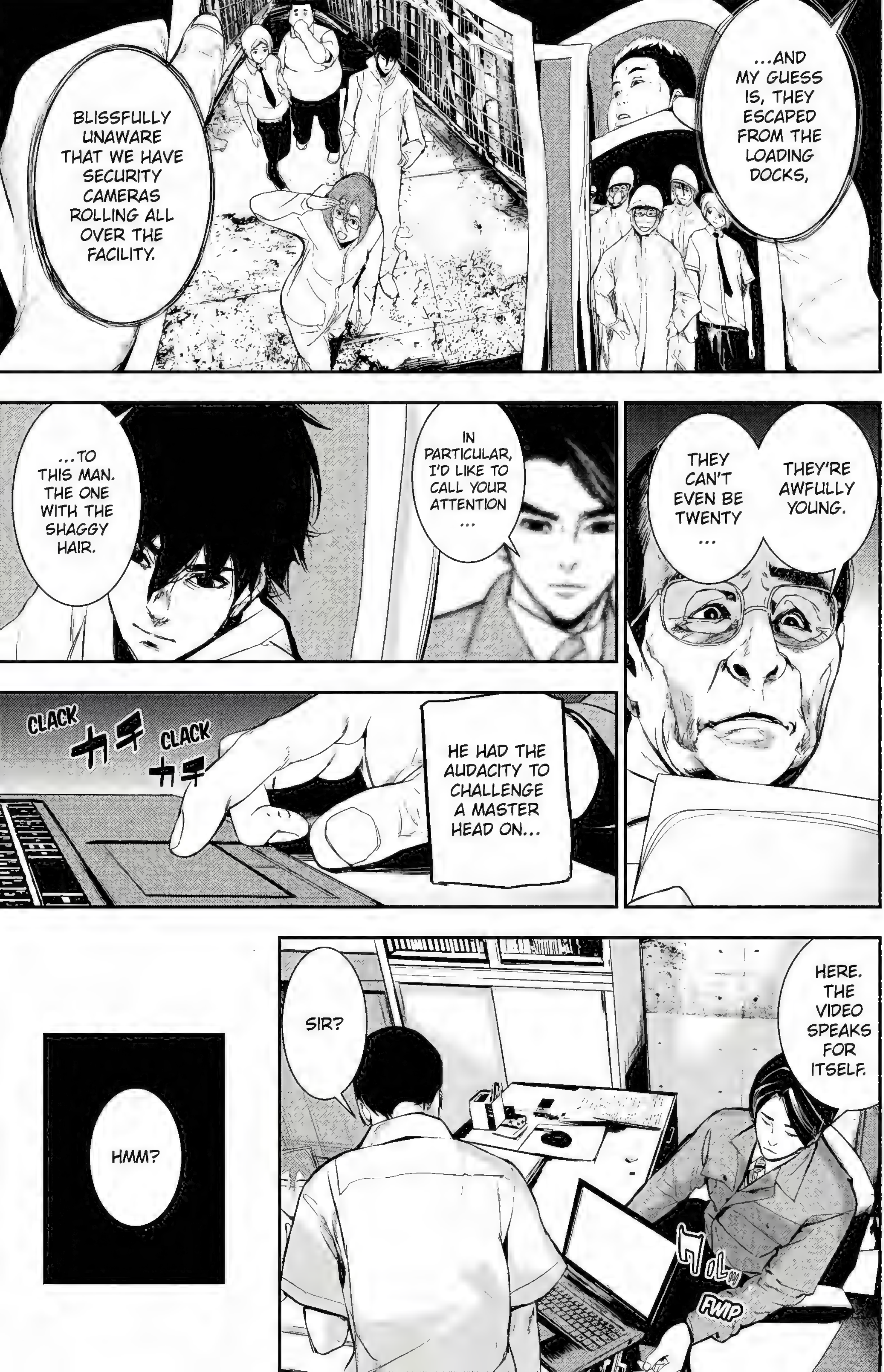

GRRRAAHH
IWASHITA!!
CHATTER
NUMATA-SAN!!
KASUGA-SAN!!
CHATTER
AAAAUGH!!
GRAHH
RAHH
YOC-CHAN!
GOOD-BYE!!
GOOD-BYE! WE'LL MEET AGAIN!!
CHATTER
CHATTER

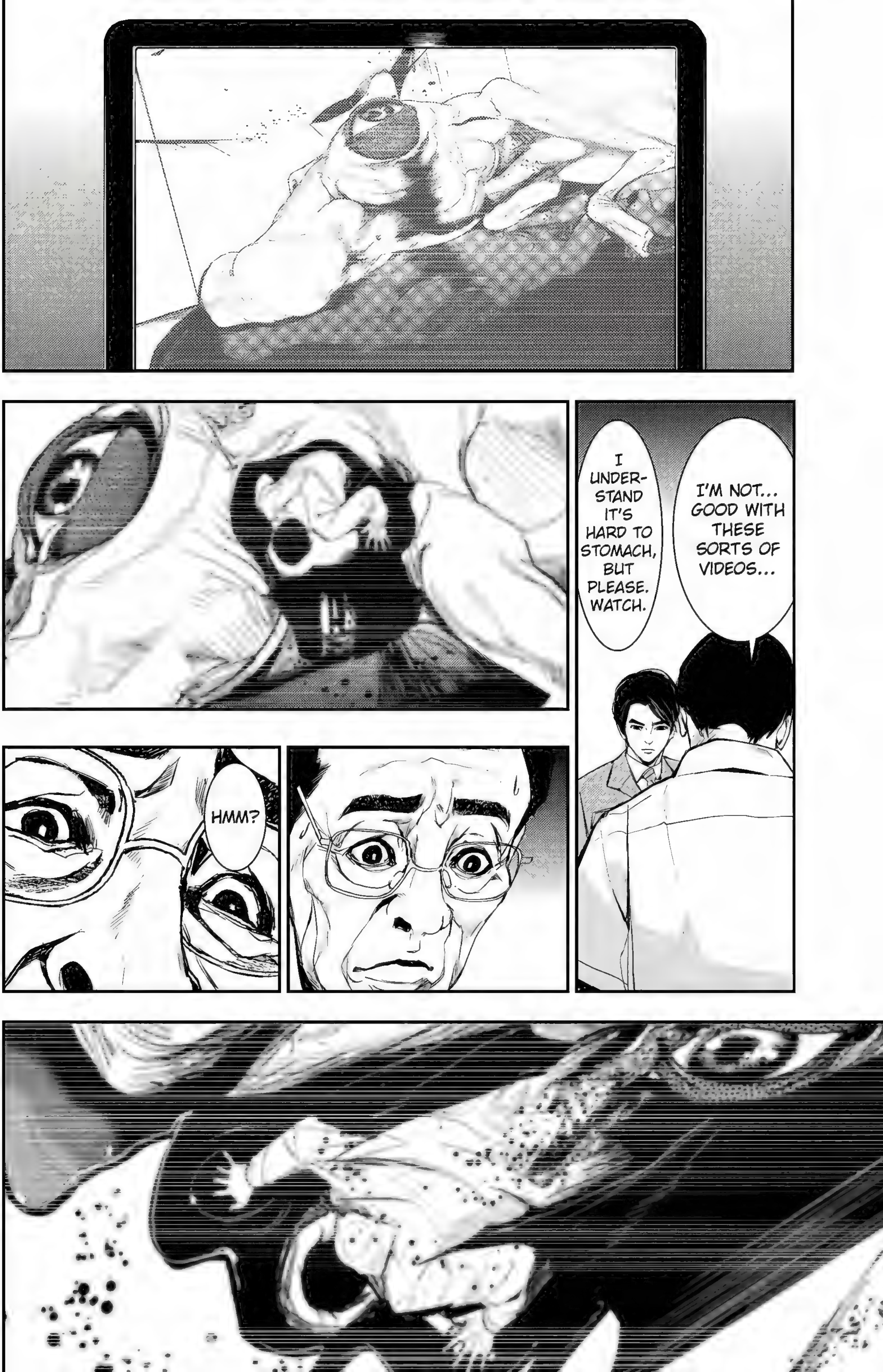

This concludes today's emergency meeting.
VOOOOOM
We will provide a video feed of the proceedings for those who may be interested.
ゾロ TROD
ゾロ TROD
ゾロ TROD
KSHH
DSHH
KSHH

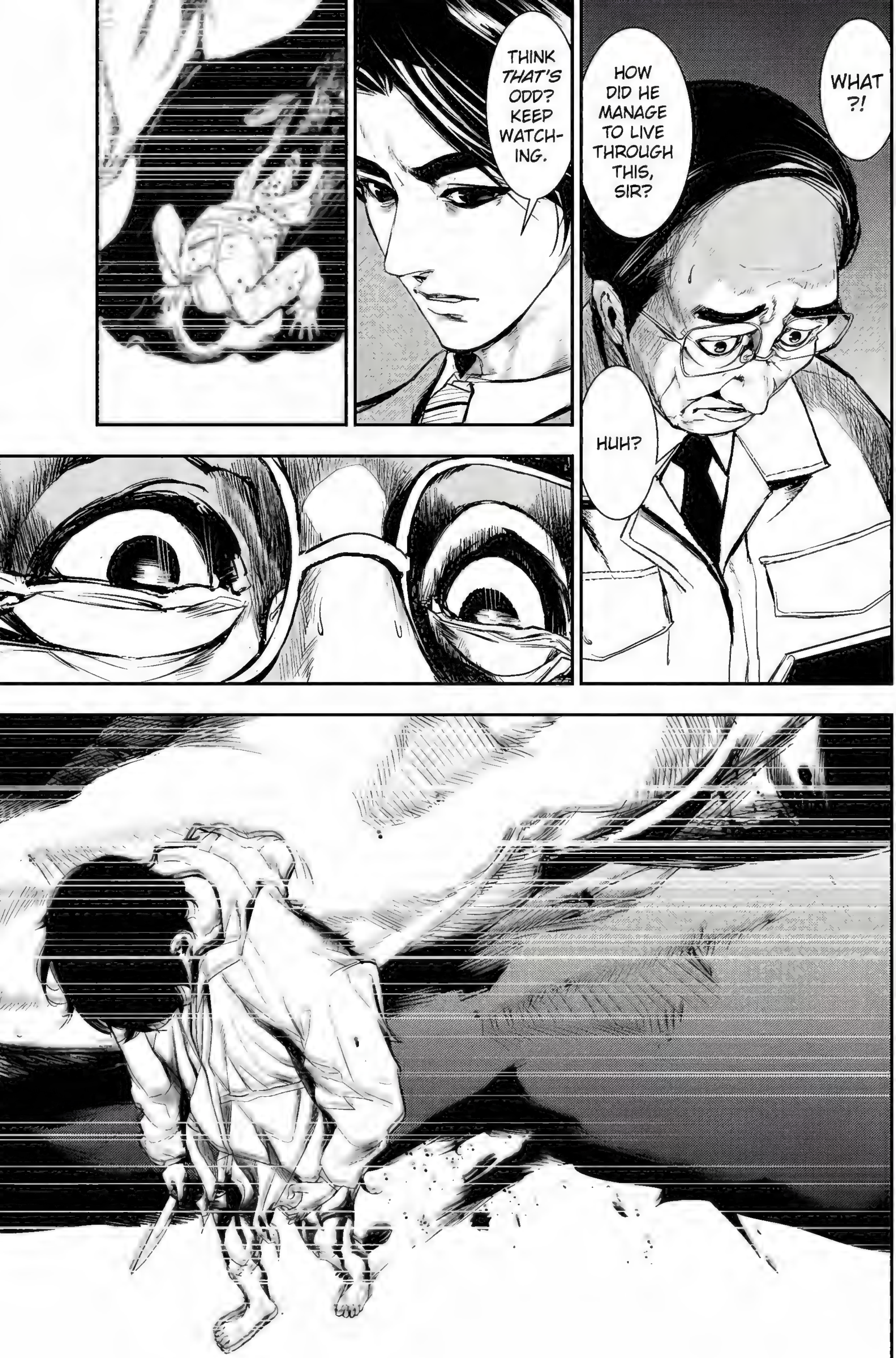


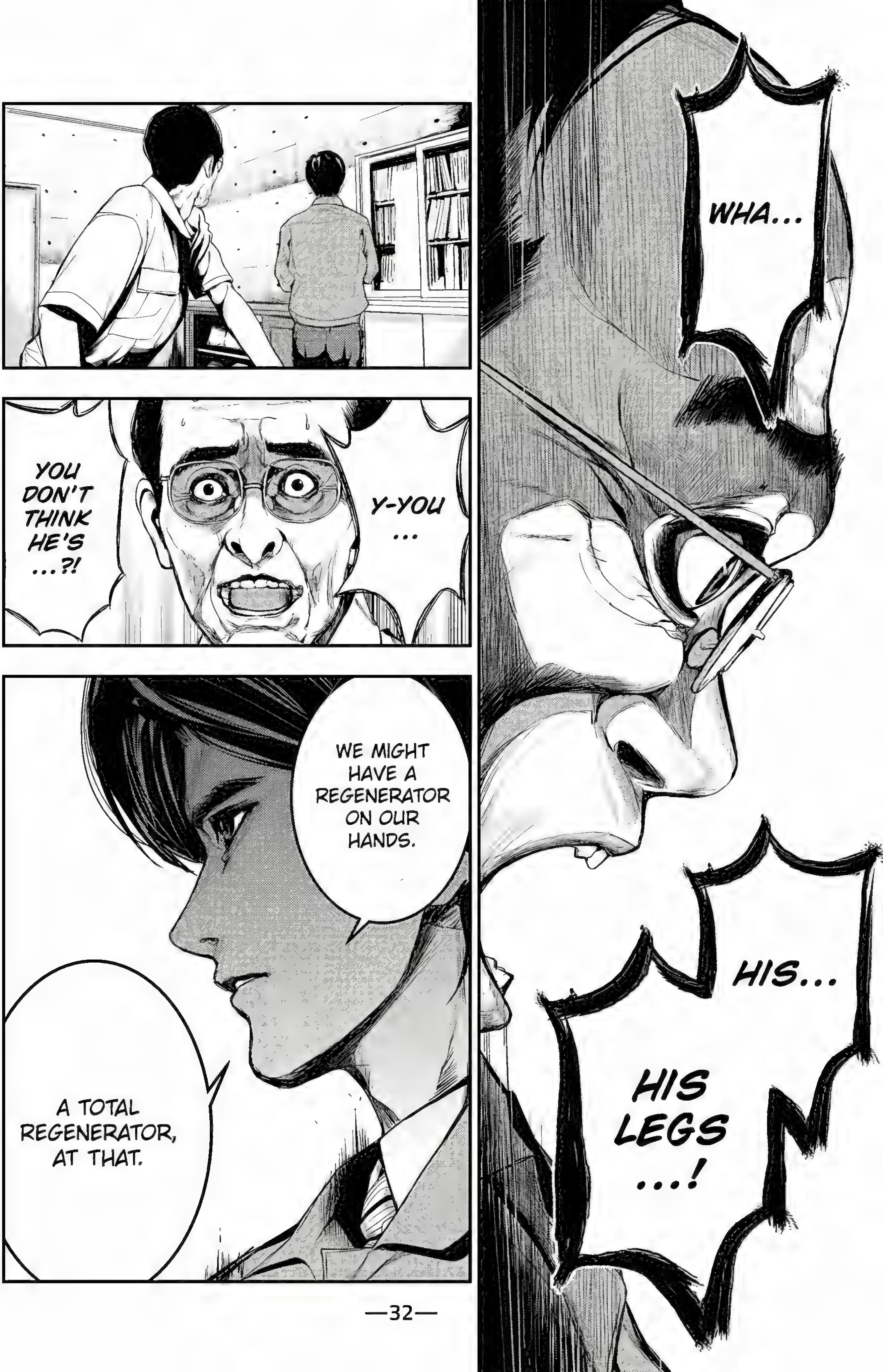

CHIEF IZUMI, WERE YOU... LOOKING OVER THE VIDEO AGAIN?
YES.
EVERY TIME I WATCH IT...
CLENCH
ギュッ

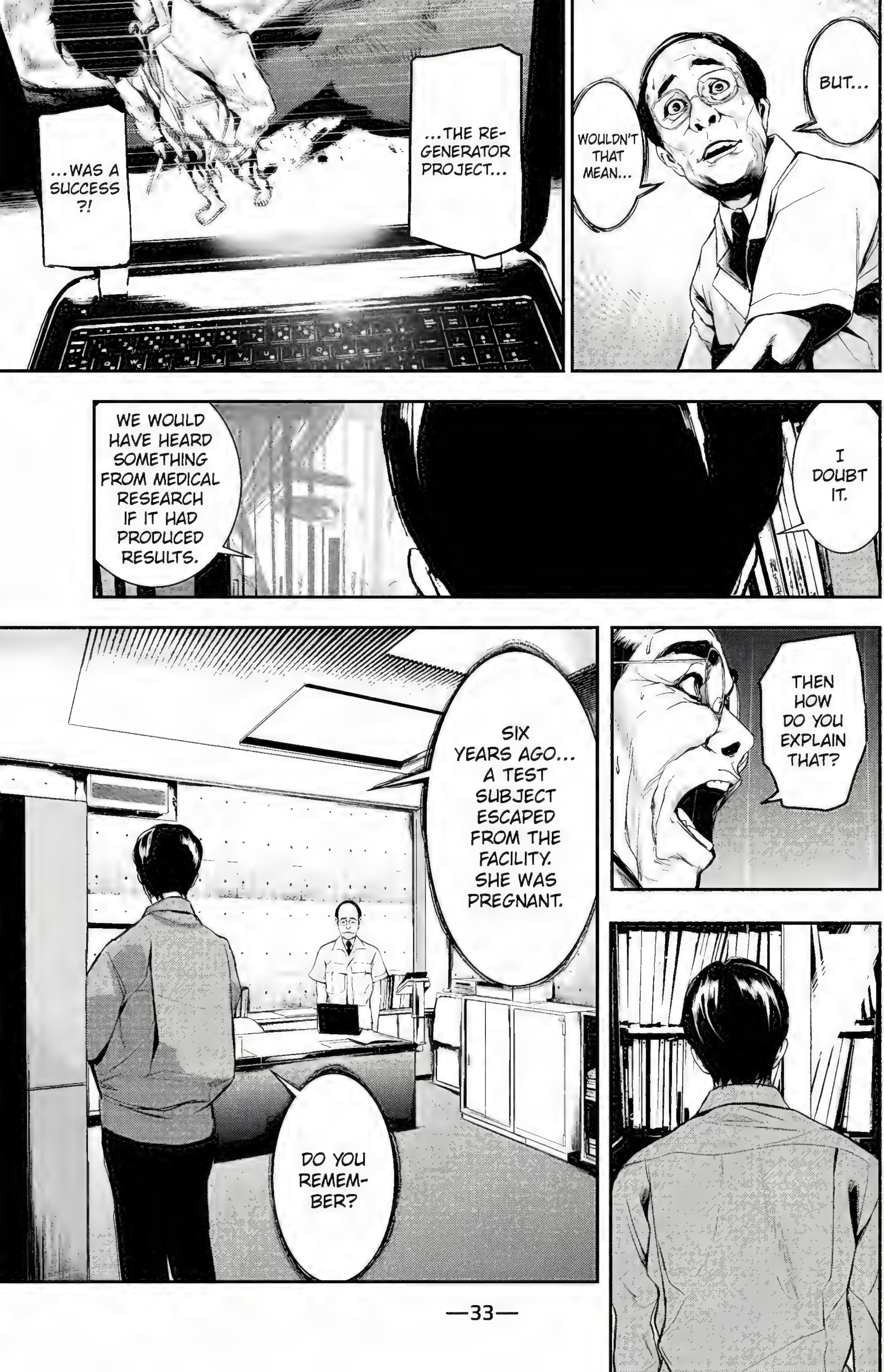

...MY ANGER AT THOSE MEN WHO MURDERED ONE OF THE MASTERS GROWS THAT MUCH STRONGER.
YOU'RE RELIVING IT TO REMIND YOURSELF...
...WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?
THE FIRES OF RAGE MAY BURN HOT, BUT THEY FLARE OUT IN AN INSTANT.
THEY REQUIRE CONSTANT TENDING.
SO... WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW, SIR?
SMOKE OUT OUR FOXES, OF COURSE.
RATTLE
ガタ
BASED ON WHAT WE KNOW, THERE ARE AT LEAST FOUR...

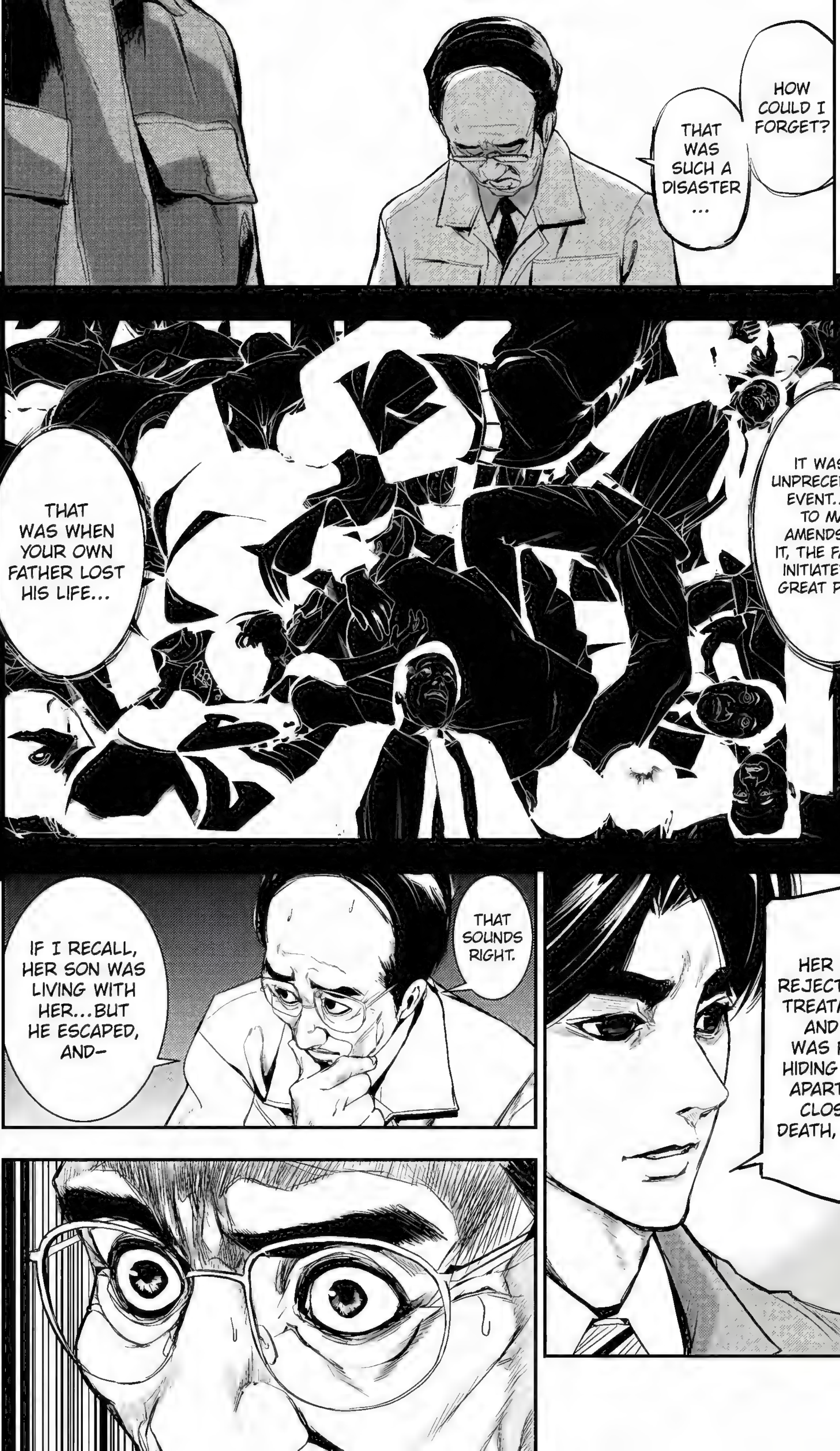

...AND MY GUESS IS, THEY ESCAPED FROM THE LOADING DOCKS,
BLISSFULLY UNAWARE THAT WE HAVE SECURITY CAMERAS ROLLING ALL OVER THE FACILITY.
THEY'RE AWFULLY YOUNG.
THEY CAN'T EVEN BE TWENTY...
IN PARTICULAR, I'D LIKE TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION...
...TO THIS MAN. THE ONE WITH THE SHAGGY HAIR.
HE HAD THE AUDACITY TO CHALLENGE A MASTER HEAD ON...
CLACK カチ
CLACK カチ
HERE. THE VIDEO SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.
FWP
SIR?
HMM?

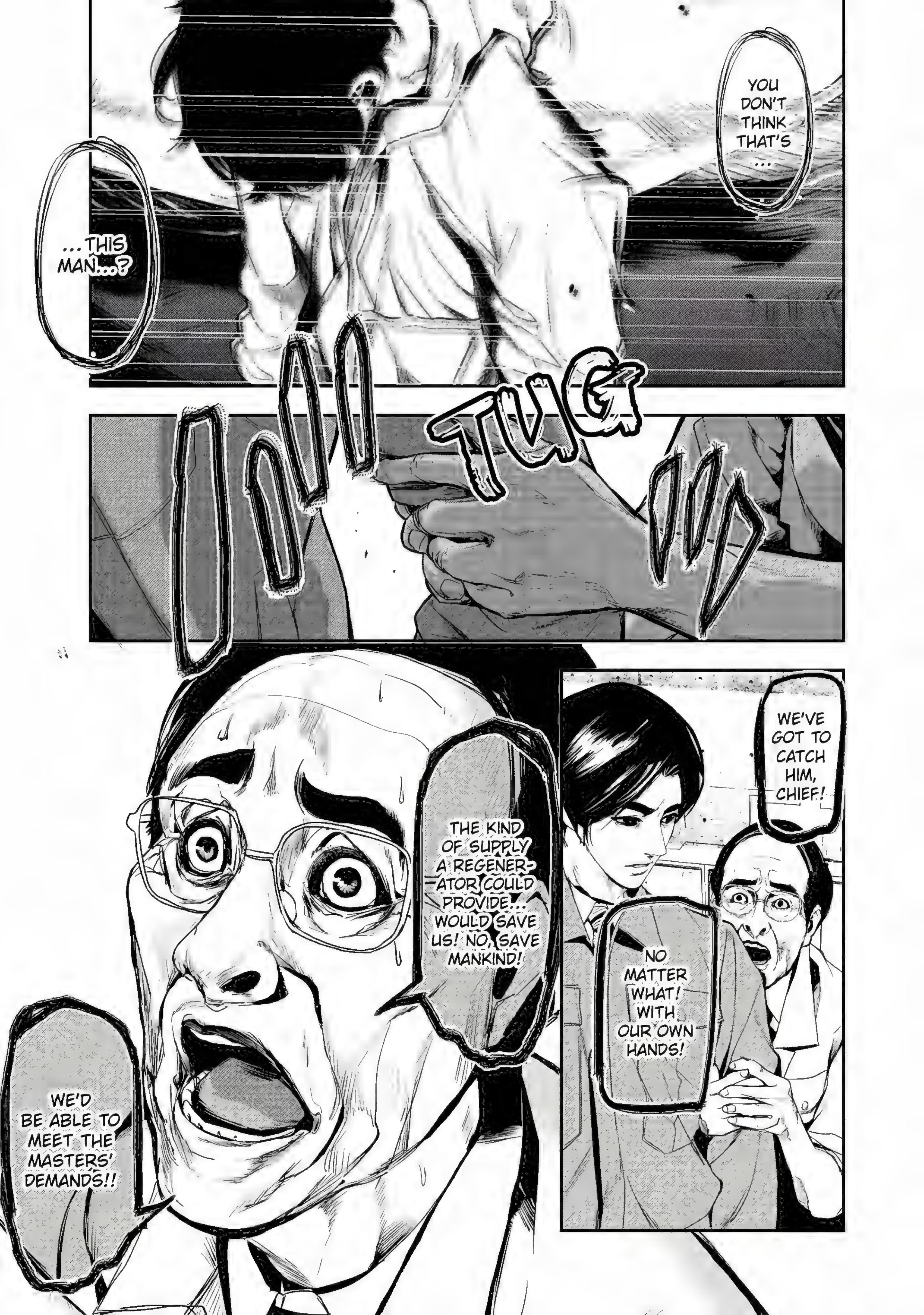

I'M NOT... GOOD WITH THESE SORTS OF VIDEOS...
I UNDERSTAND IT'S HARD TO STOMACH, BUT PLEASE. WATCH.
HMM?

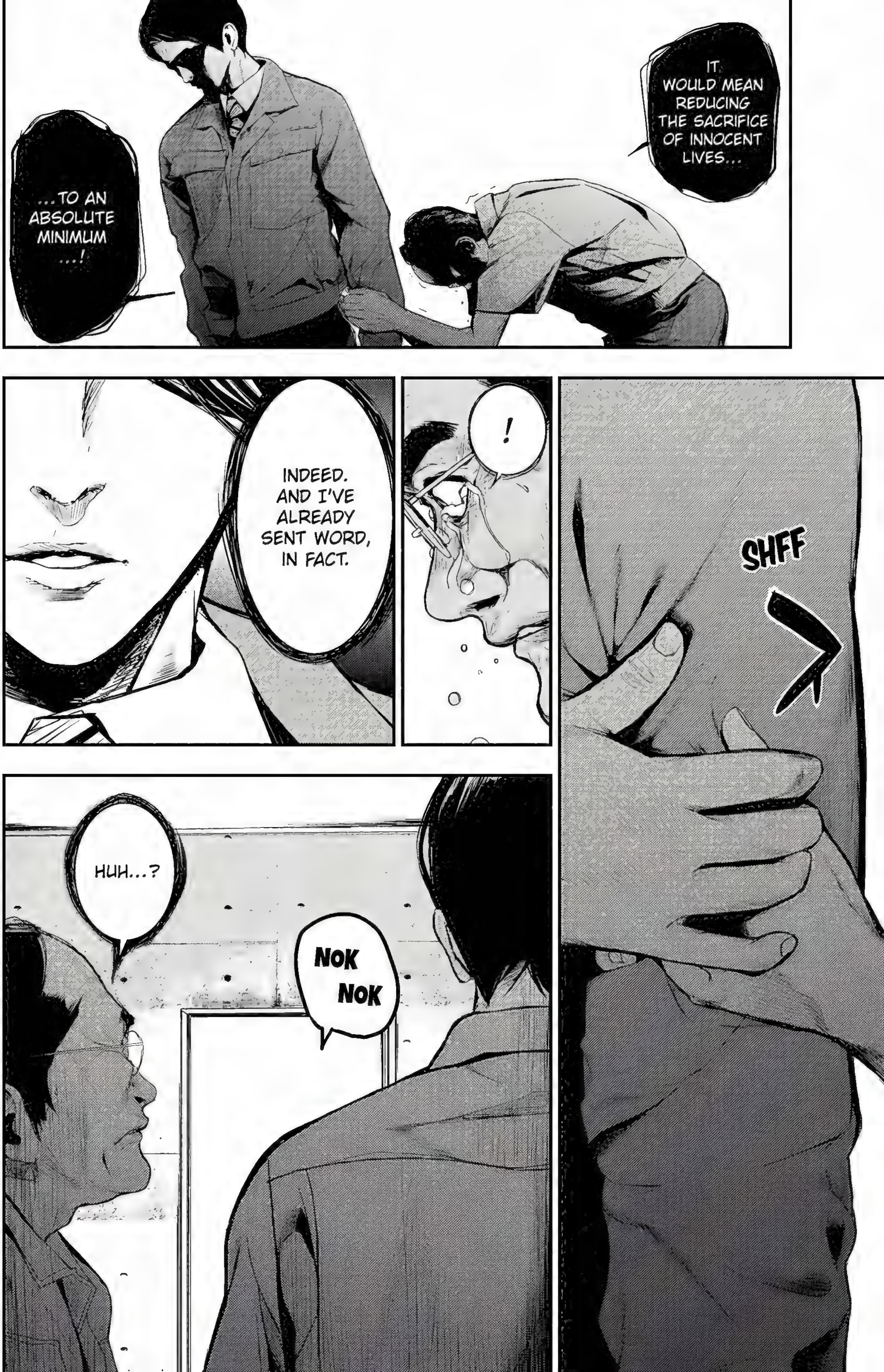

WHAT?!
HOW DID HE MANAGE TO LIVE THROUGH THIS, SIR?
THINK *THAT'S* ODD? KEEP WATCHING.
HUH?

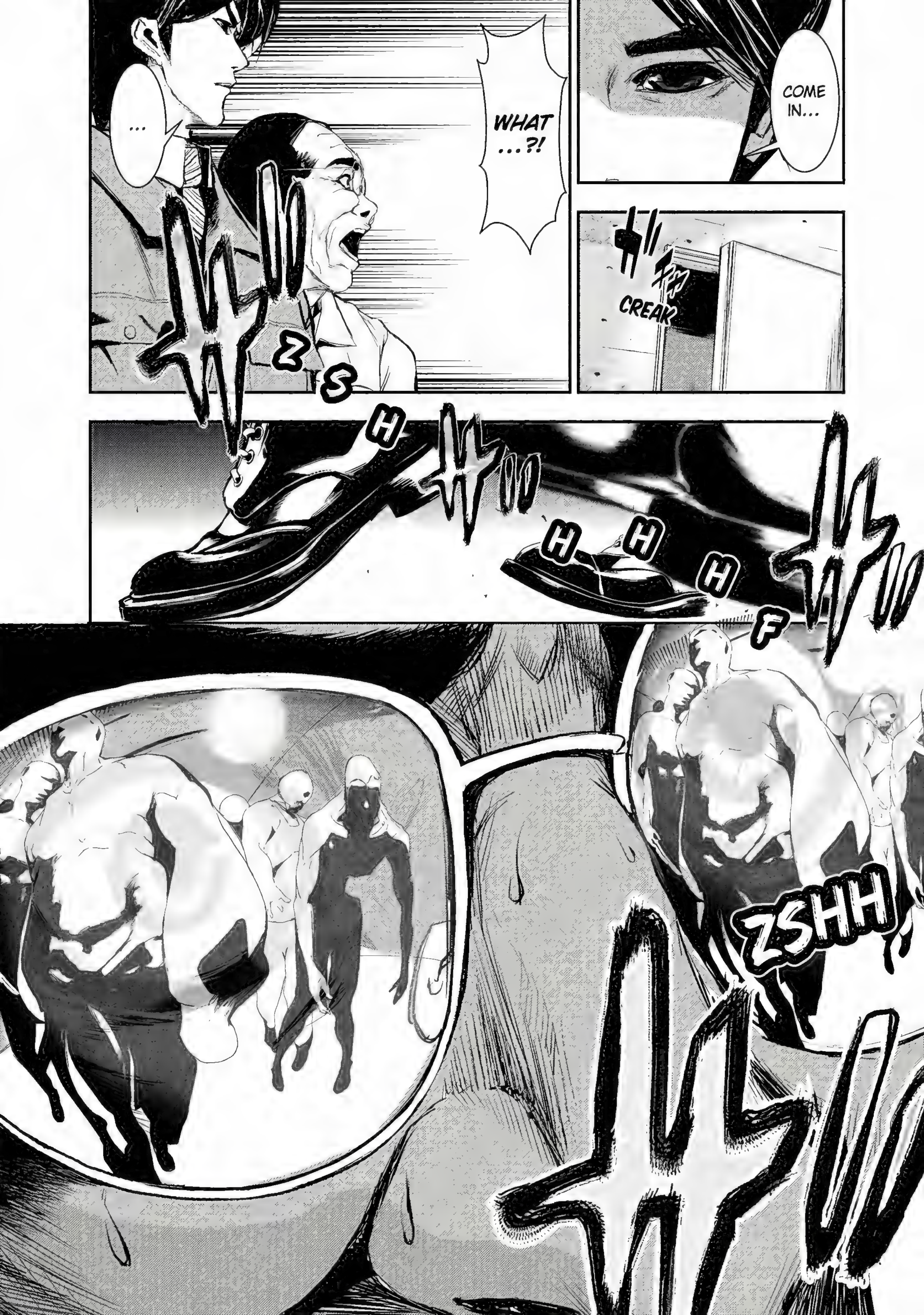

WHA...
HIS...
HIS LEGS ...!
Y-YOU ...
YOU DON'T THINK HE'S ...?!
WE MIGHT HAVE A REGENERATOR ON OUR HANDS.
A TOTAL REGENERATOR, AT THAT.

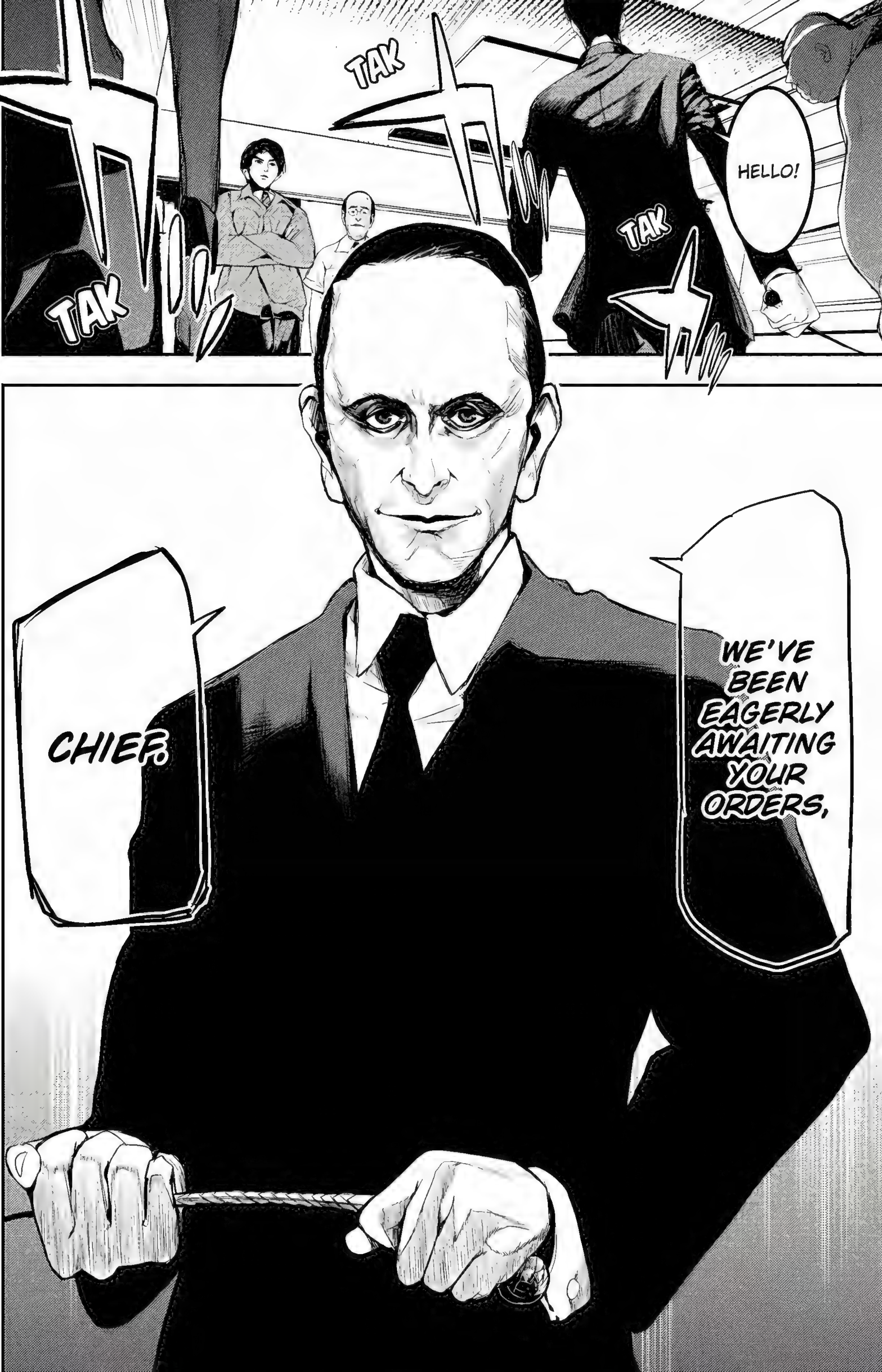

BUT...
WOULDN'T THAT MEAN...
...THE REGENERATOR PROJECT...
...WAS A SUCCESS?!
I DOUBT IT.
WE WOULD HAVE HEARD SOMETHING FROM MEDICAL RESEARCH IF IT HAD PRODUCED RESULTS.
THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THAT?
SIX YEARS AGO... A TEST SUBJECT ESCAPED FROM THE FACILITY. SHE WAS PREGNANT.
DO YOU REMEMBER?

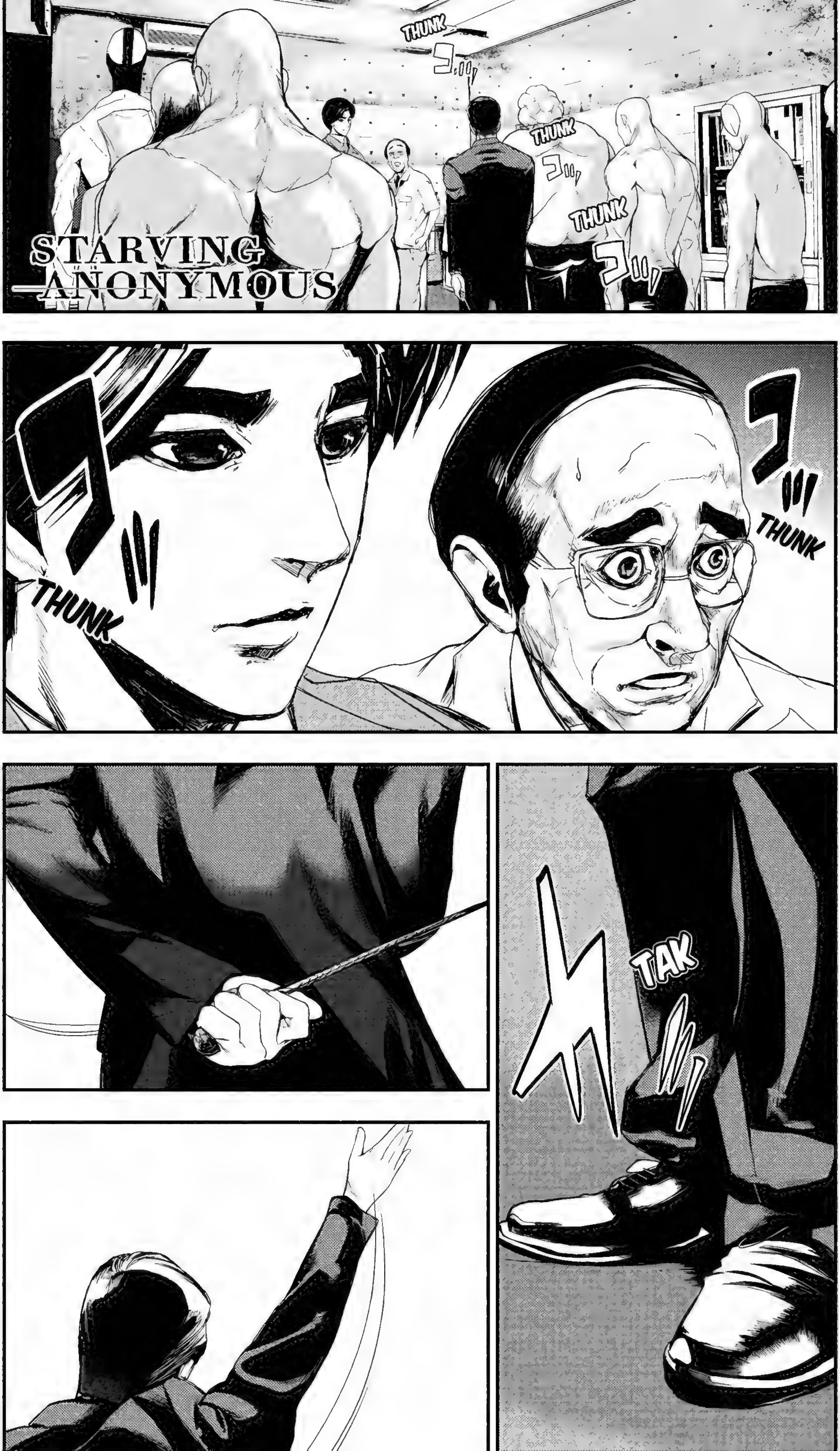

HOW COULD I FORGET?
THAT WAS SUCH A DISASTER...
IT WAS AN UNPRECEDENTED EVENT...AND TO MAKE AMENDS FOR IT, THE FACILITY INITIATED THE GREAT PURGE.
THAT WAS WHEN YOUR OWN FATHER LOST HIS LIFE...
HER BODY REJECTED THE TREATMENT... AND SHE WAS FOUND HIDING IN HER APARTMENT, CLOSE TO DEATH, RIGHT?
THAT SOUNDS RIGHT.
IF I RECALL, HER SON WAS LIVING WITH HER...BUT HE ESCAPED, AND—


YOU DON'T THINK THAT'S ...
...THIS MAN...?
TUG
WE'VE GOT TO CATCH HIM, CHIEF!
NO MATTER WHAT! WITH OUR OWN HANDS!
THE KIND OF SUPPLY A REGENERATOR COULD PROVIDE... WOULD SAVE US! NO, SAVE MANKIND!
WE'D BE ABLE TO MEET THE MASTERS' DEMANDS!!


IT WOULD MEAN REDUCING THE SACRIFICE OF INNOCENT LIVES...
...TO AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM ...!
SHFF
!
INDEED. AND I'VE ALREADY SENT WORD, IN FACT.
NOK NOK
HUH...?


COME IN...
CREAK
WHAT ...?!
...
ZSHHHHF
ZSHH


HELLO!
TAK
TAK
TAK
WE'VE BEEN EAGERLY AWAITING YOUR ORDERS,
CHIEF.


STARVING ANONYMOUS
THUNK
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THUNK
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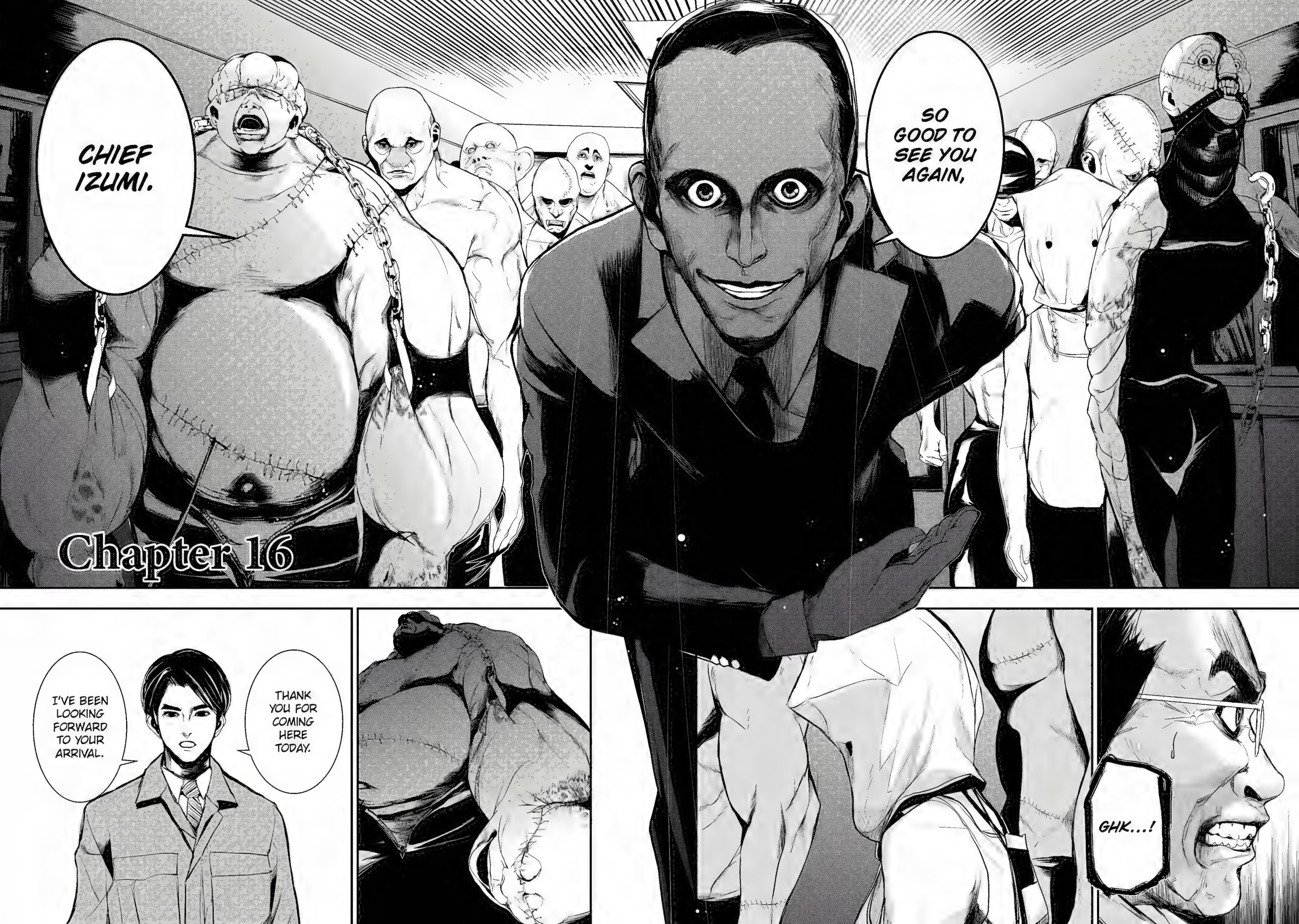
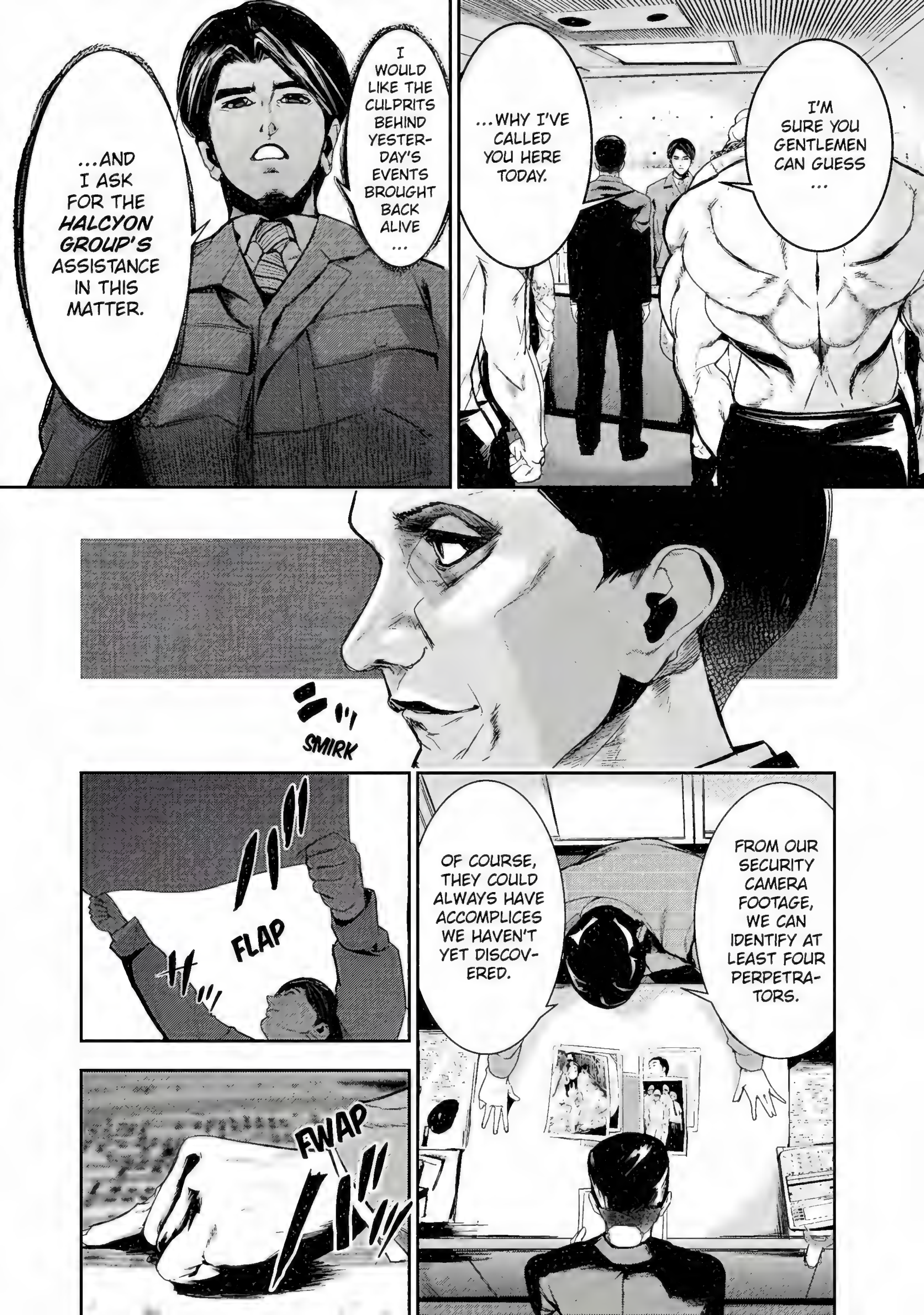
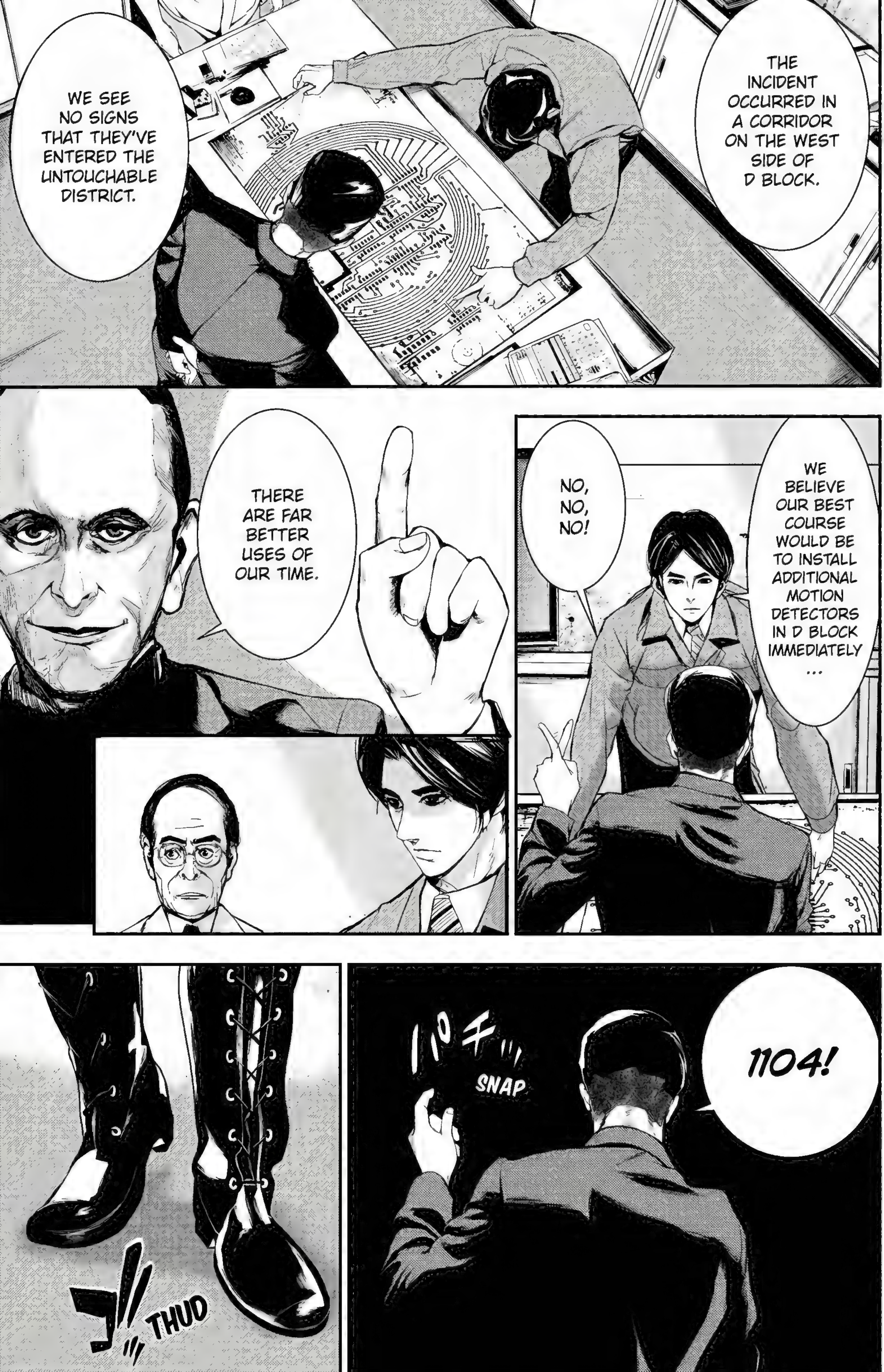
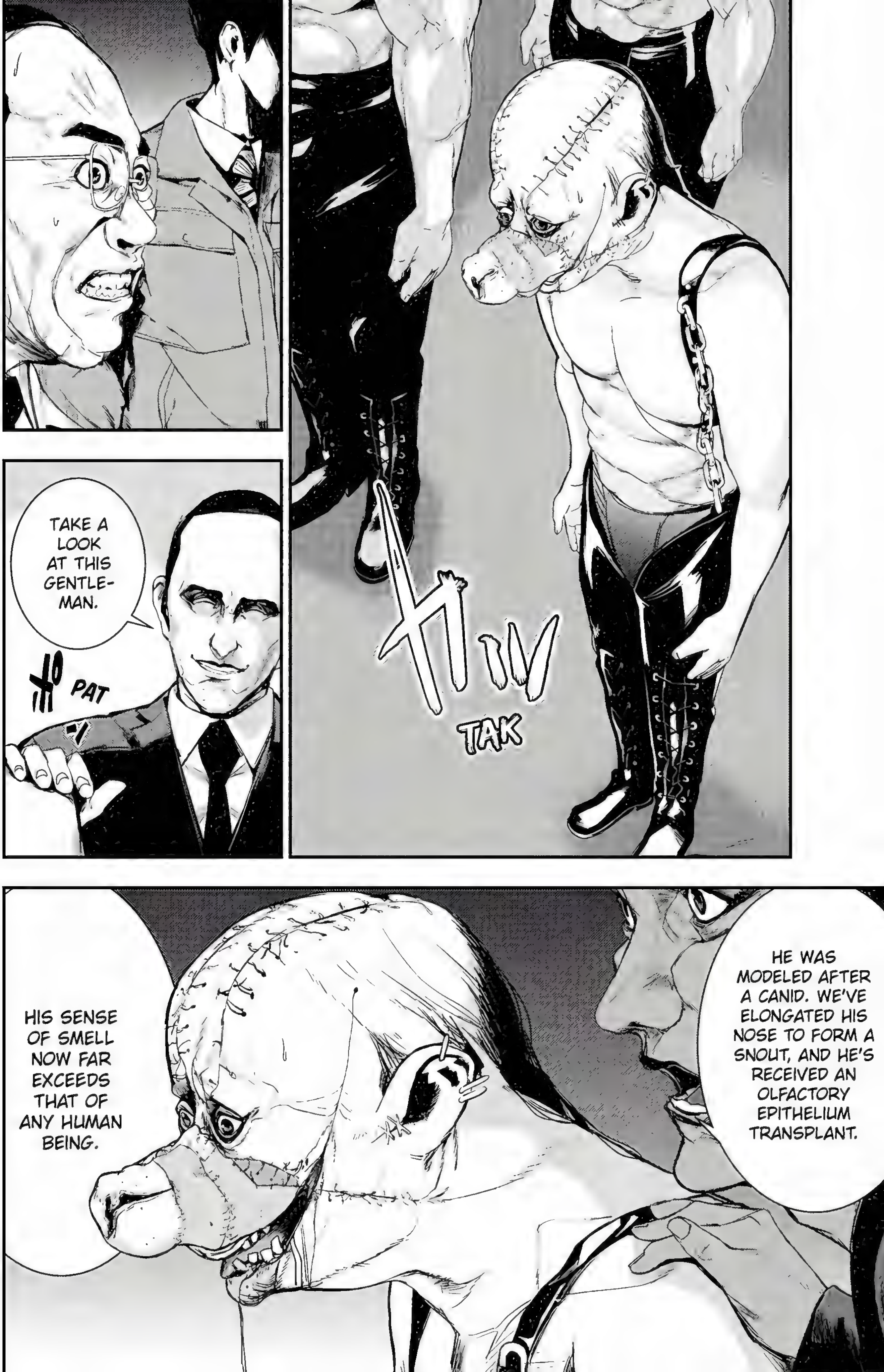
TAK

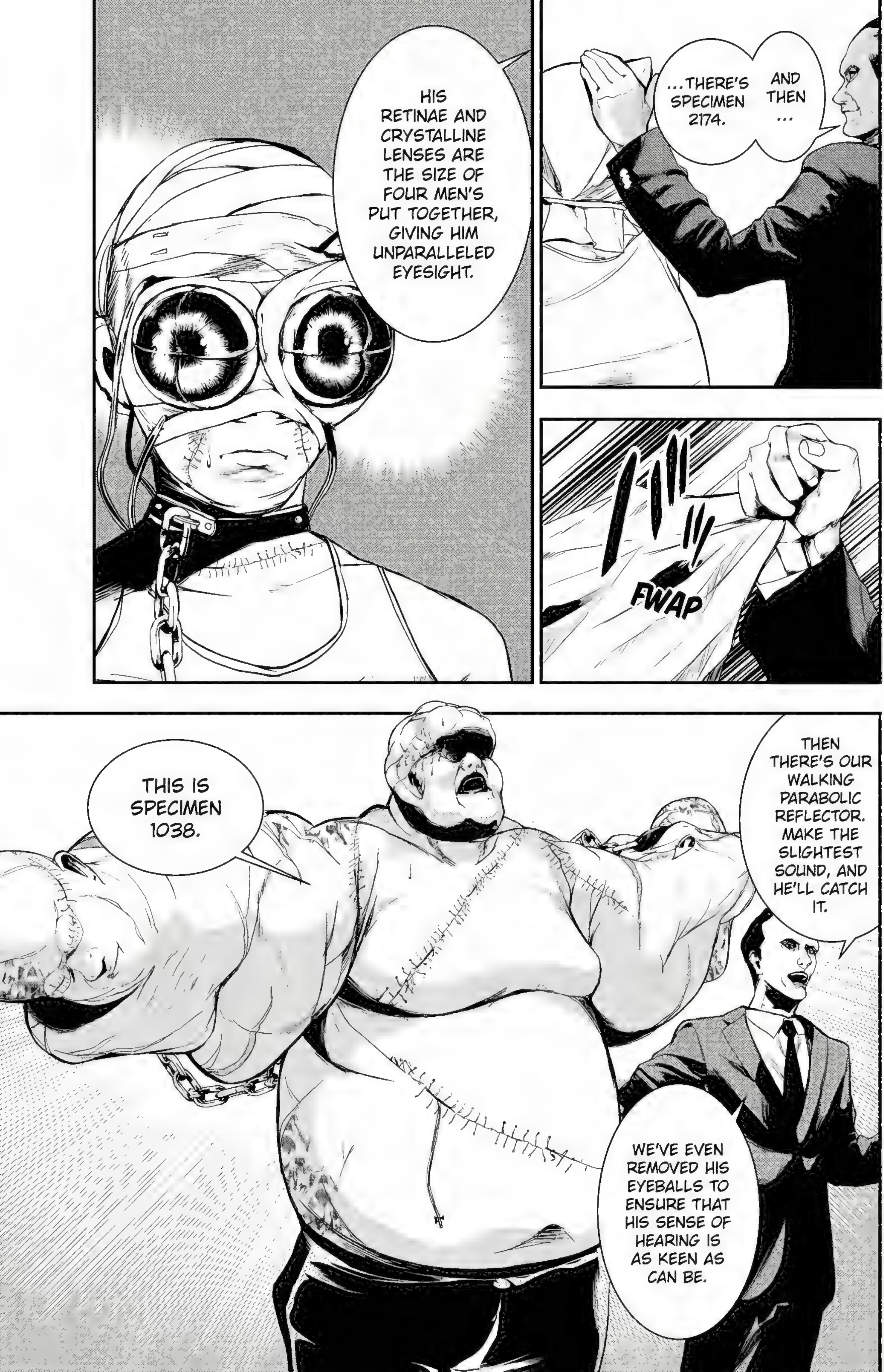
Chapter 16

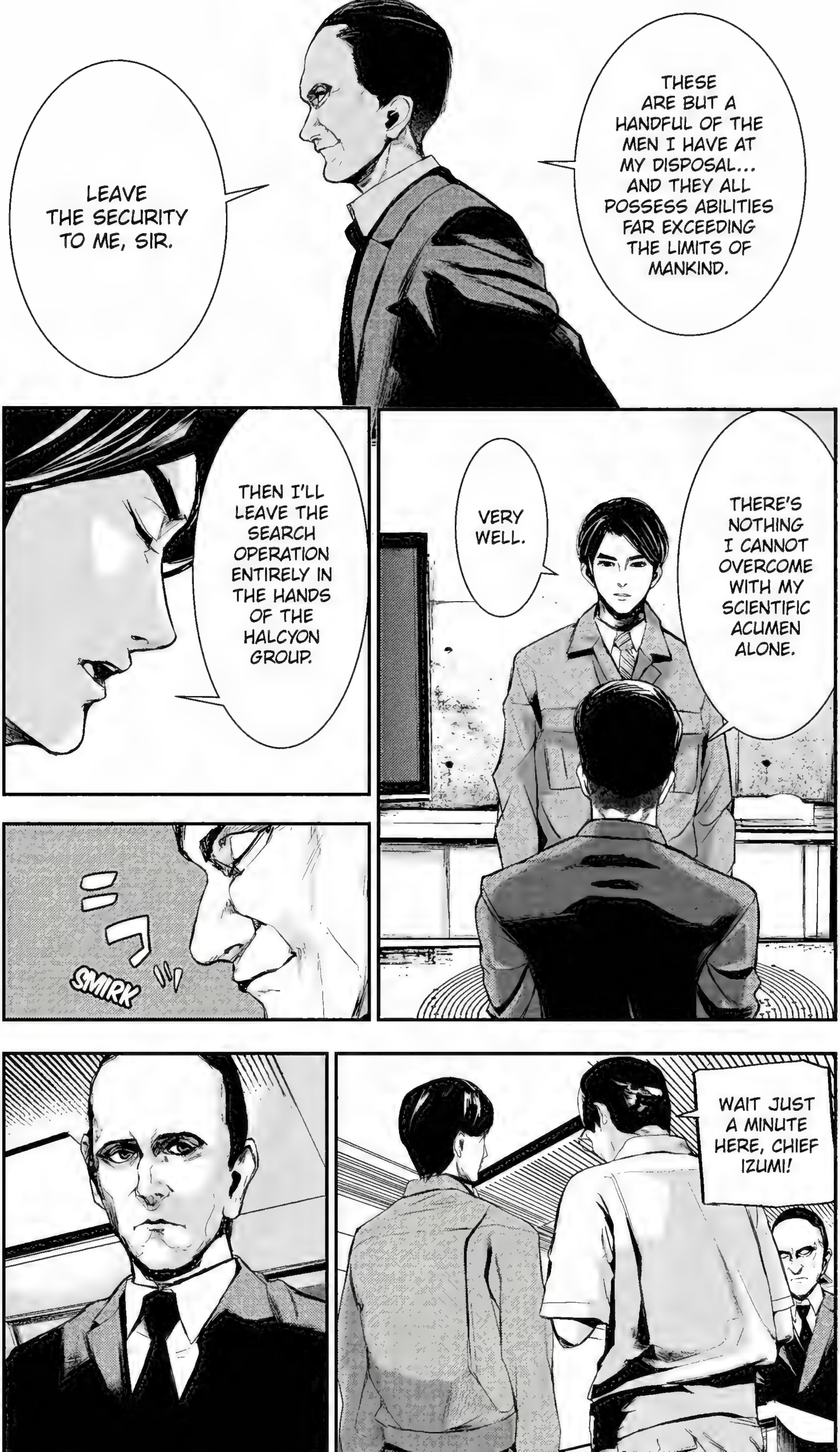

SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN,
CHIEF IZUMI.
GHK...!
THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE TODAY.
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR ARRIVAL.

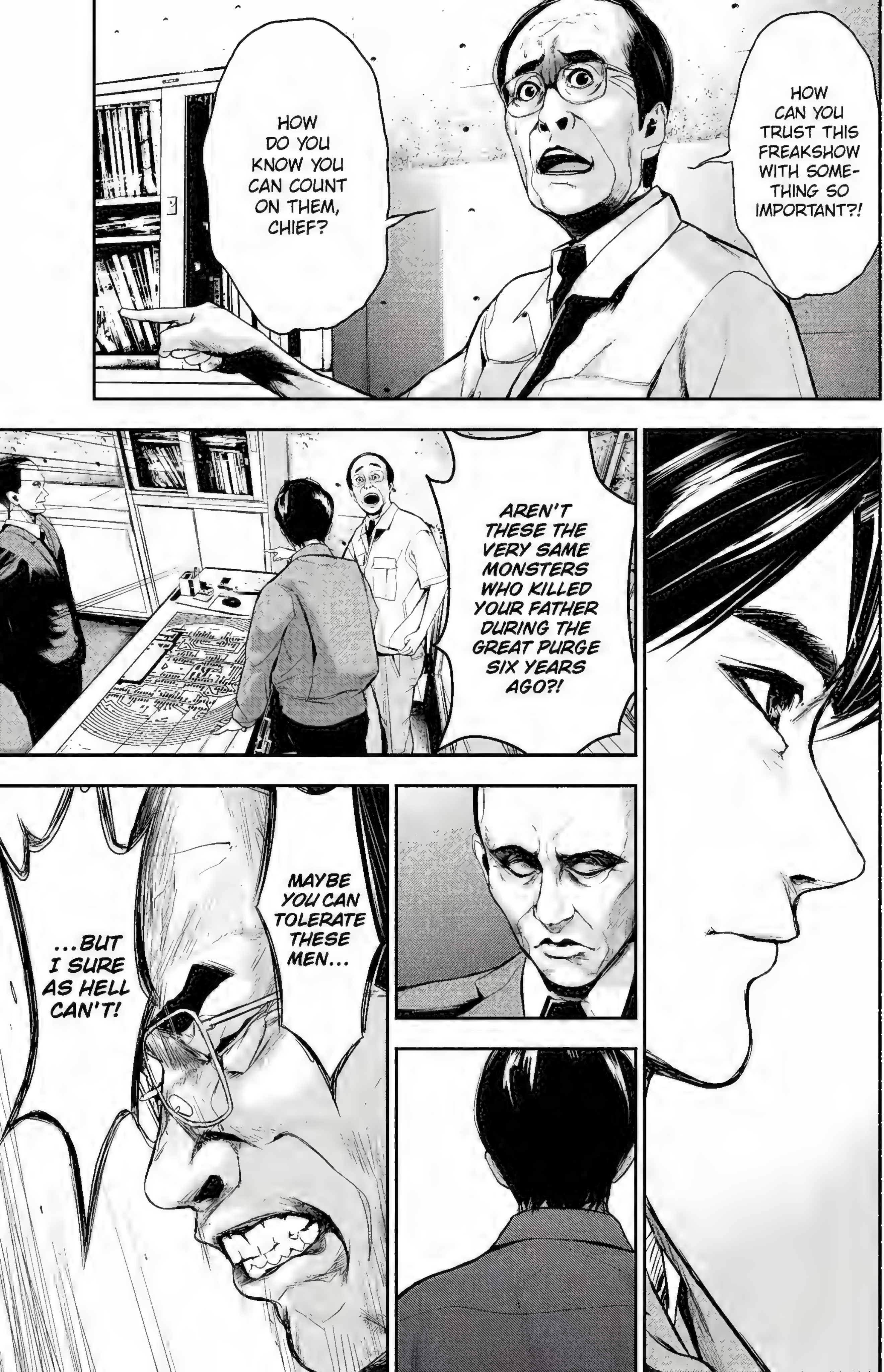

I'M SURE YOU GENTLEMEN CAN GUESS ...
...WHY I'VE CALLED YOU HERE TODAY.
I WOULD LIKE THE CULPRITS BEHIND YESTERDAY'S EVENTS BROUGHT BACK ALIVE ...
...AND I ASK FOR THE *HALCYON GROUP'S* ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER.
SMIRK
FROM OUR SECURITY CAMERA FOOTAGE, WE CAN IDENTIFY AT LEAST FOUR PERPETRATORS.
OF COURSE, THEY COULD ALWAYS HAVE ACCOMPLICES WE HAVEN'T YET DISCOVERED.
FLAP
FWAP

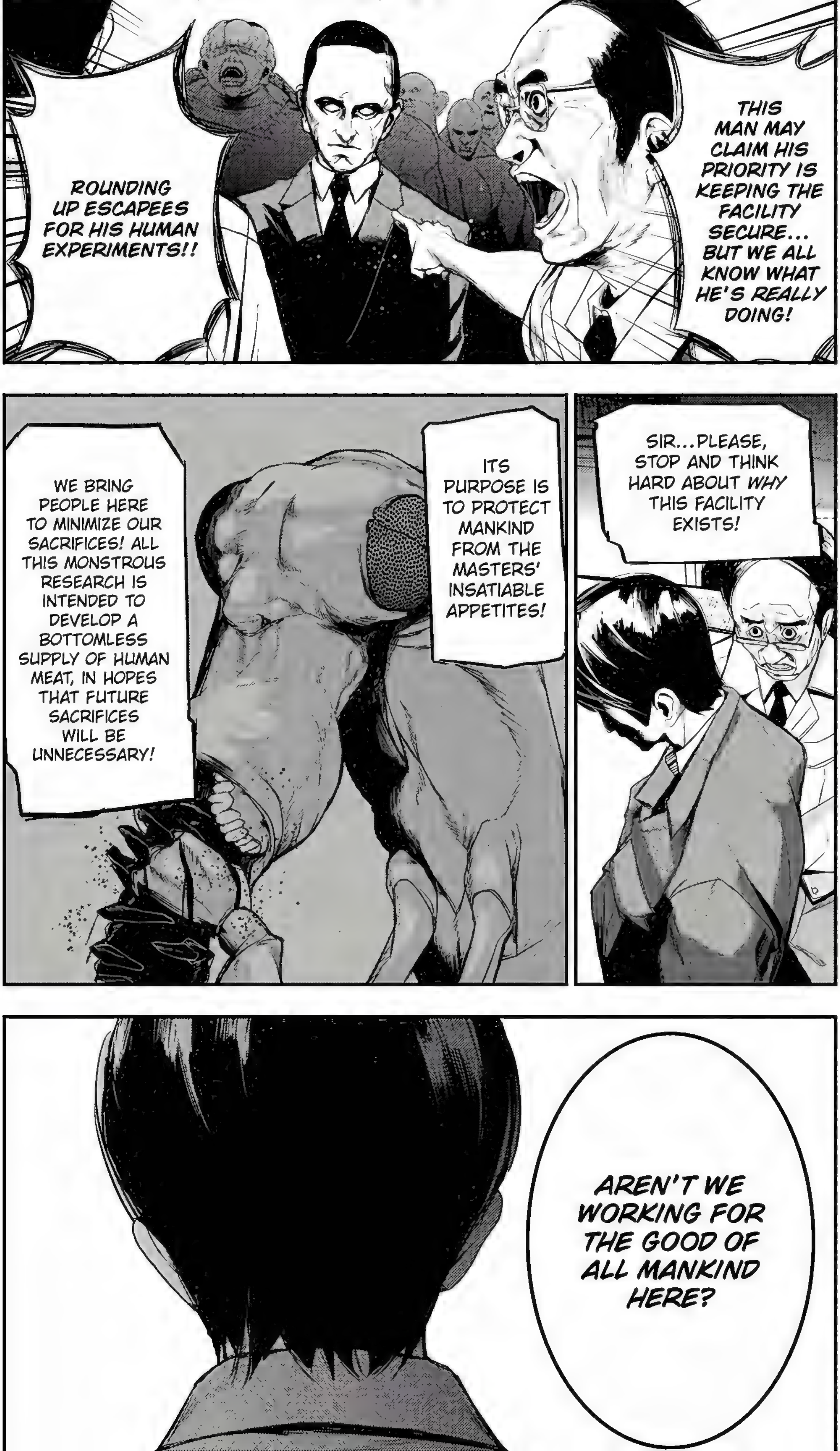

THE INCIDENT OCCURRED IN A CORRIDOR ON THE WEST SIDE OF D BLOCK.
WE SEE NO SIGNS THAT THEY'VE ENTERED THE UNTOUCHABLE DISTRICT.
WE BELIEVE OUR BEST COURSE WOULD BE TO INSTALL ADDITIONAL MOTION DETECTORS IN D BLOCK IMMEDIATELY ...
NO, NO, NO!
THERE ARE FAR BETTER USES OF OUR TIME.
1104!
パチッ
SNAP
ゴッ
THUD

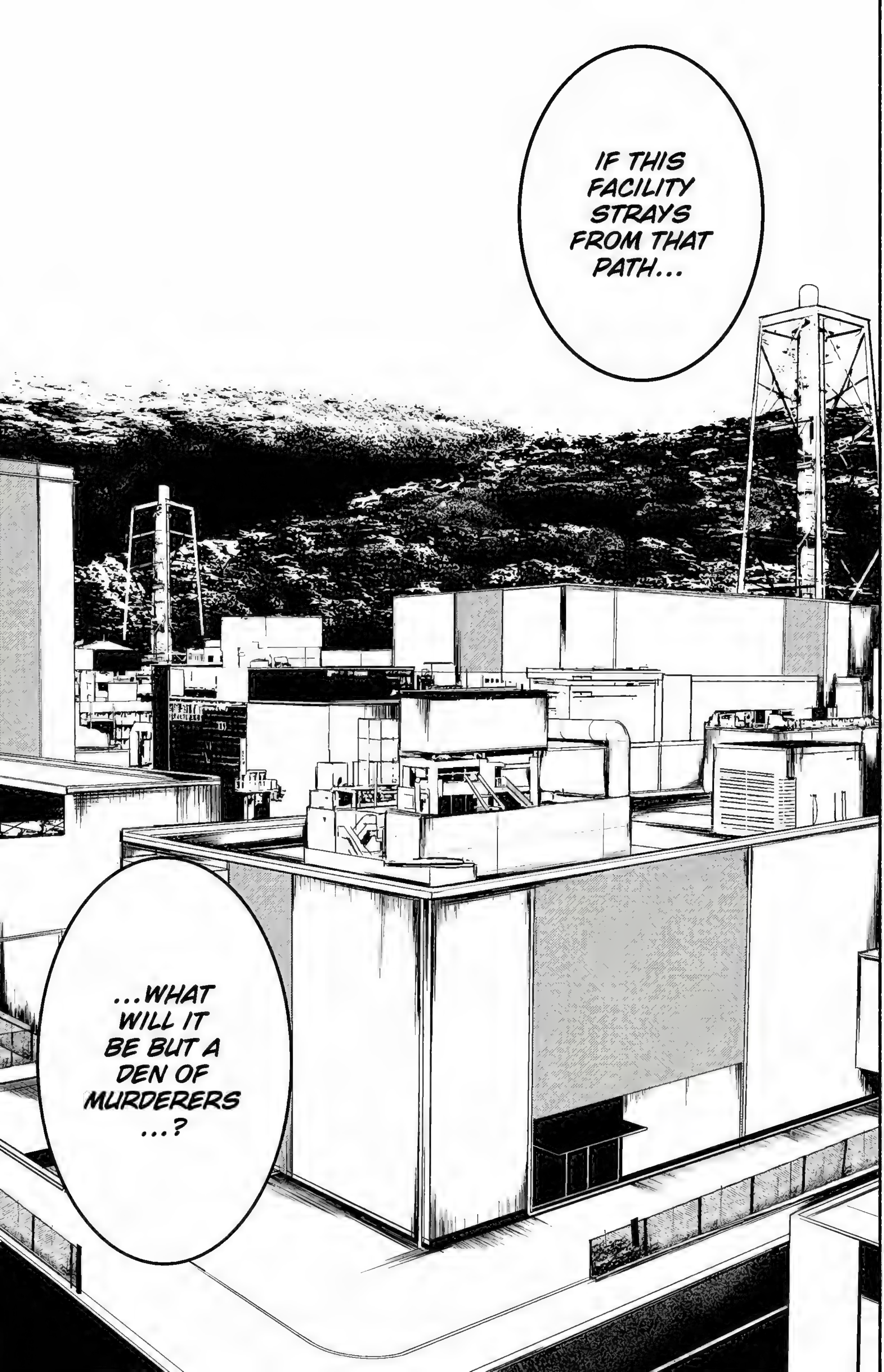

TAK
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS GENTLEMAN.
PAT
HE WAS MODELED AFTER A CANID. WE'VE ELONGATED HIS NOSE TO FORM A SNOUT, AND HE'S RECEIVED AN OLFACTORY EPITHELIUM TRANSPLANT.
HIS SENSE OF SMELL NOW FAR EXCEEDS THAT OF ANY HUMAN BEING.

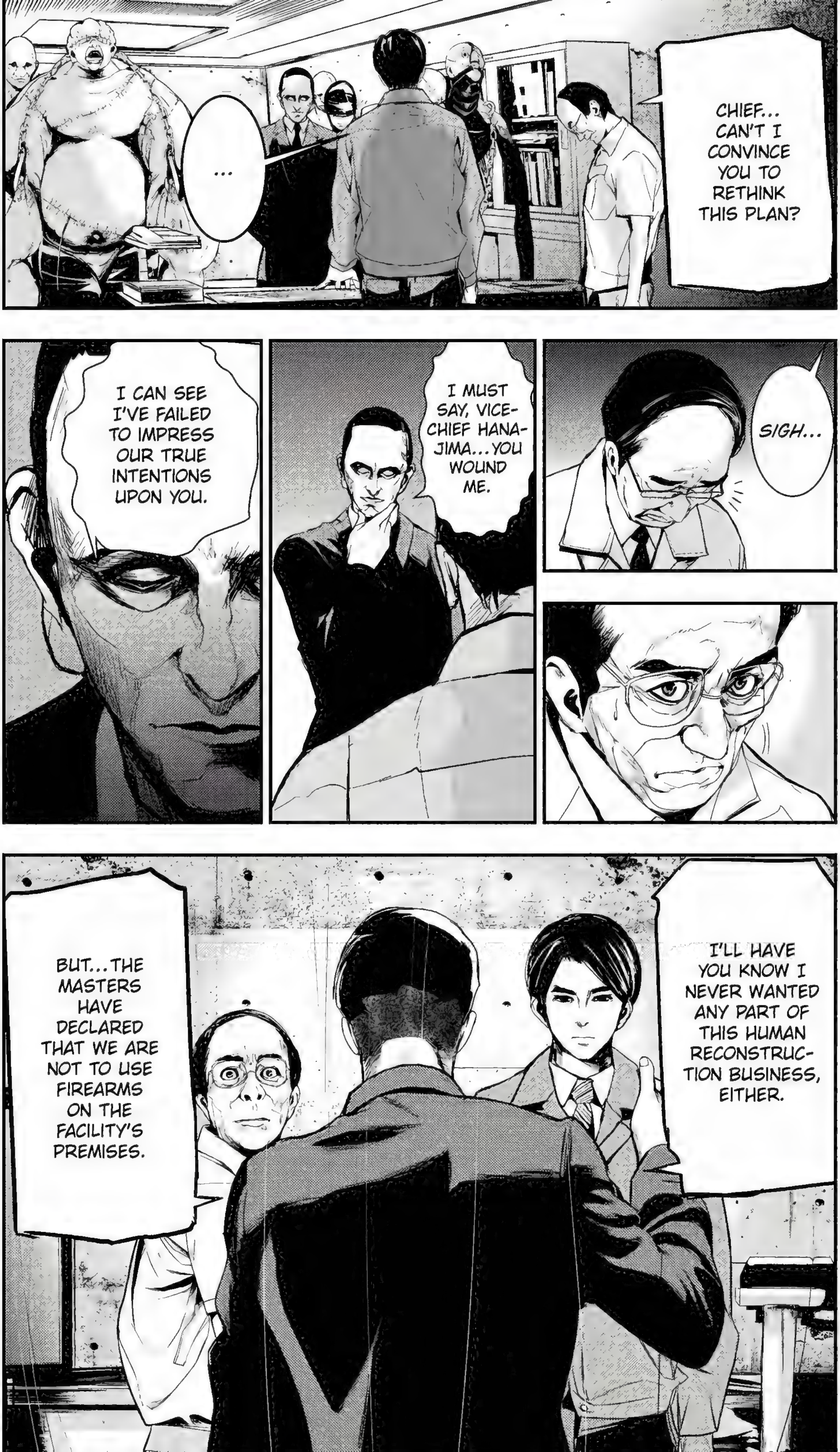

AND THEN ...
...THERE'S SPECIMEN 2174.
FWAP
HIS RETINAE AND CRYSTALLINE LENSES ARE THE SIZE OF FOUR MEN'S PUT TOGETHER, GIVING HIM UNPARALLELED EYESIGHT.
THEN THERE'S OUR WALKING PARABOLIC REFLECTOR. MAKE THE SLIGHTEST SOUND, AND HE'LL CATCH IT.
THIS IS SPECIMEN 1038.
WE'VE EVEN REMOVED HIS EYEBALLS TO ENSURE THAT HIS SENSE OF HEARING IS AS KEEN AS CAN BE.

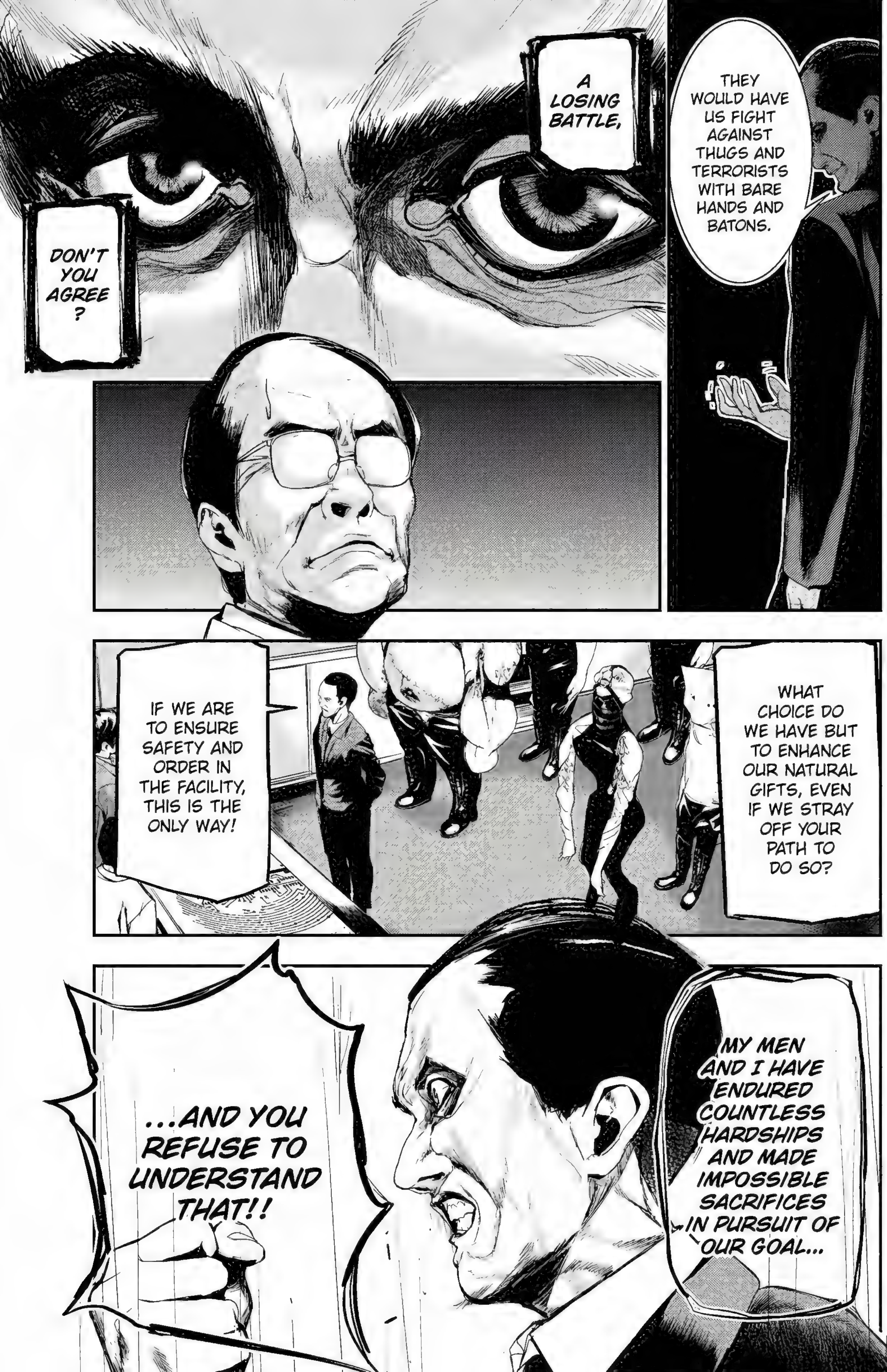

THESE ARE BUT A HANDFUL OF THE MEN I HAVE AT MY DISPOSAL... AND THEY ALL POSSESS ABILITIES FAR EXCEEDING THE LIMITS OF MANKIND.
LEAVE THE SECURITY TO ME, SIR.
THERE'S NOTHING I CANNOT OVERCOME WITH MY SCIENTIFIC ACUMEN ALONE.
VERY WELL.
THEN I'LL LEAVE THE SEARCH OPERATION ENTIRELY IN THE HANDS OF THE HALCYON GROUP.
ニコッ
SMIRK
WAIT JUST A MINUTE HERE, CHIEF IZUMI!

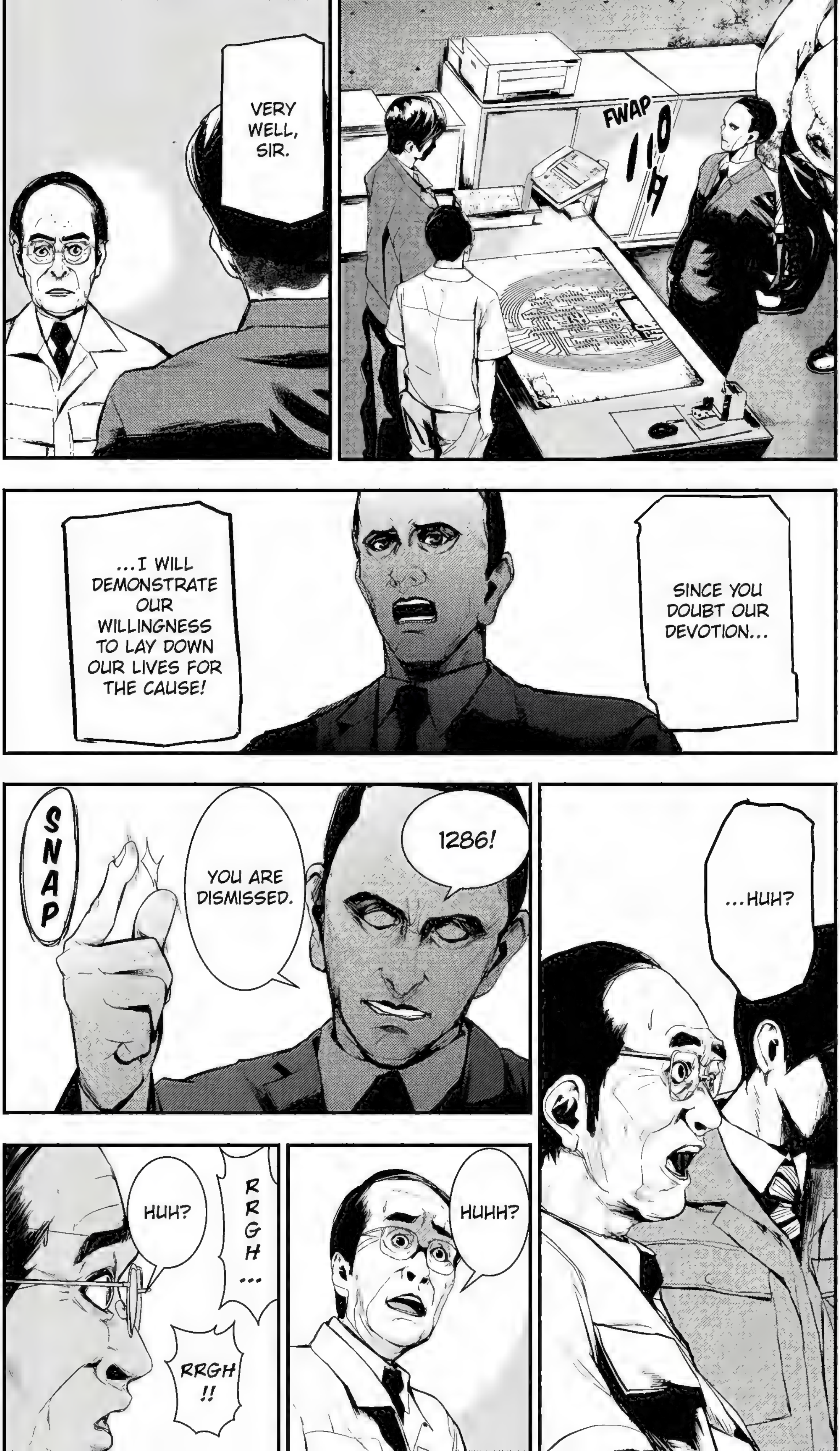

HOW CAN YOU TRUST THIS FREAKSHOW WITH SOMETHING SO IMPORTANT?!
HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU CAN COUNT ON THEM, CHIEF?
AREN'T THESE THE VERY SAME MONSTERS WHO KILLED YOUR FATHER DURING THE GREAT PURGE SIX YEARS AGO?!
MAYBE YOU CAN TOLERATE THESE MEN...
...BUT I SURE AS HELL CAN'T!

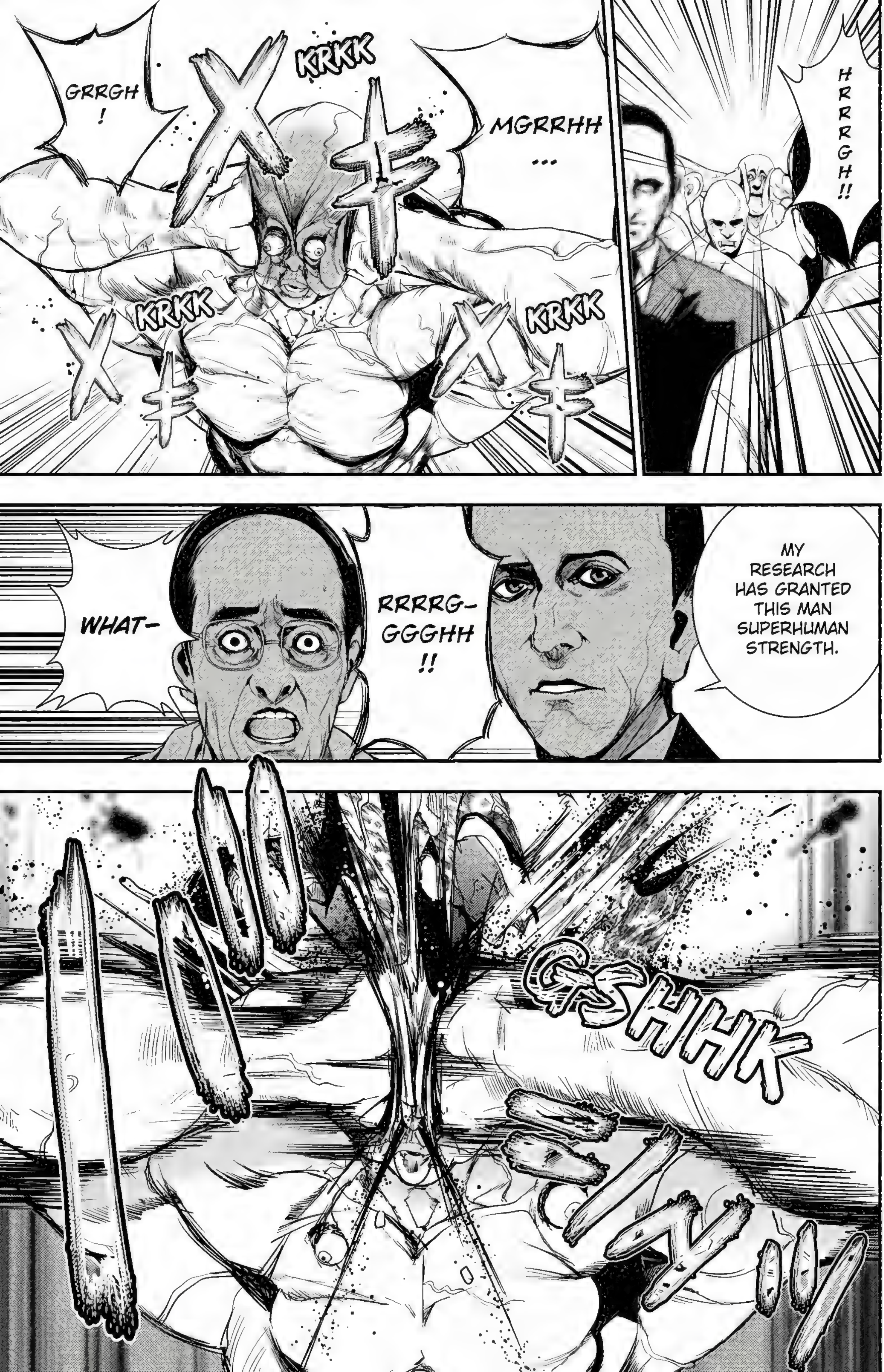

THIS MAN MAY CLAIM HIS PRIORITY IS KEEPING THE FACILITY SECURE... BUT WE ALL KNOW WHAT HE'S *REALLY* DOING!
ROUNDING UP ESCAPEES FOR HIS HUMAN EXPERIMENTS!!
SIR...PLEASE, STOP AND THINK HARD ABOUT *WHY* THIS FACILITY EXISTS!
ITS PURPOSE IS TO PROTECT MANKIND FROM THE MASTERS' INSATIABLE APPETITES!
WE BRING PEOPLE HERE TO MINIMIZE OUR SACRIFICES! ALL THIS MONSTROUS RESEARCH IS INTENDED TO DEVELOP A BOTTOMLESS SUPPLY OF HUMAN MEAT, IN HOPES THAT FUTURE SACRIFICES WILL BE UNNECESSARY!
AREN'T WE WORKING FOR THE GOOD OF ALL MANKIND HERE?

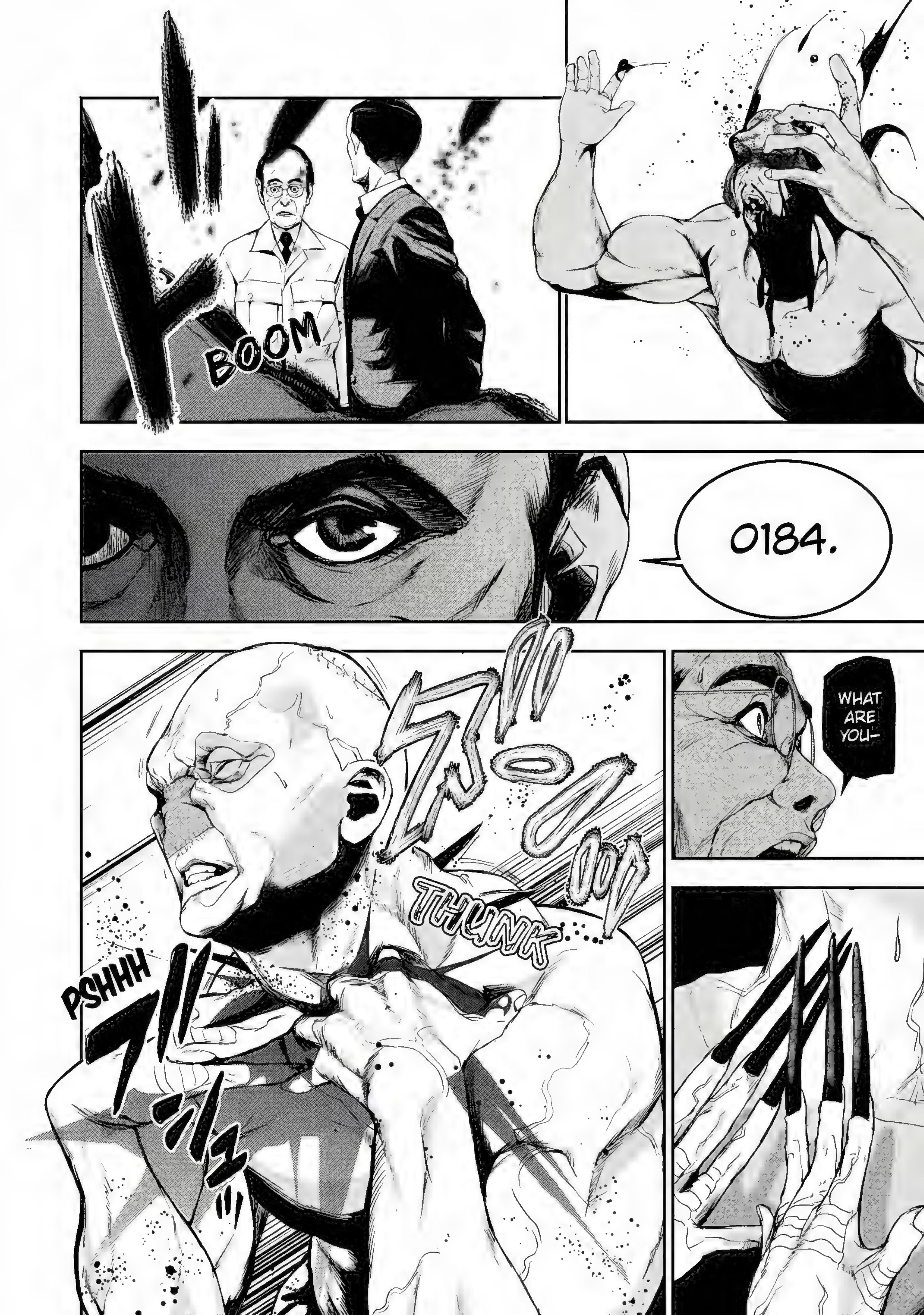

IF THIS FACILITY STRAYS FROM THAT PATH...
...WHAT WILL IT BE BUT A DEN OF MURDERERS...?

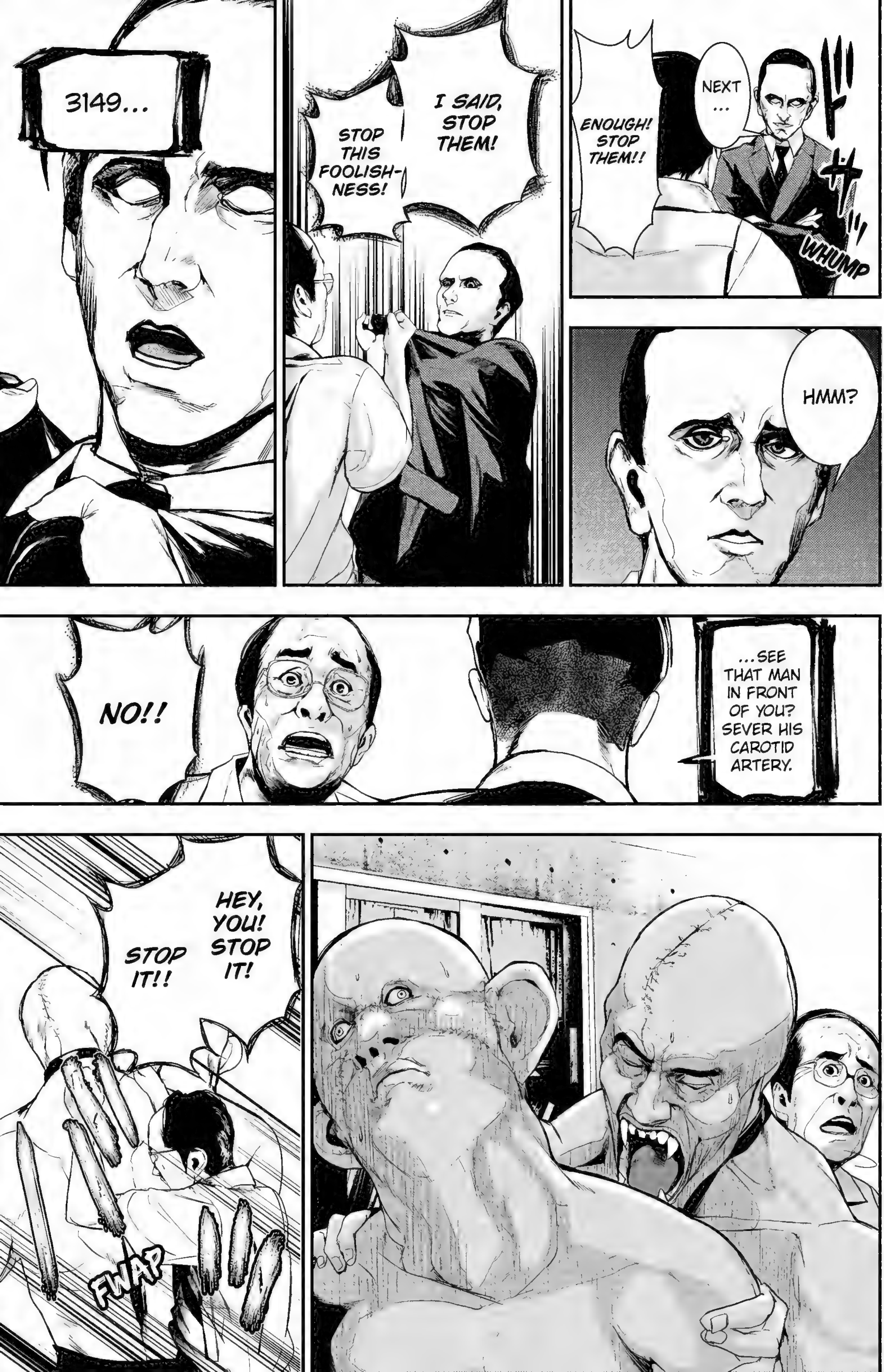

CHIEF... CAN'T I CONVINCE YOU TO RETHINK THIS PLAN?
...
SIGH...
I MUST SAY, VICE-CHIEF HANAJIMA...YOU WOUND ME.
I CAN SEE I'VE FAILED TO IMPRESS OUR TRUE INTENTIONS UPON YOU.
I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I NEVER WANTED ANY PART OF THIS HUMAN RECONSTRUCTION BUSINESS, EITHER.
BUT...THE MASTERS HAVE DECLARED THAT WE ARE NOT TO USE FIREARMS ON THE FACILITY'S PREMISES.

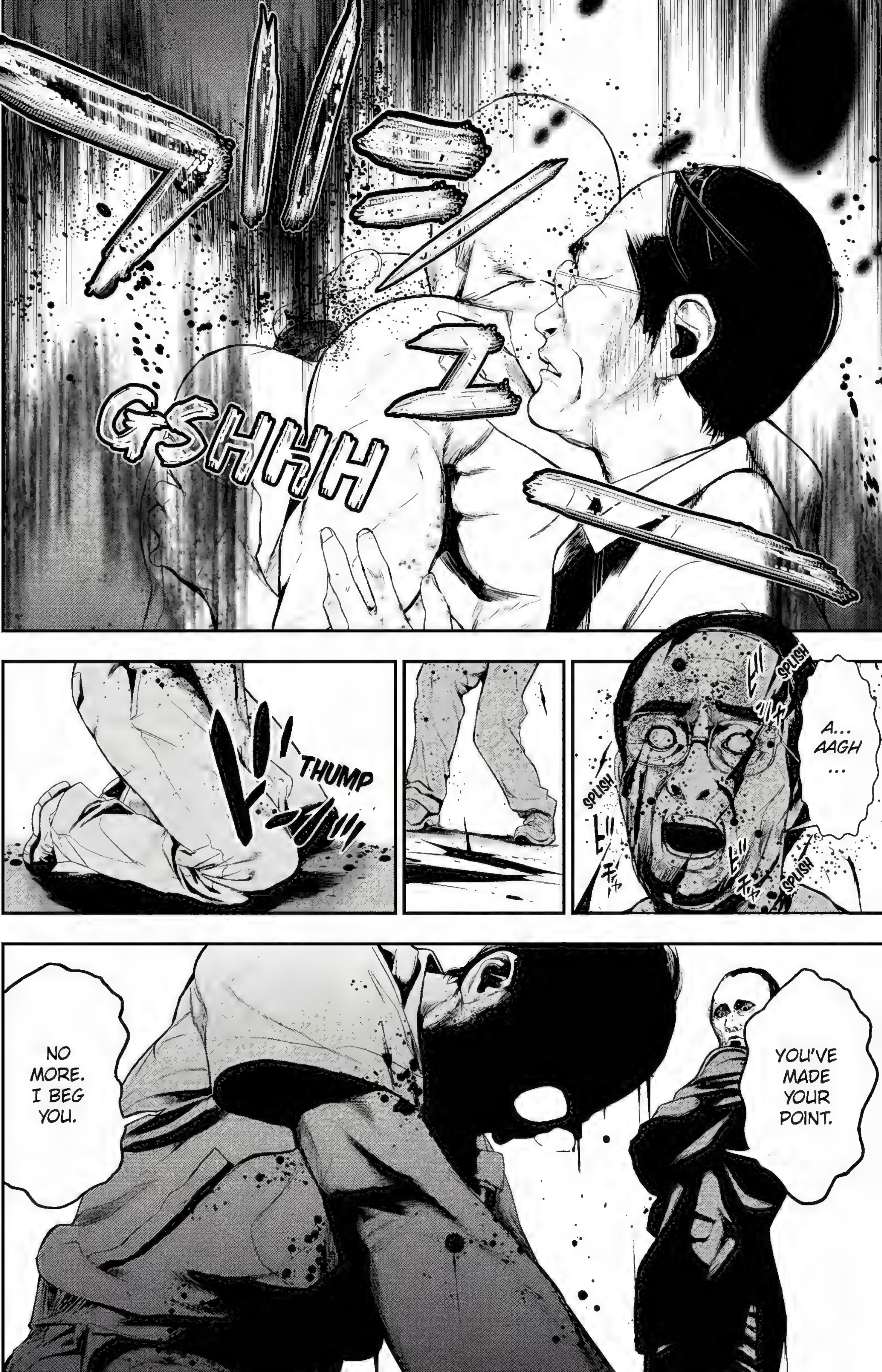

THEY WOULD HAVE US FIGHT AGAINST THUGS AND TERRORISTS WITH BARE HANDS AND BATONS.
A LOSING BATTLE,
DON'T YOU AGREE?
WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE BUT TO ENHANCE OUR NATURAL GIFTS, EVEN IF WE STRAY OFF YOUR PATH TO DO SO?
IF WE ARE TO ENSURE SAFETY AND ORDER IN THE FACILITY, THIS IS THE ONLY WAY!
MY MEN AND I HAVE ENDURED COUNTLESS HARDSHIPS AND MADE IMPOSSIBLE SACRIFICES IN PURSUIT OF OUR GOAL...
...AND YOU REFUSE TO UNDERSTAND THAT!!

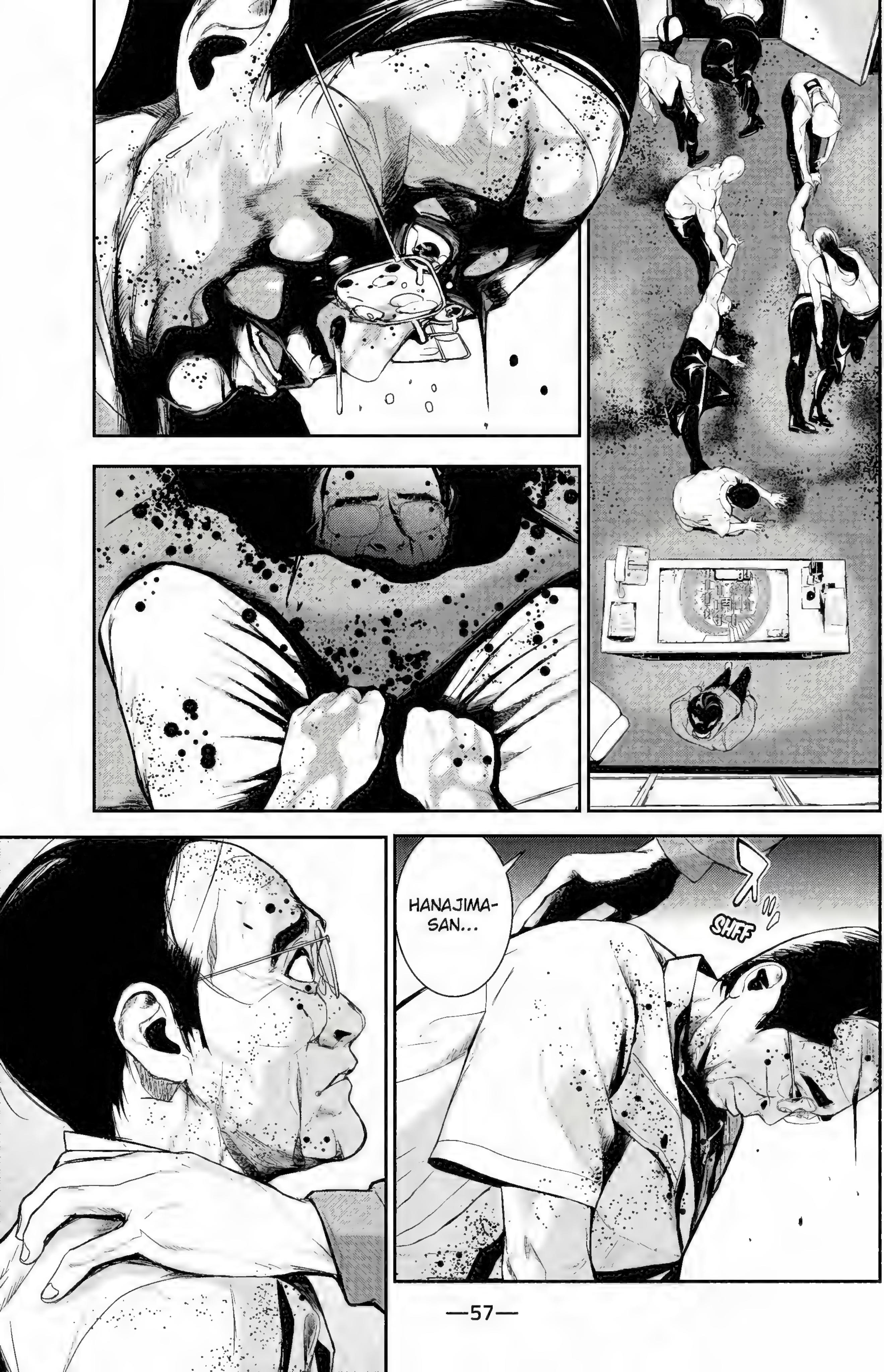

FWAP
VERY WELL, SIR.
SINCE YOU DOUBT OUR DEVOTION...
...I WILL DEMONSTRATE OUR WILLINGNESS TO LAY DOWN OUR LIVES FOR THE CAUSE!
...HUH?
1286!
YOU ARE DISMISSED.
SNAP
HUHH?
RRGH...
HUH?
RRGH!!

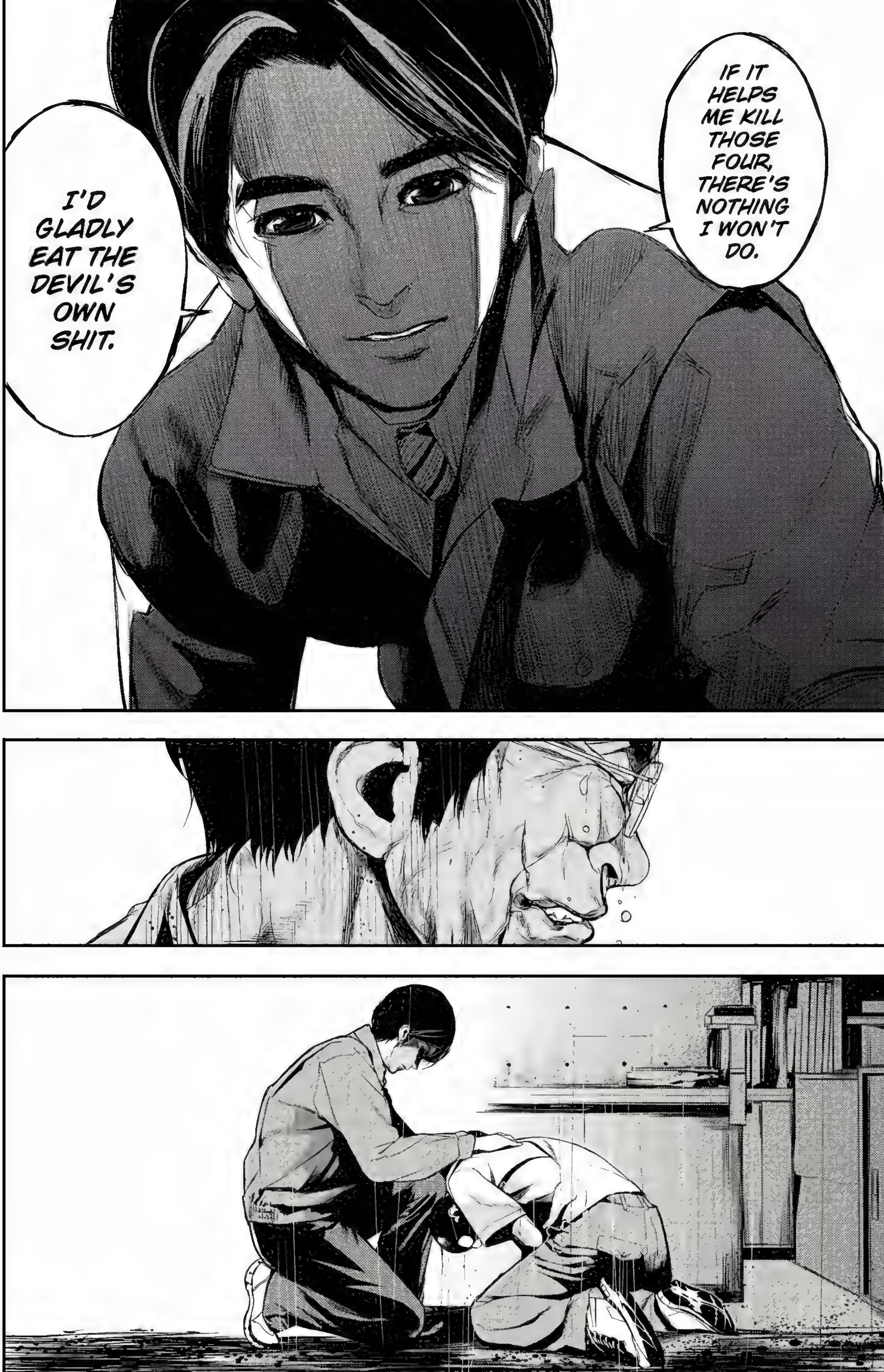

HRRRGH!!
MGRRHH...
KRKK
GRRGH!
KRKK
KRKK
MY RESEARCH HAS GRANTED THIS MAN SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH.
RRRRG-GGGHH!!
WHAT-
GSHHK


BOOM
0184.
WHAT ARE YOU–
THUNK
PSHHH

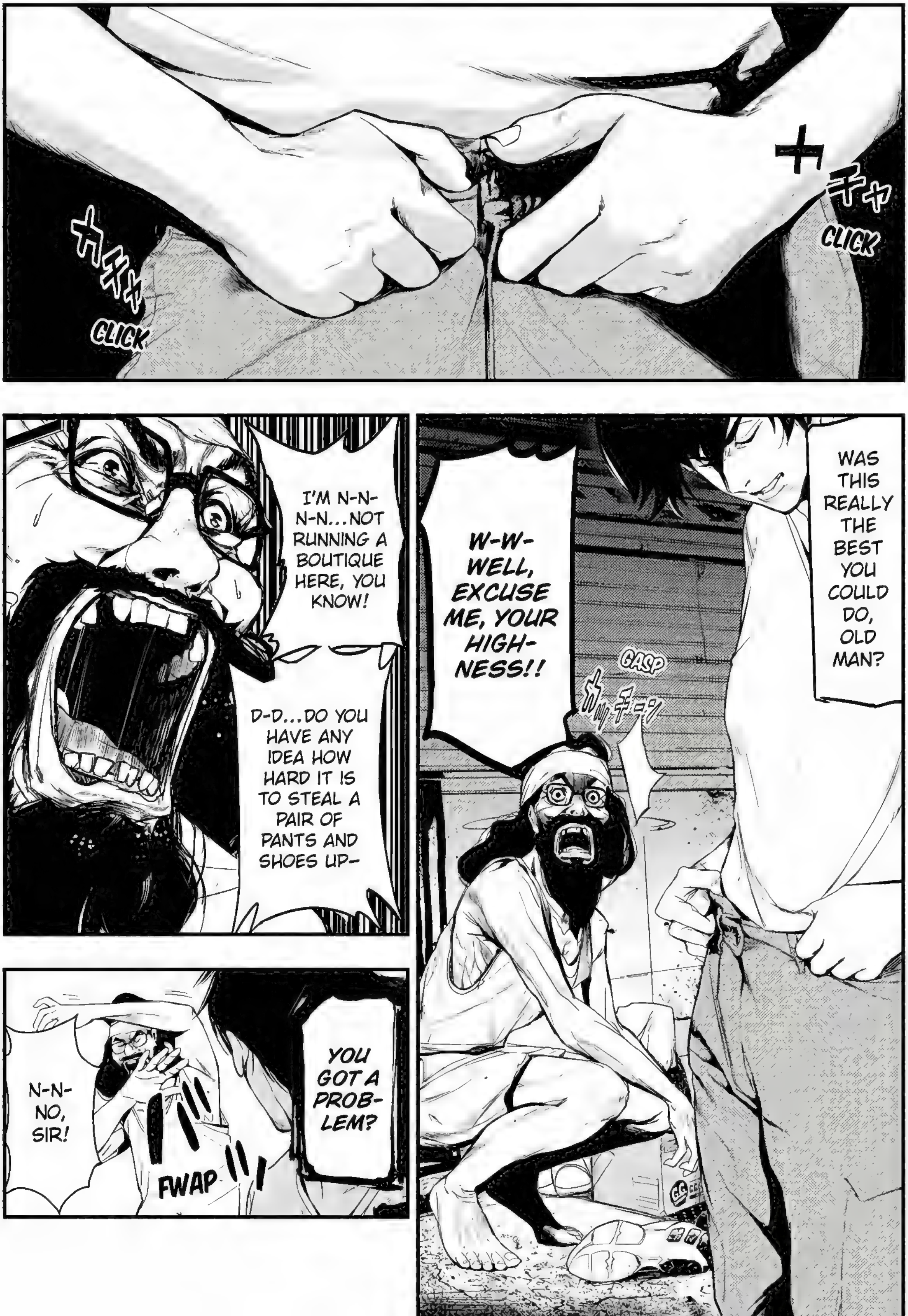

ENOUGH! STOP THEM!!
NEXT...
WHUMP
I SAID, STOP THEM!
STOP THIS FOOLISHNESS!
3149...
HMM?
...SEE THAT MAN IN FRONT OF YOU? SEVER HIS CAROTID ARTERY.
NO!!
HEY, YOU! STOP IT!
STOP IT!!
FWAP

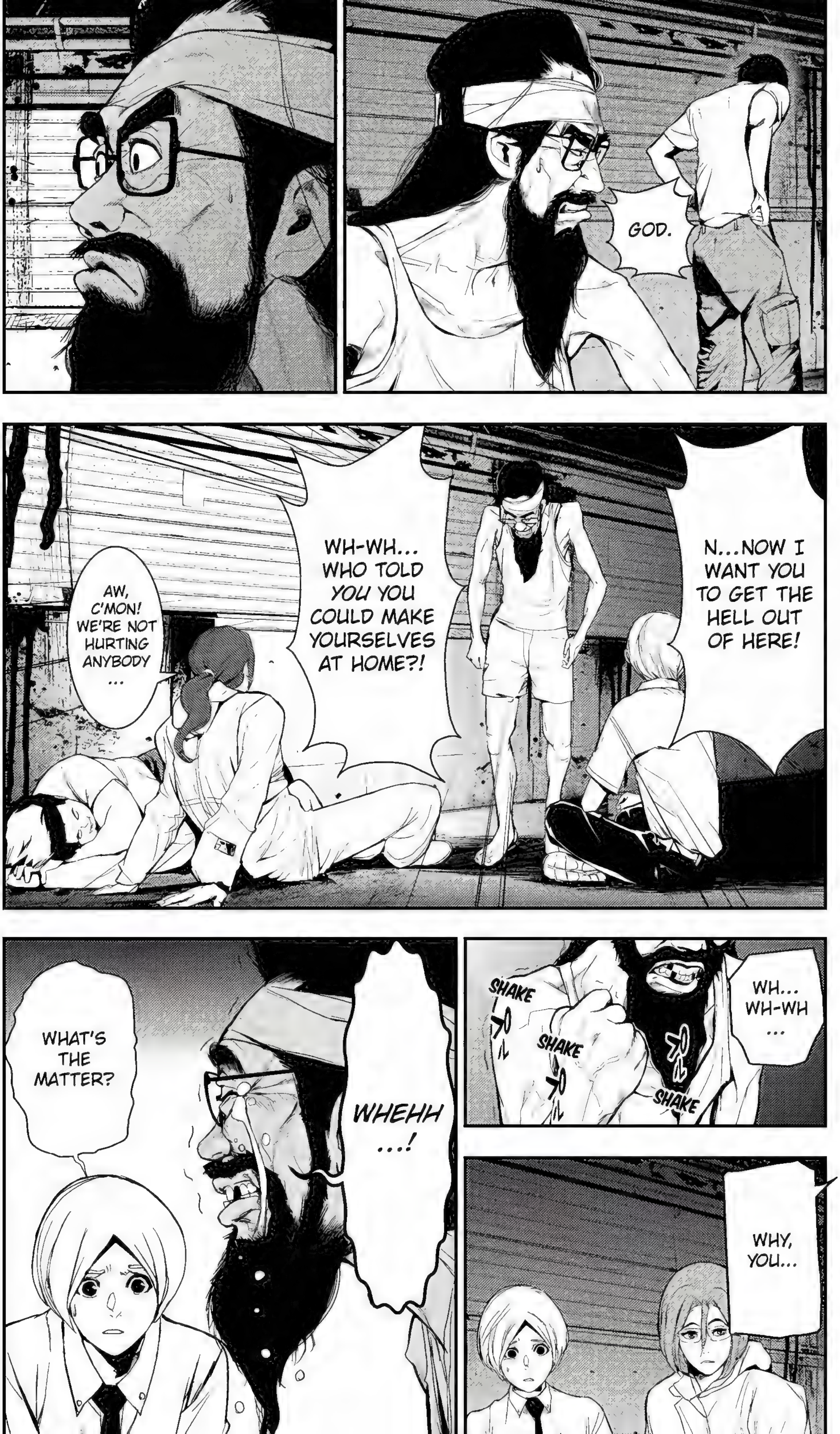

ブシュ
GSHHH
SPLISH
SPLISH
SPLISH
A... AAGH ...
THUMP
YOU'VE MADE YOUR POINT.
NO MORE. I BEG YOU.

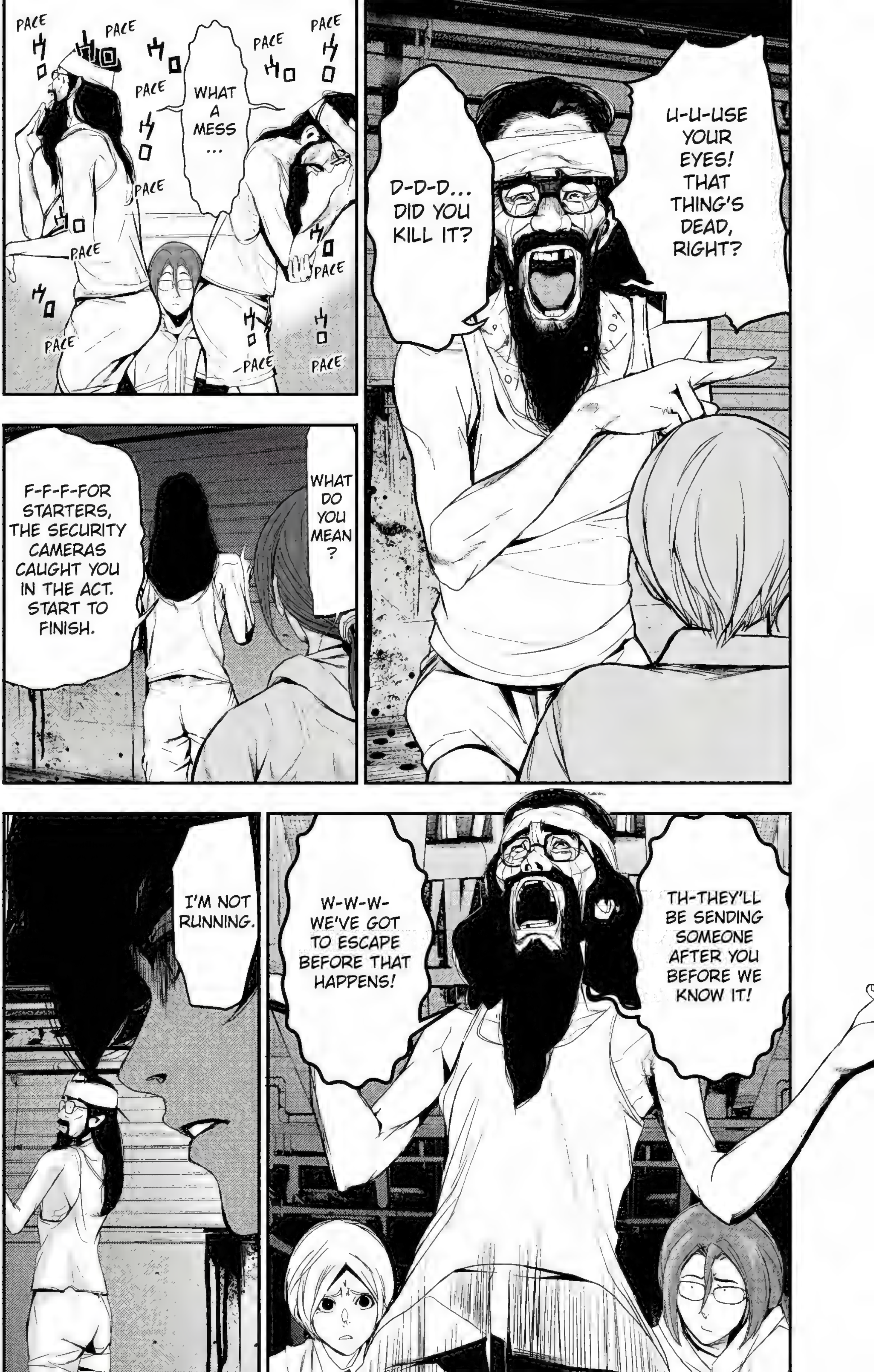

SHFF
HANAJIMA-SAN...

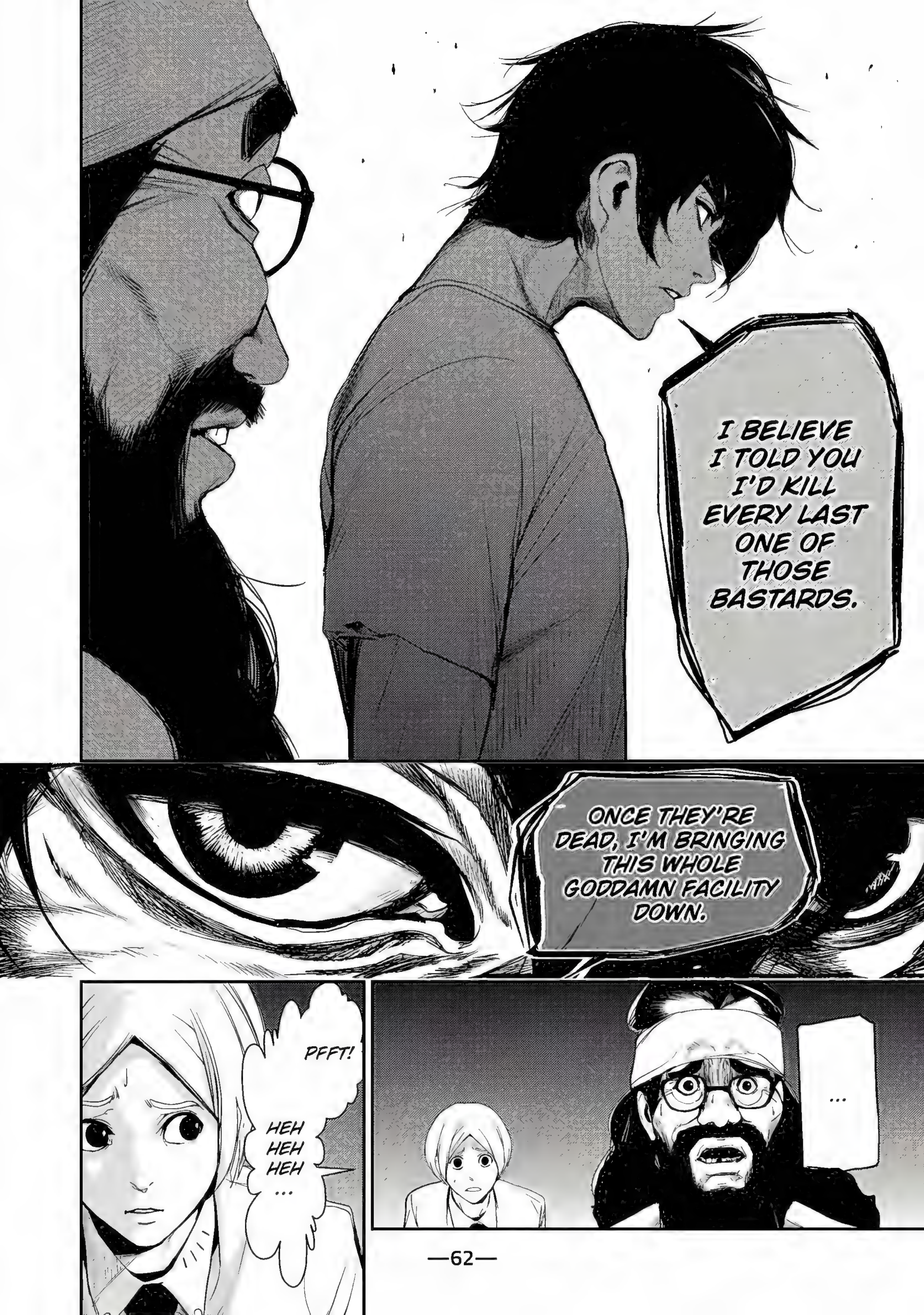

IF IT HELPS ME KILL THOSE FOUR, THERE'S NOTHING I WON'T DO.
I'D GLADLY EAT THE DEVIL'S OWN SHIT.

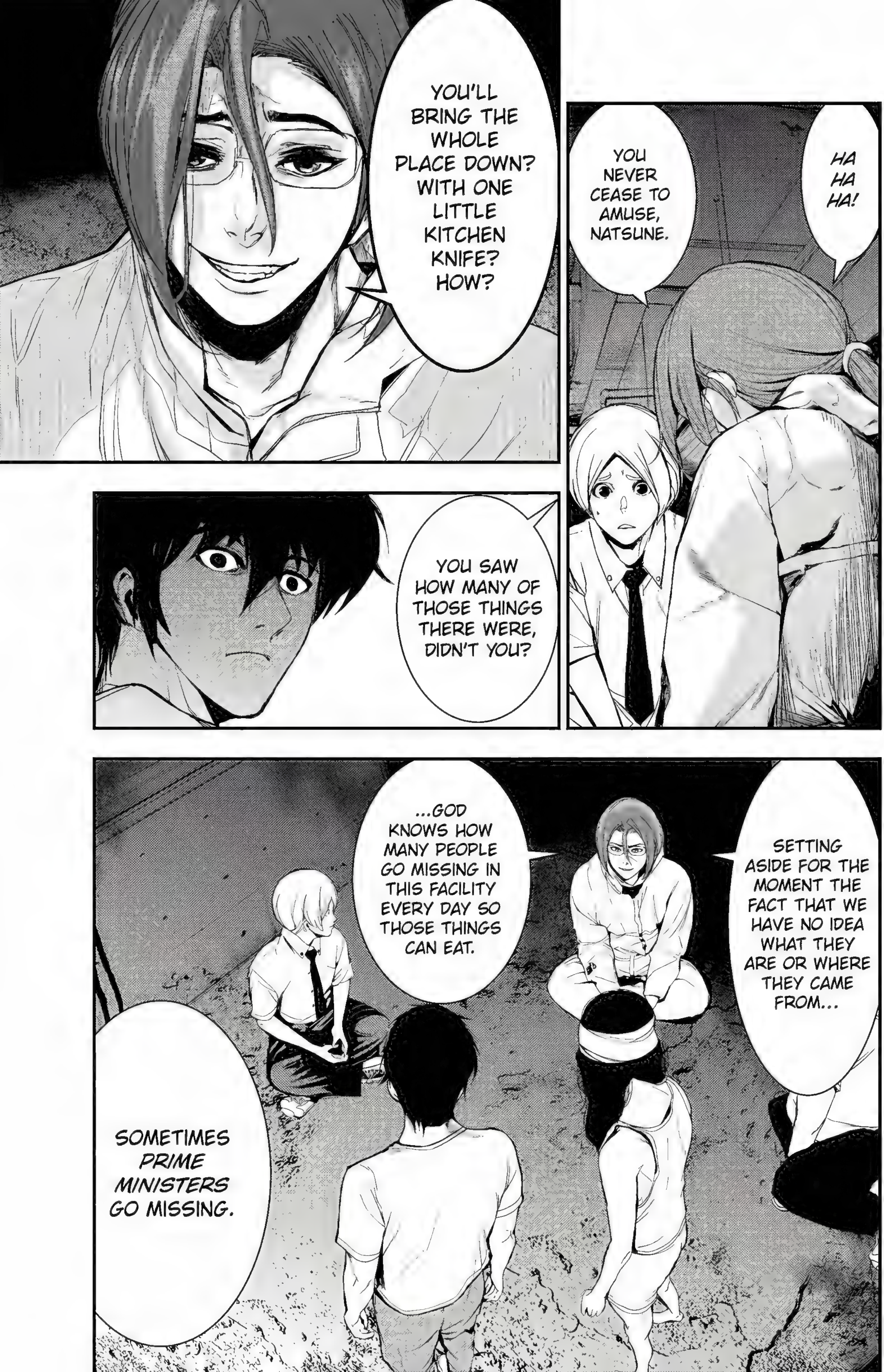
Chapter 17

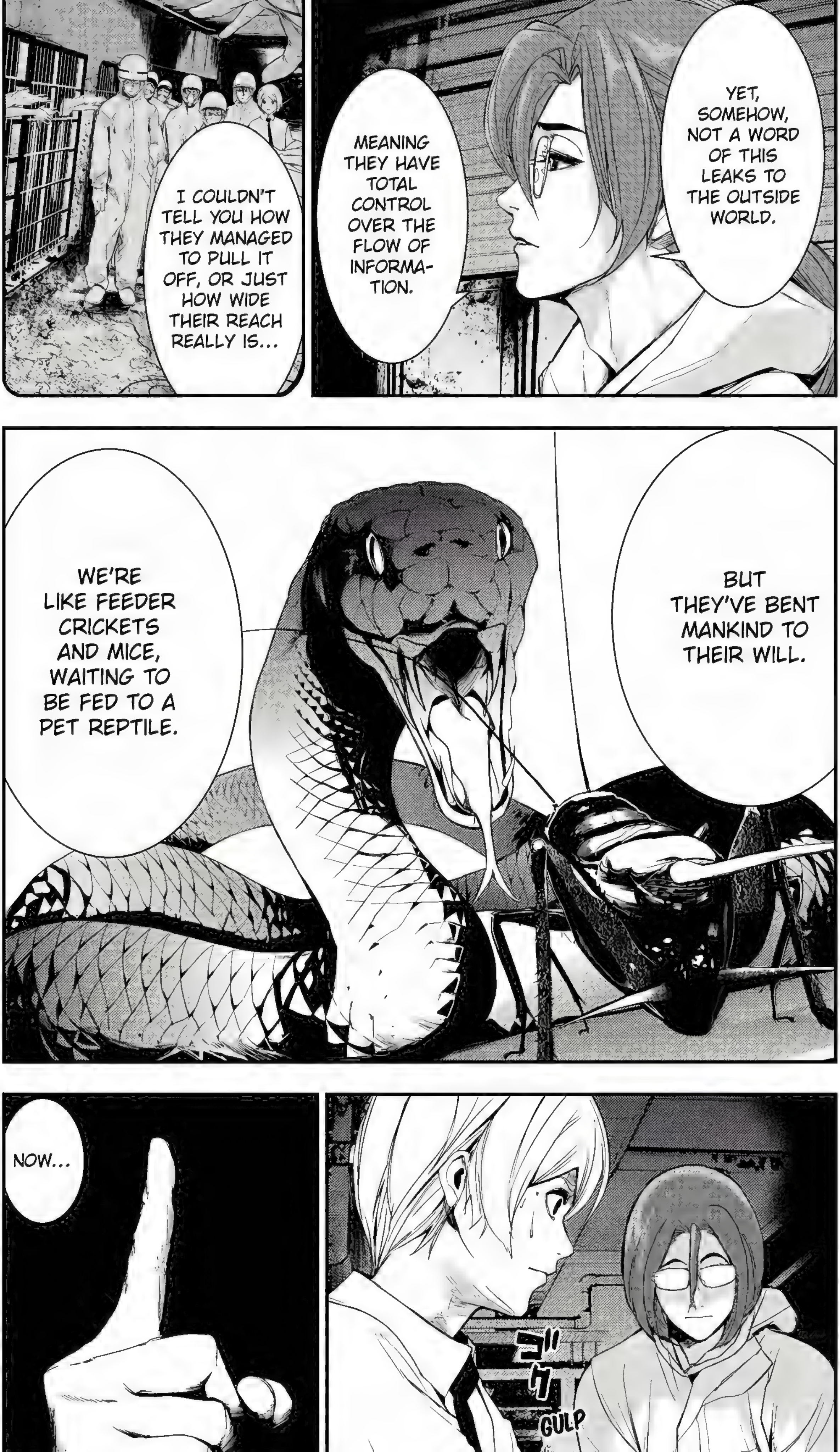

カチャ
CLICK
カチャ
CLICK
WAS THIS REALLY THE BEST YOU COULD DO, OLD MAN?
W-W-WELL, EXCUSE ME, YOUR HIGHNESS!!
GASP
カッチーン
I'M N-N-N-N...NOT RUNNING A BOUTIQUE HERE, YOU KNOW!
D-D...DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW HARD IT IS TO STEAL A PAIR OF PANTS AND SHOES UP-
YOU GOT A PROBLEM?
FWAP
N-N-NO, SIR!

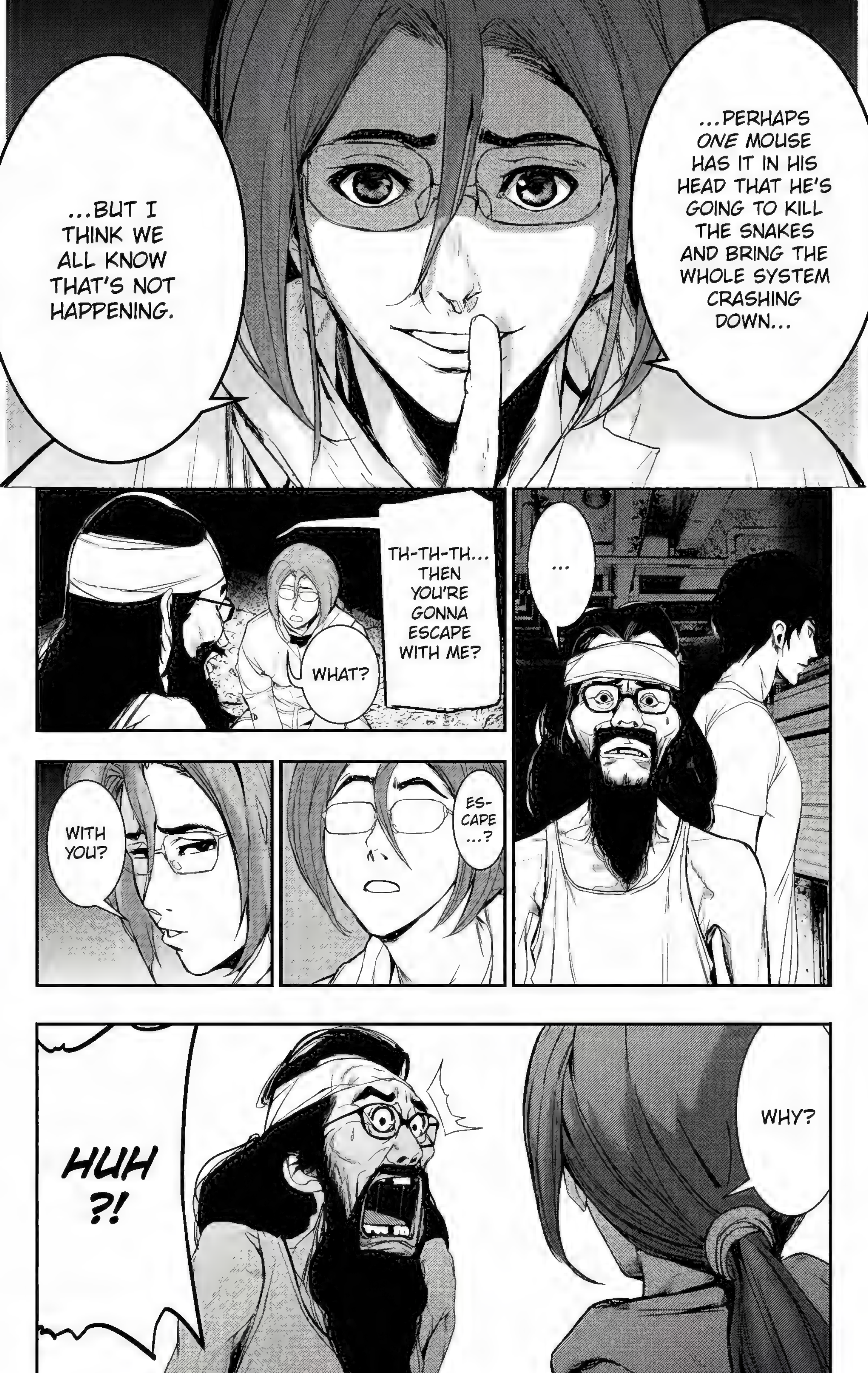

GOD.
N...NOW I WANT YOU TO GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!
WH-WH... WHO TOLD *YOU* YOU COULD MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME?!
AW, C'MON! WE'RE NOT HURTING ANYBODY...
WH... WH-WH...
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
WHEHH...!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
WHY, YOU...

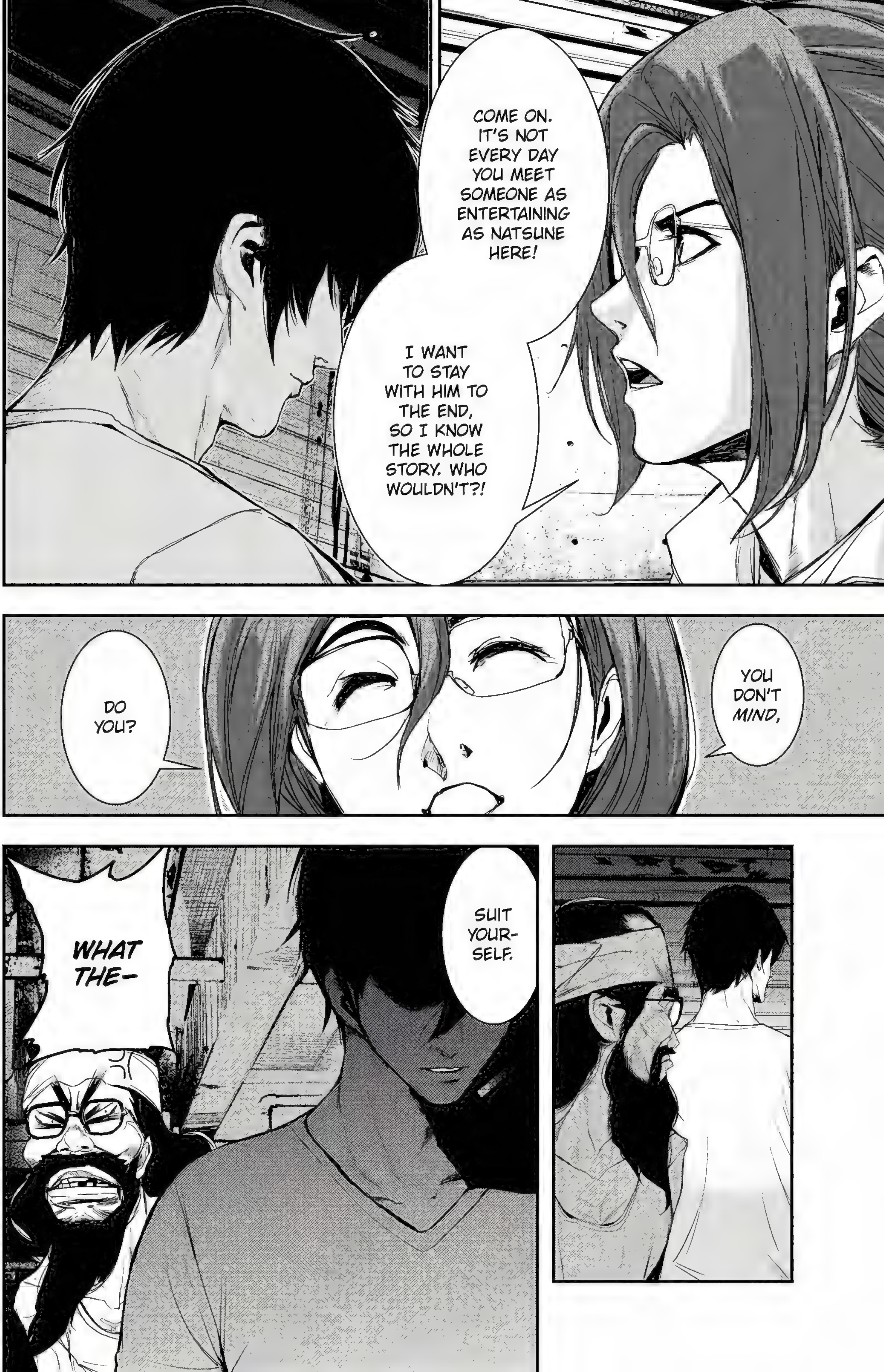

U-U-USE YOUR EYES! THAT THING'S DEAD, RIGHT?
D-D-D... DID YOU KILL IT?
PACE PACE PACE PACE PACE PACE PACE PACE PACE PACE PACE
WHAT A MESS ...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
F-F-F-FOR STARTERS, THE SECURITY CAMERAS CAUGHT YOU IN THE ACT. START TO FINISH.
TH-THEY'LL BE SENDING SOMEONE AFTER YOU BEFORE WE KNOW IT!
W-W-W-WE'VE GOT TO ESCAPE BEFORE THAT HAPPENS!
I'M NOT RUNNING.

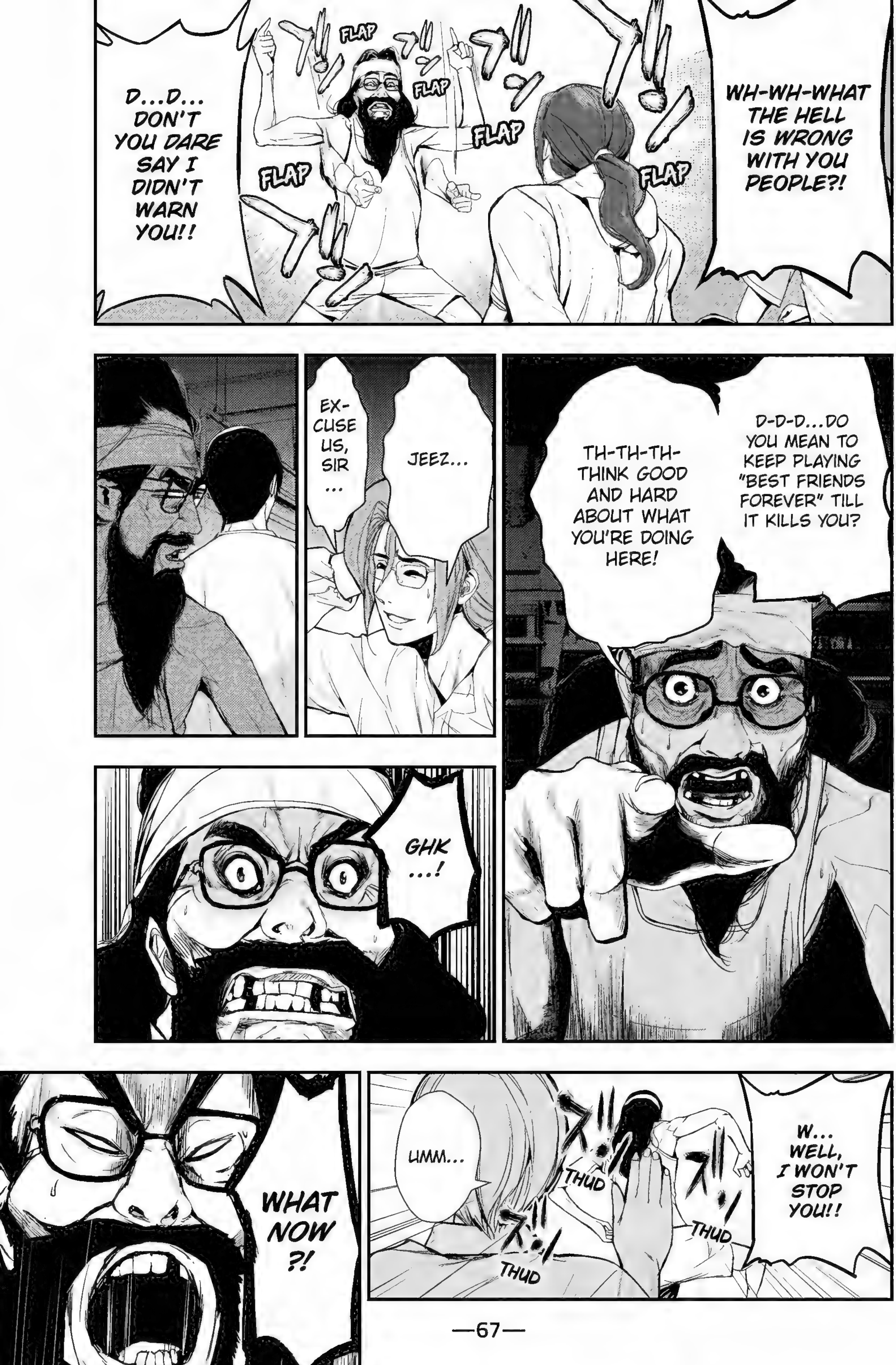

I BELIEVE I TOLD YOU I'D KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF THOSE BASTARDS.
ONCE THEY'RE DEAD, I'M BRINGING THIS WHOLE GODDAMN FACILITY DOWN.
...
PFFT!
HEH HEH HEH ...

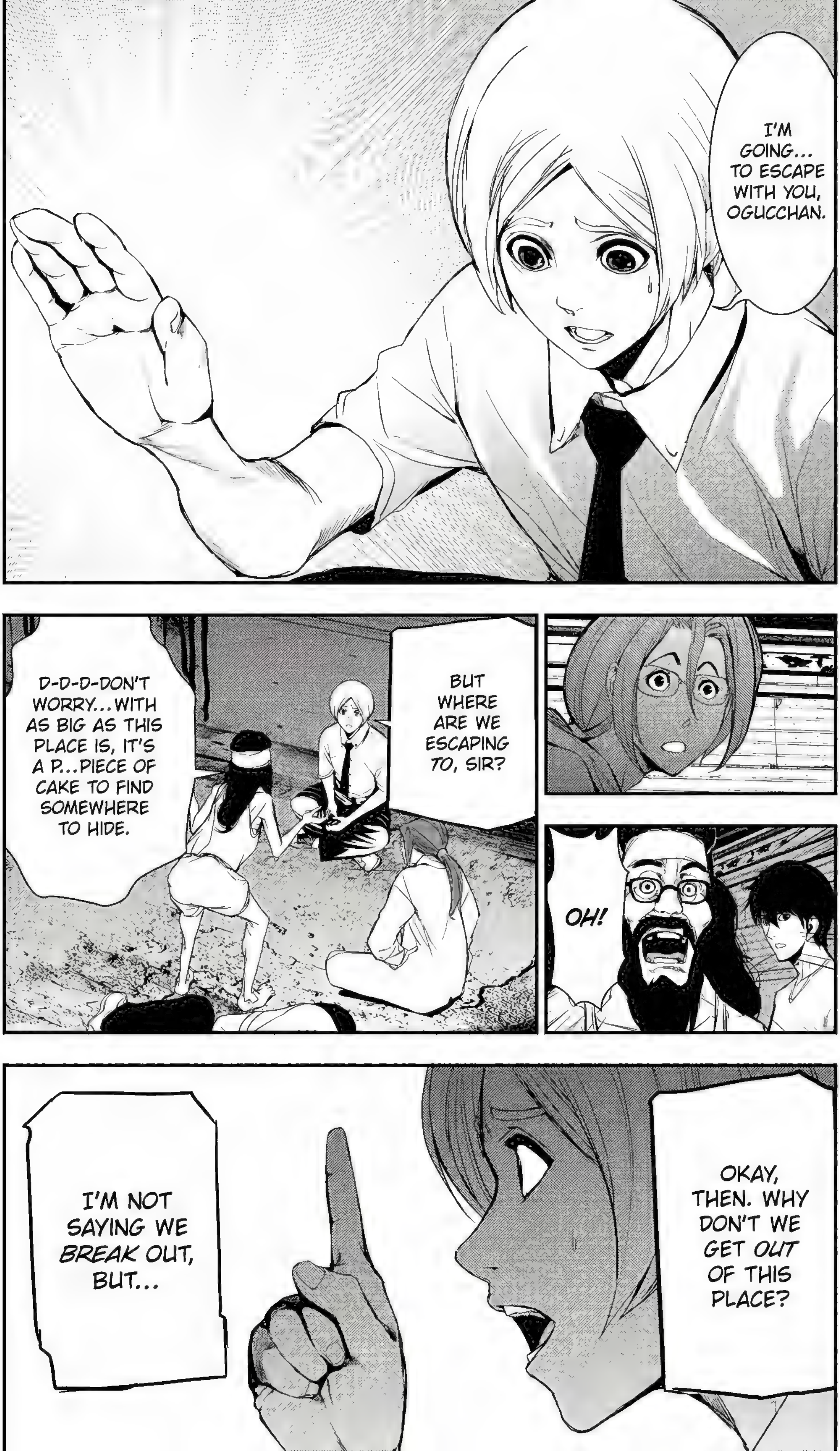

HA HA HA!
YOU NEVER CEASE TO AMUSE, NATSUNE.
YOU'LL BRING THE WHOLE PLACE DOWN? WITH ONE LITTLE KITCHEN KNIFE? HOW?
YOU SAW HOW MANY OF THOSE THINGS THERE WERE, DIDN'T YOU?
SETTING ASIDE FOR THE MOMENT THE FACT THAT WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY ARE OR WHERE THEY CAME FROM...
...GOD KNOWS HOW MANY PEOPLE GO MISSING IN THIS FACILITY EVERY DAY SO THOSE THINGS CAN EAT.
SOMETIMES *PRIME MINISTERS* GO MISSING.

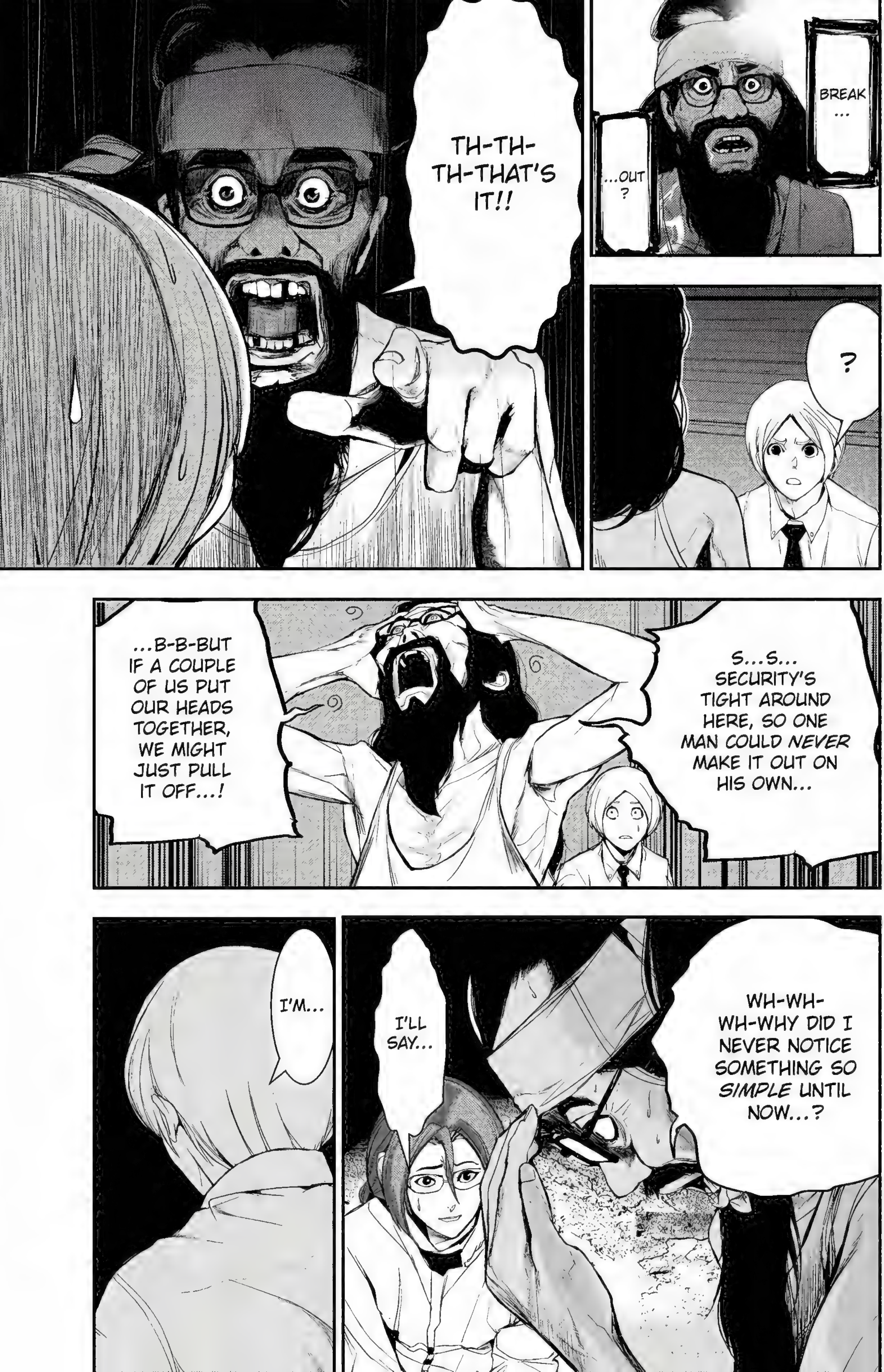

YET, SOMEHOW, NOT A WORD OF THIS LEAKS TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
MEANING THEY HAVE TOTAL CONTROL OVER THE FLOW OF INFORMATION.
I COULDN'T TELL YOU HOW THEY MANAGED TO PULL IT OFF, OR JUST HOW WIDE THEIR REACH REALLY IS...
BUT THEY'VE BENT MANKIND TO THEIR WILL.
WE'RE LIKE FEEDER CRICKETS AND MICE, WAITING TO BE FED TO A PET REPTILE.
ゴク
GULP
NOW...

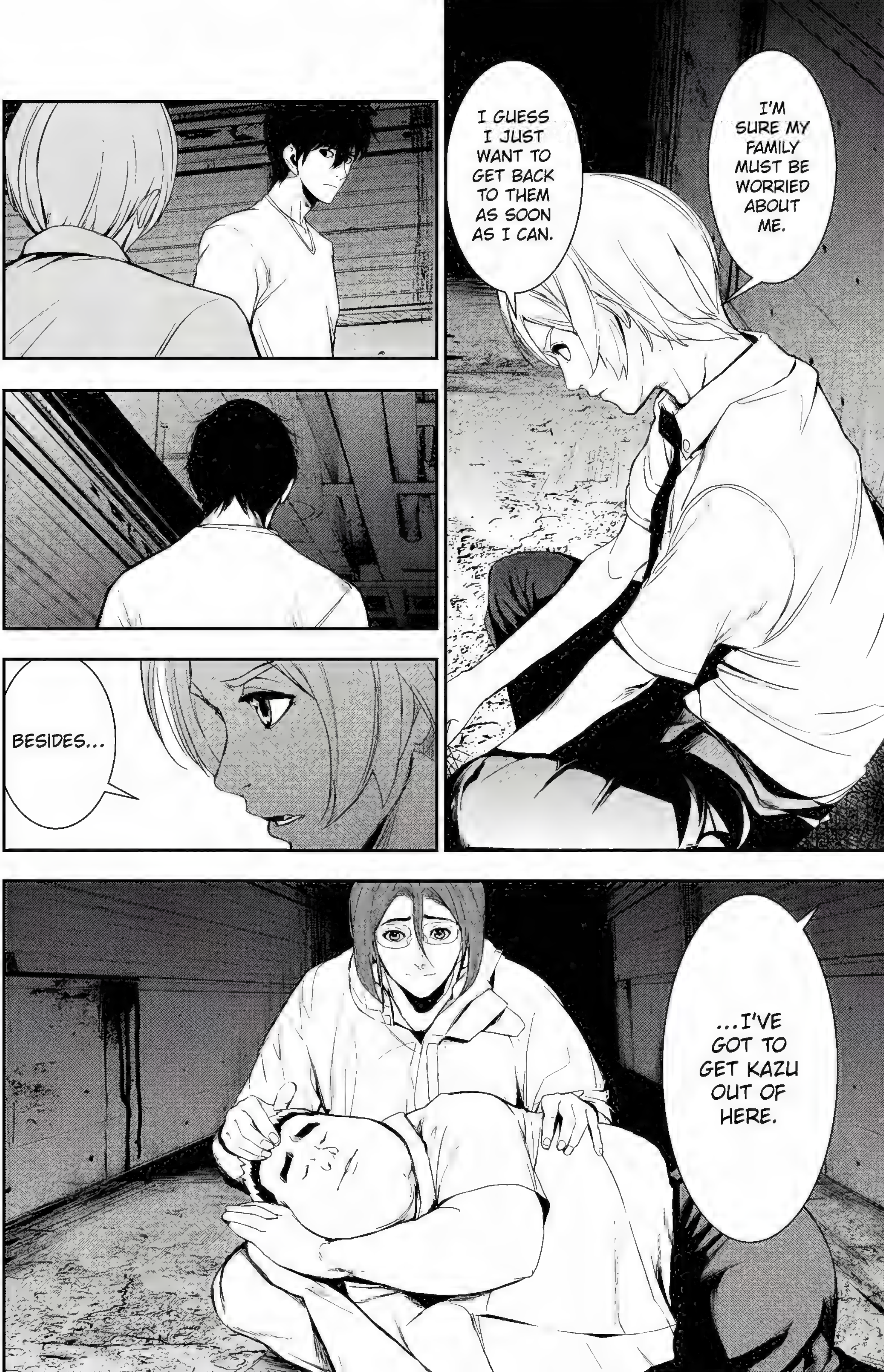

...PERHAPS *ONE* MOUSE HAS IT IN HIS HEAD THAT HE'S GOING TO KILL THE SNAKES AND BRING THE WHOLE SYSTEM CRASHING DOWN...
...BUT I THINK WE ALL KNOW THAT'S NOT HAPPENING.
...
TH-TH-TH... THEN YOU'RE GONNA ESCAPE WITH ME?
WHAT?
ES-CAPE ...?
WITH YOU?
WHY?
HUH ?!

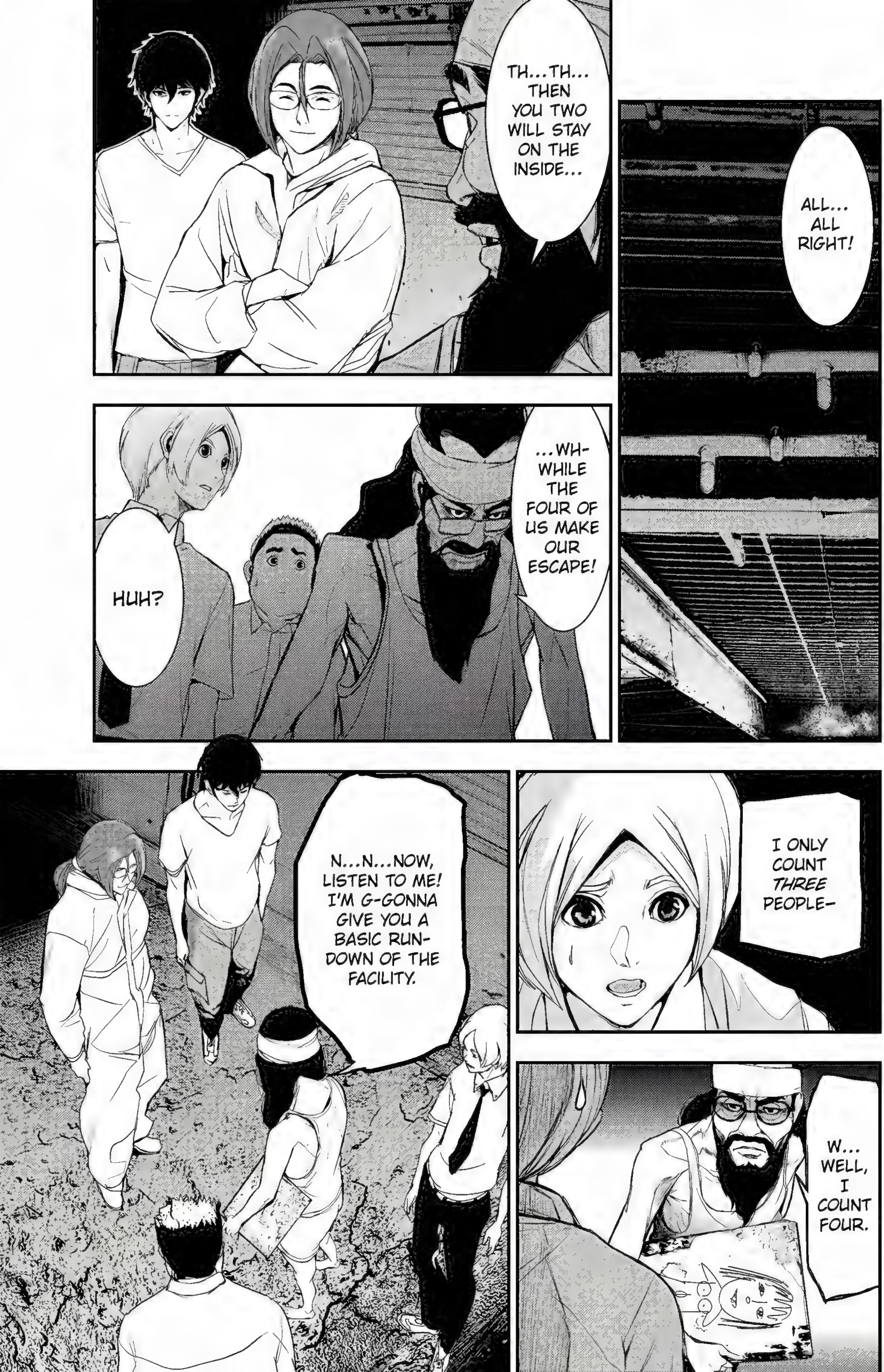

COME ON. IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU MEET SOMEONE AS ENTERTAINING AS NATSUNE HERE!
I WANT TO STAY WITH HIM TO THE END, SO I KNOW THE WHOLE STORY. WHO WOULDN'T?!
YOU DON'T *MIND*,
DO YOU?
SUIT YOURSELF.
WHAT THE-

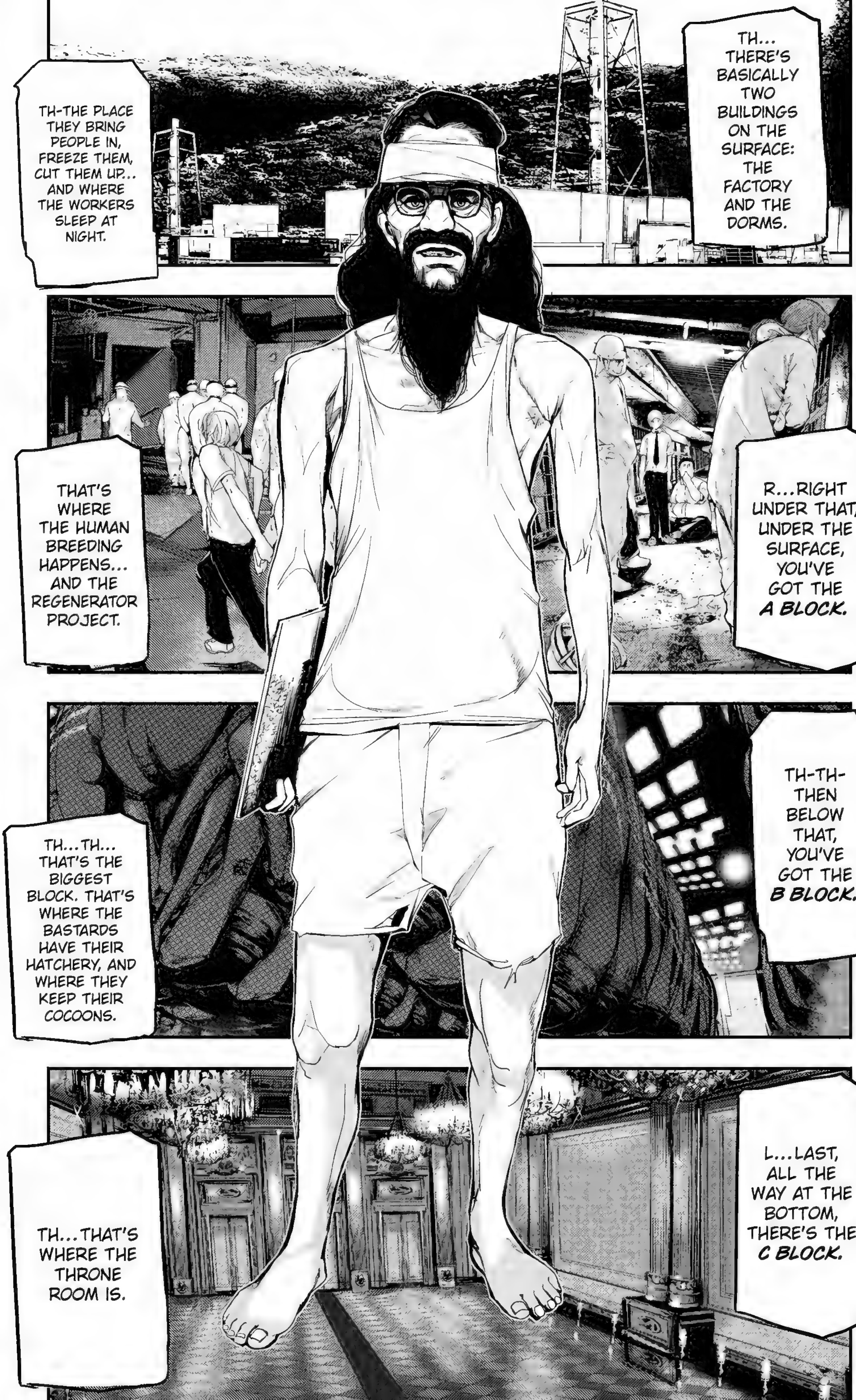

WH-WH-WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU PEOPLE?!
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
D...D... DON'T YOU DARE SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU!!
D-D-D...DO YOU MEAN TO KEEP PLAYING "BEST FRIENDS FOREVER" TILL IT KILLS YOU?
TH-TH-TH-THINK GOOD AND HARD ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE!
JEEZ...
EX-CUSE US, SIR...
GHK...!
W... WELL, I WON'T STOP YOU!!
THUD
THUD
THUD
UMM...
WHAT NOW?!

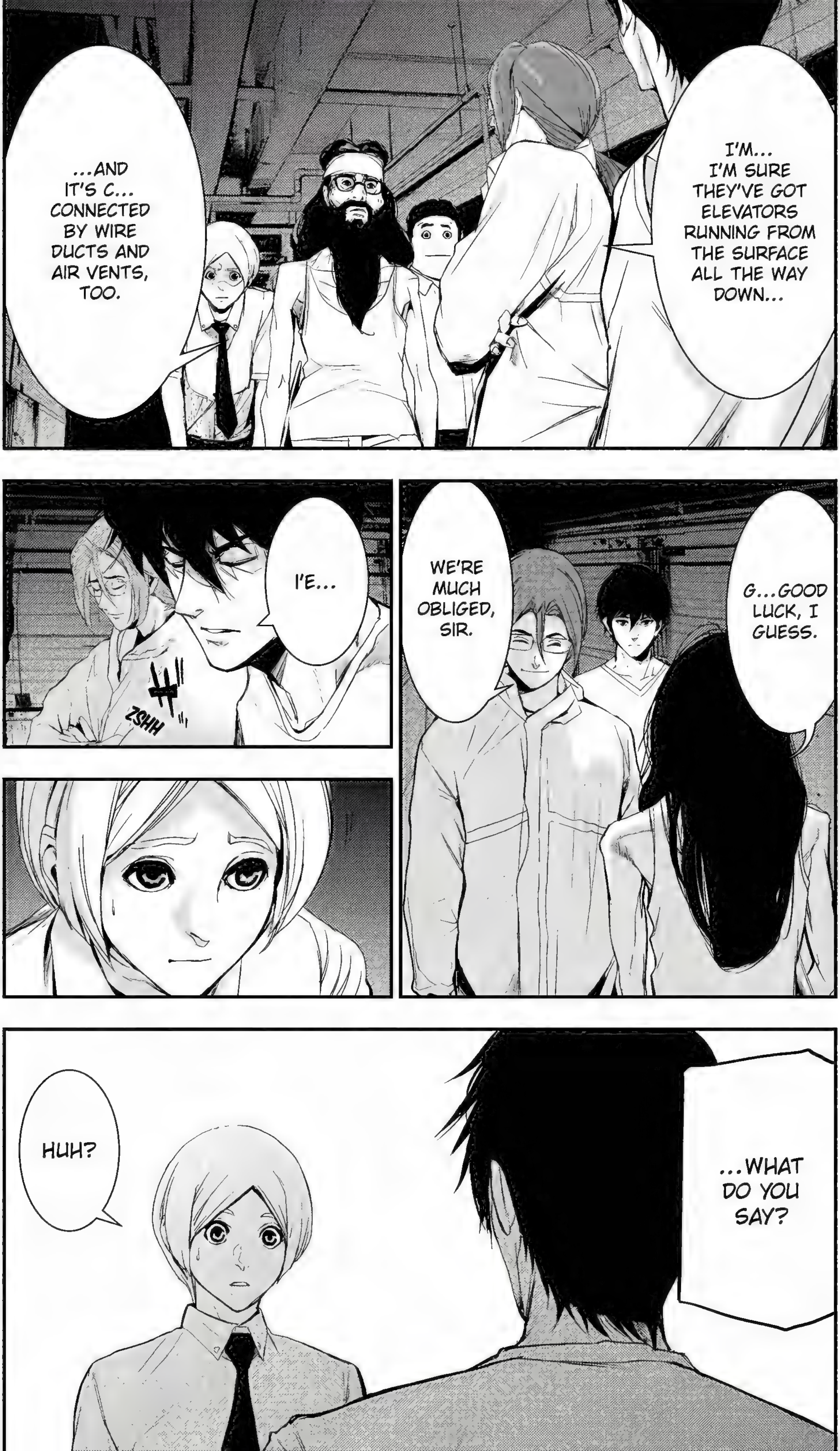

I'M GOING... TO ESCAPE WITH YOU, OGUCCHAN.
OH!
BUT WHERE ARE WE ESCAPING *TO*, SIR?
D-D-D-DON'T WORRY...WITH AS BIG AS THIS PLACE IS, IT'S A P...PIECE OF CAKE TO FIND SOMEWHERE TO HIDE.
OKAY, THEN. WHY DON'T WE GET *OUT* OF THIS PLACE?
I'M NOT SAYING WE *BREAK* OUT, BUT...

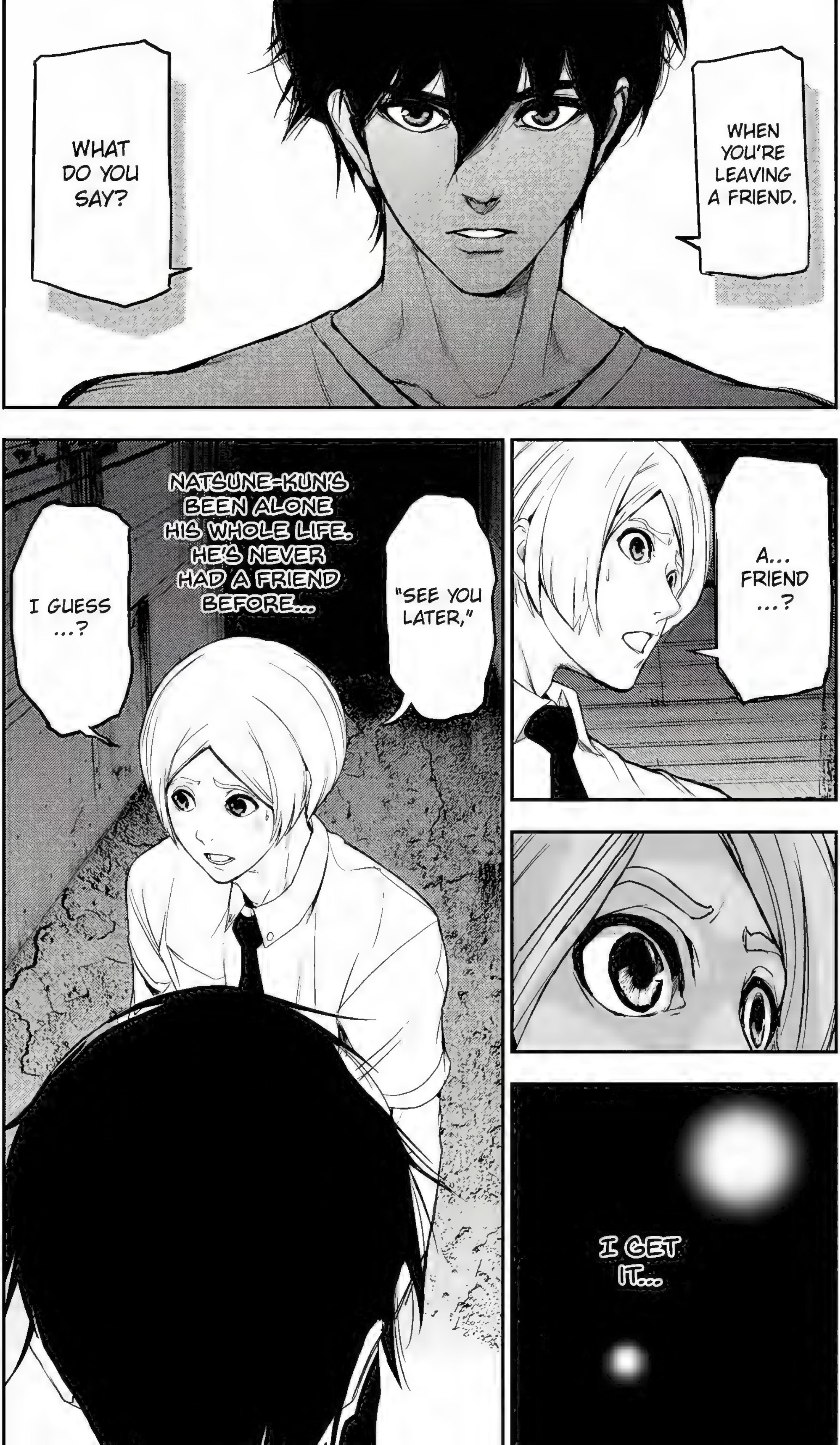

BREAK…
…OUT ?
?
TH-TH-TH-THAT'S IT!!
S…S… SECURITY'S TIGHT AROUND HERE, SO ONE MAN COULD *NEVER* MAKE IT OUT ON HIS OWN…
…B-B-BUT IF A COUPLE OF US PUT OUR HEADS TOGETHER, WE MIGHT JUST PULL IT OFF…!
WH-WH-WH-WHY DID I NEVER NOTICE SOMETHING SO *SIMPLE* UNTIL NOW…?
I'LL SAY…
I'M…

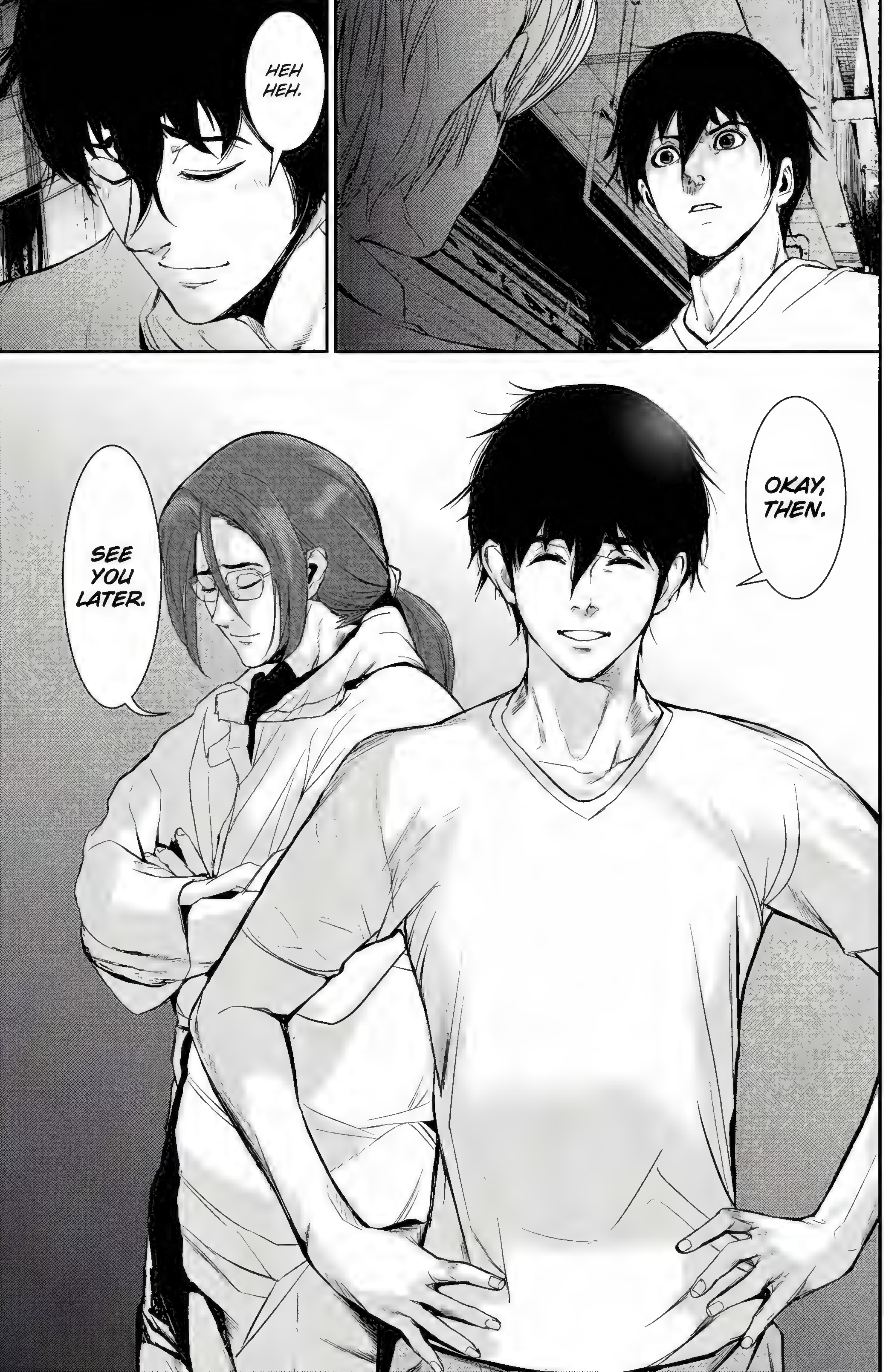

I'M SURE MY FAMILY MUST BE WORRIED ABOUT ME.
I GUESS I JUST WANT TO GET BACK TO THEM AS SOON AS I CAN.
BESIDES...
...I'VE GOT TO GET KAZU OUT OF HERE.

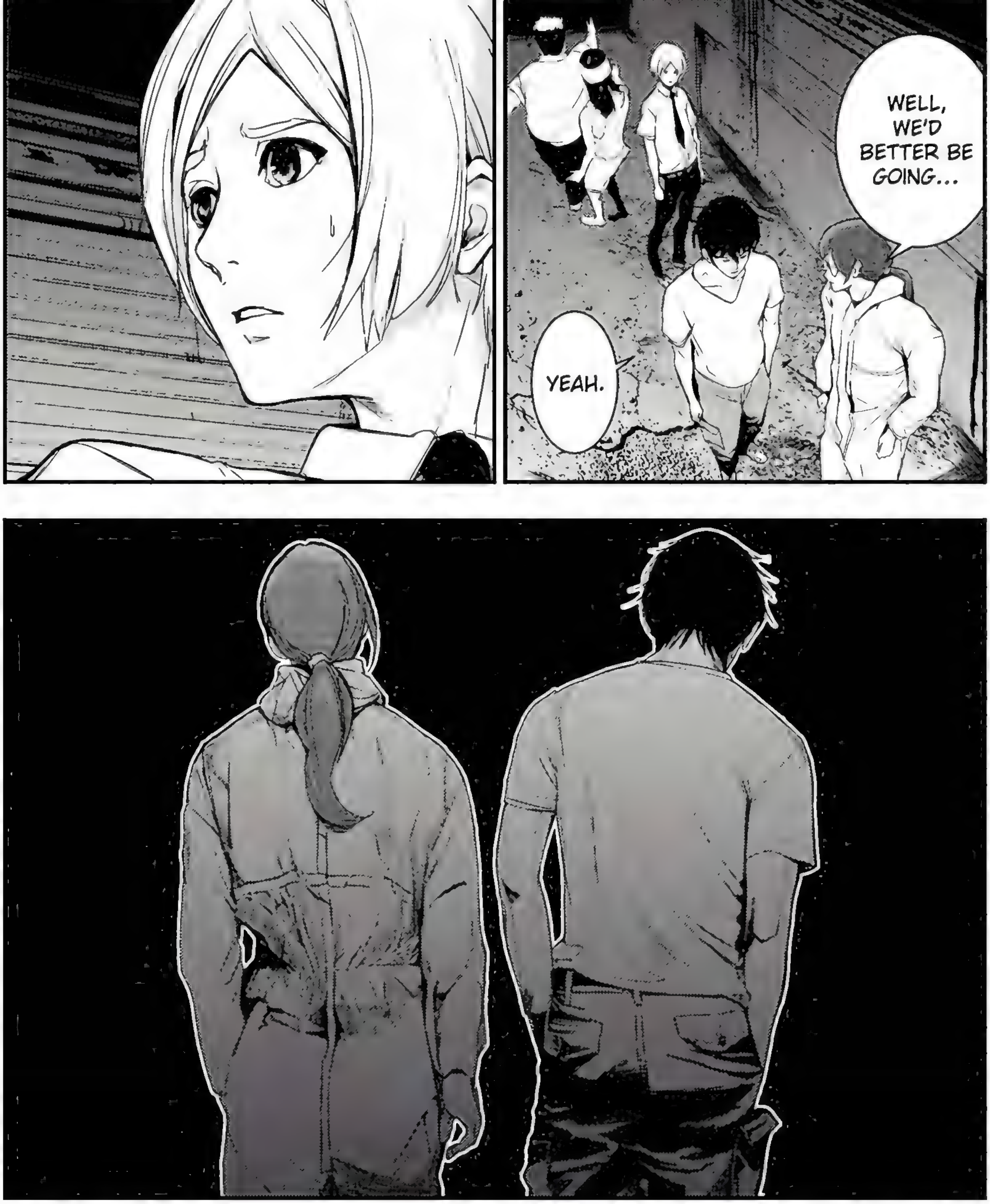

TH...TH... THEN YOU TWO WILL STAY ON THE INSIDE...
...WH- WHILE THE FOUR OF US MAKE OUR ESCAPE!
HUH?
ALL... ALL RIGHT!
N...N...NOW, LISTEN TO ME! I'M G-GONNA GIVE YOU A BASIC RUNDOWN OF THE FACILITY.
I ONLY COUNT *THREE* PEOPLE-
W... WELL, I COUNT FOUR.


TH... THERE'S BASICALLY TWO BUILDINGS ON THE SURFACE: THE FACTORY AND THE DORMS.
TH-THE PLACE THEY BRING PEOPLE IN, FREEZE THEM, CUT THEM UP... AND WHERE THE WORKERS SLEEP AT NIGHT.
R...RIGHT UNDER THAT, UNDER THE SURFACE, YOU'VE GOT THE *A BLOCK.*
THAT'S WHERE THE HUMAN BREEDING HAPPENS... AND THE REGENERATOR PROJECT.
TH-TH-THEN BELOW THAT, YOU'VE GOT THE *B BLOCK.*
TH...TH... THAT'S THE BIGGEST BLOCK. THAT'S WHERE THE BASTARDS HAVE THEIR HATCHERY, AND WHERE THEY KEEP THEIR COCOONS.
L...LAST, ALL THE WAY AT THE BOTTOM, THERE'S THE *C BLOCK.*
TH...THAT'S WHERE THE THRONE ROOM IS.


I'M... I'M SURE THEY'VE GOT ELEVATORS RUNNING FROM THE SURFACE ALL THE WAY DOWN...
...AND IT'S C... CONNECTED BY WIRE DUCTS AND AIR VENTS, TOO.
G...GOOD LUCK, I GUESS.
WE'RE MUCH OBLIGED, SIR.
I'E...
ZSHH
...WHAT DO YOU SAY?
HUH?

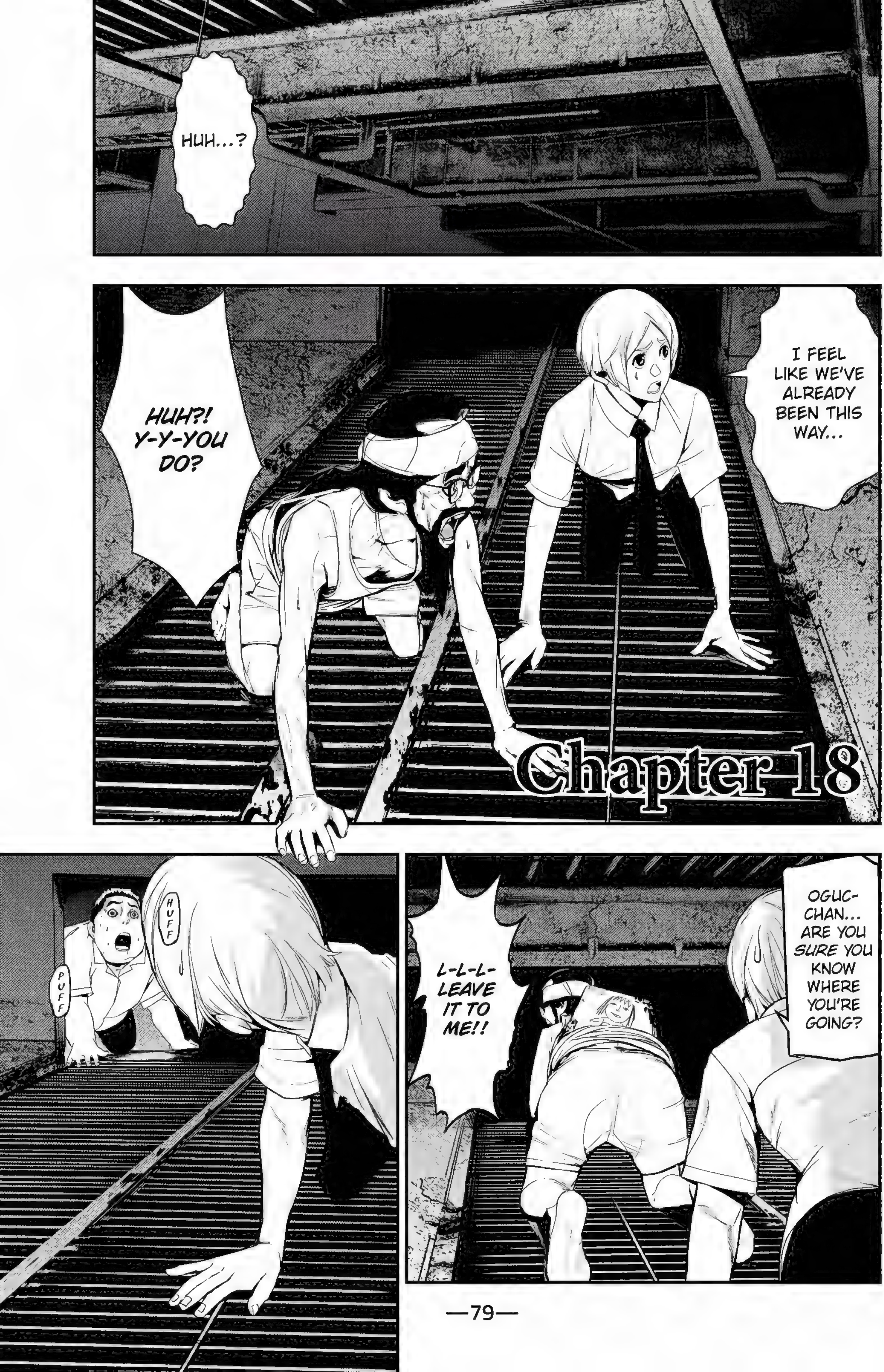

WHEN YOU'RE LEAVING A FRIEND.
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
A... FRIEND ...?
"SEE YOU LATER,"
I GUESS ...?
NATSUNE-KUN'S BEEN ALONE HIS WHOLE LIFE. HE'S NEVER HAD A FRIEND BEFORE...
I GET IT...

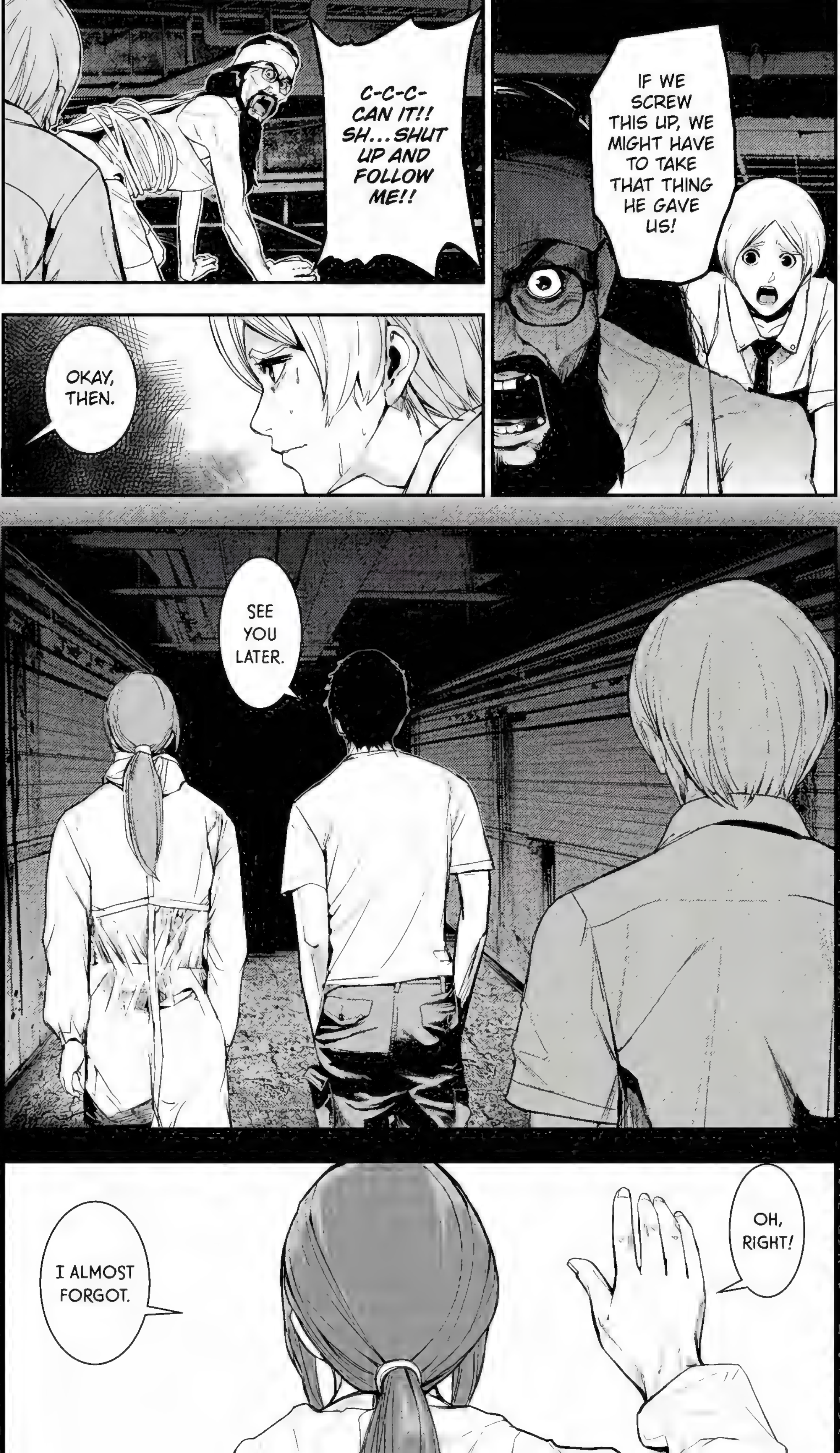

HEH HEH.
OKAY, THEN.
SEE YOU LATER.

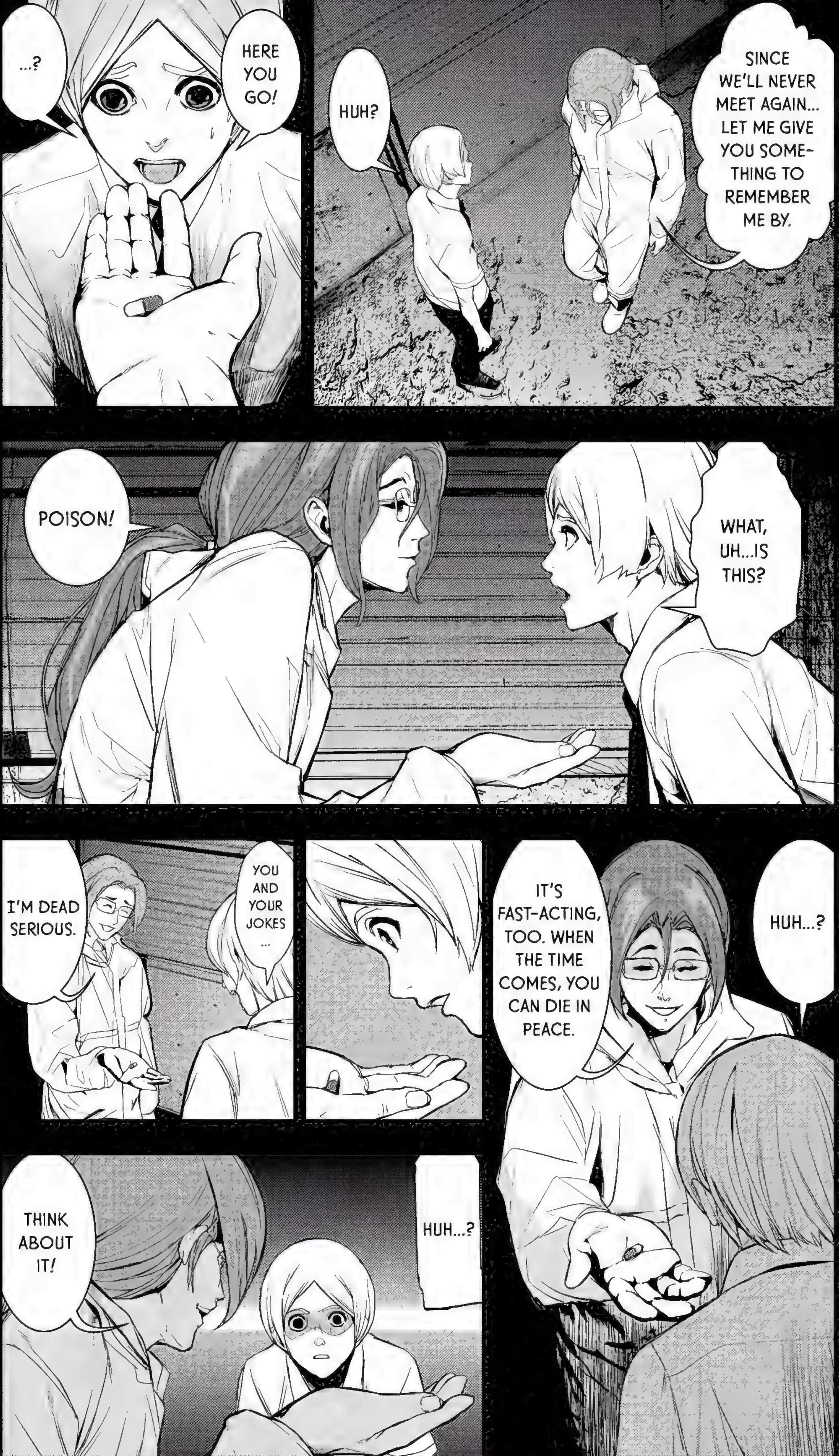

WELL, WE'D BETTER BE GOING…
YEAH.

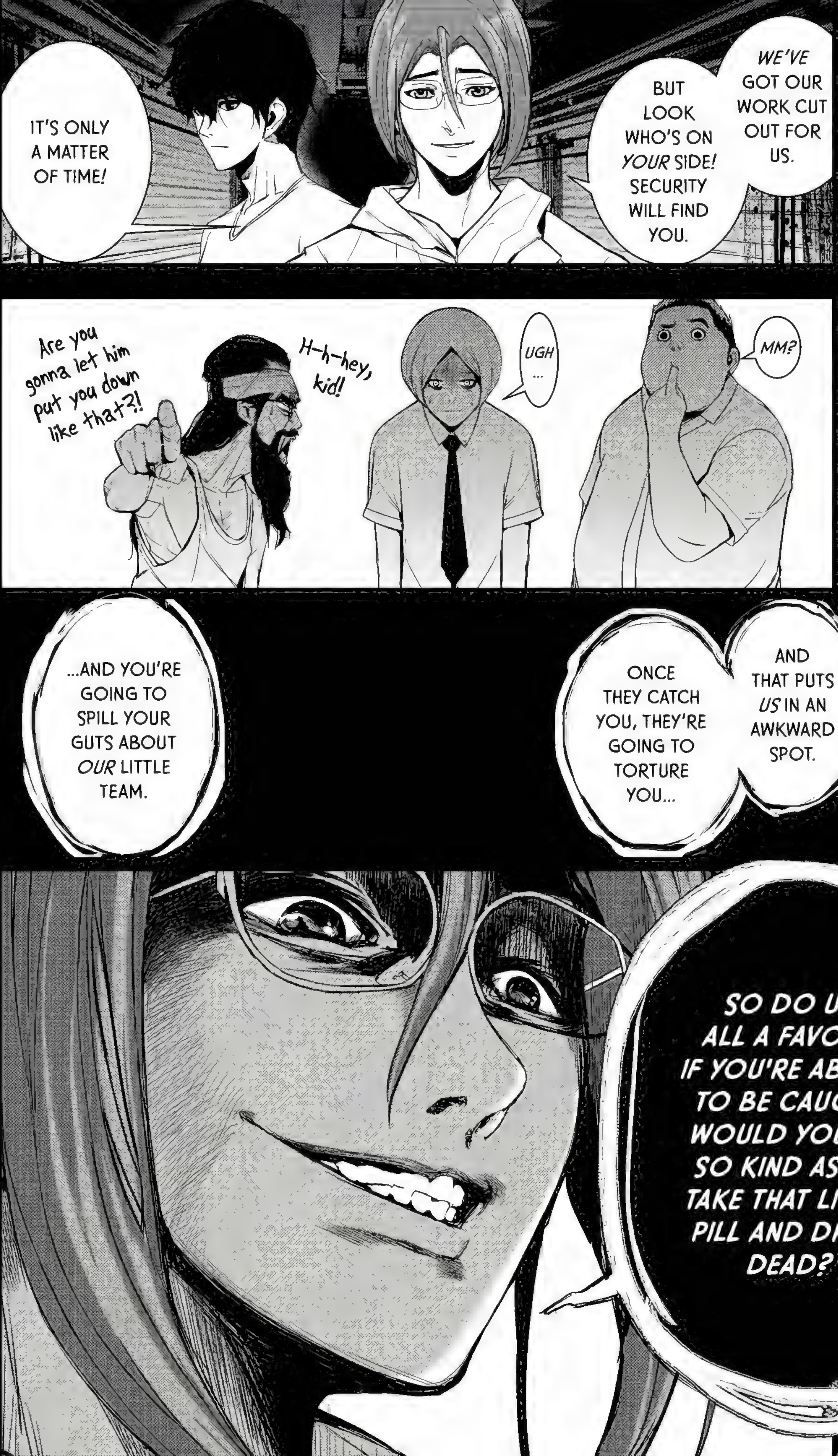
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

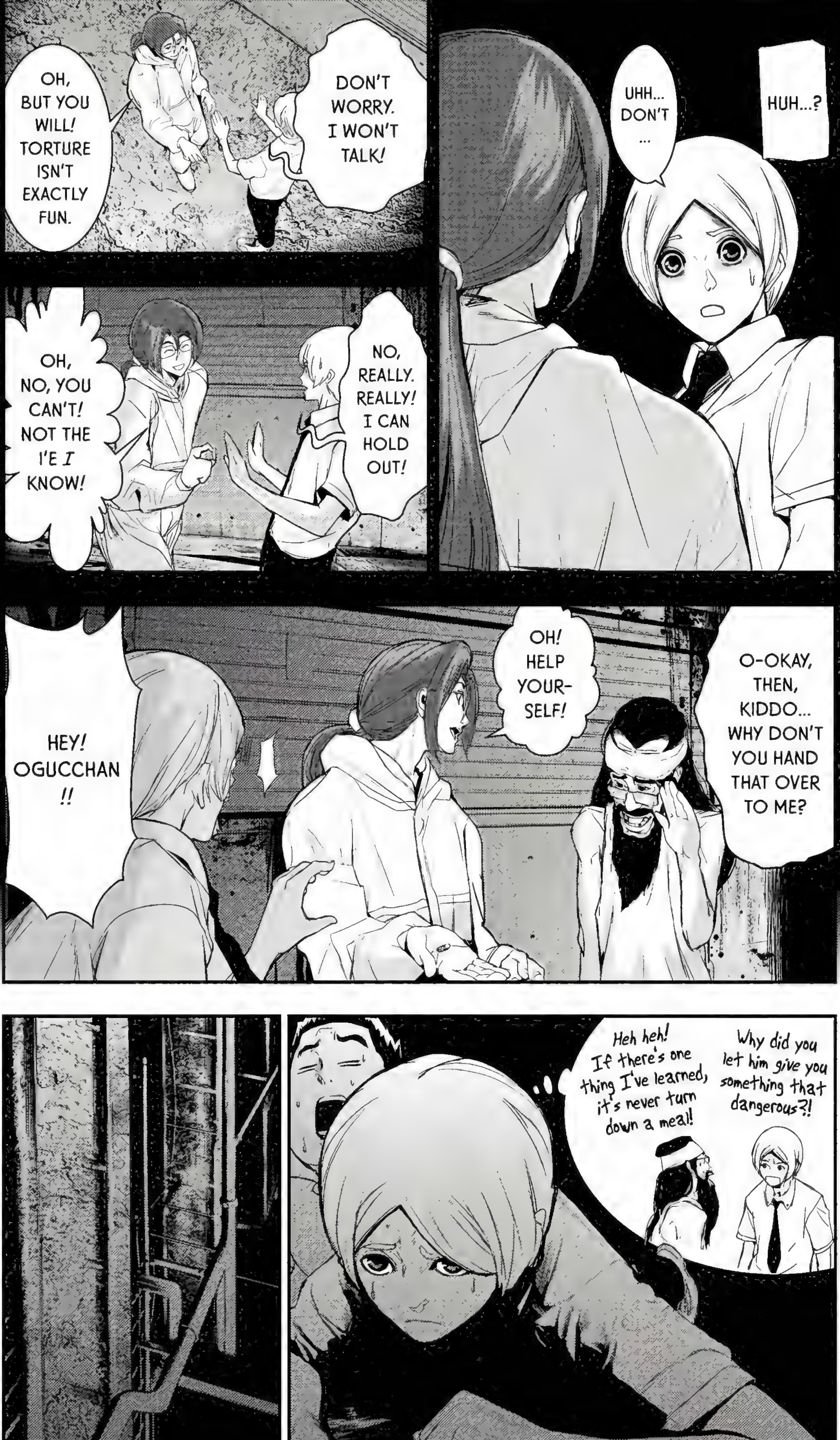
Chapter 18

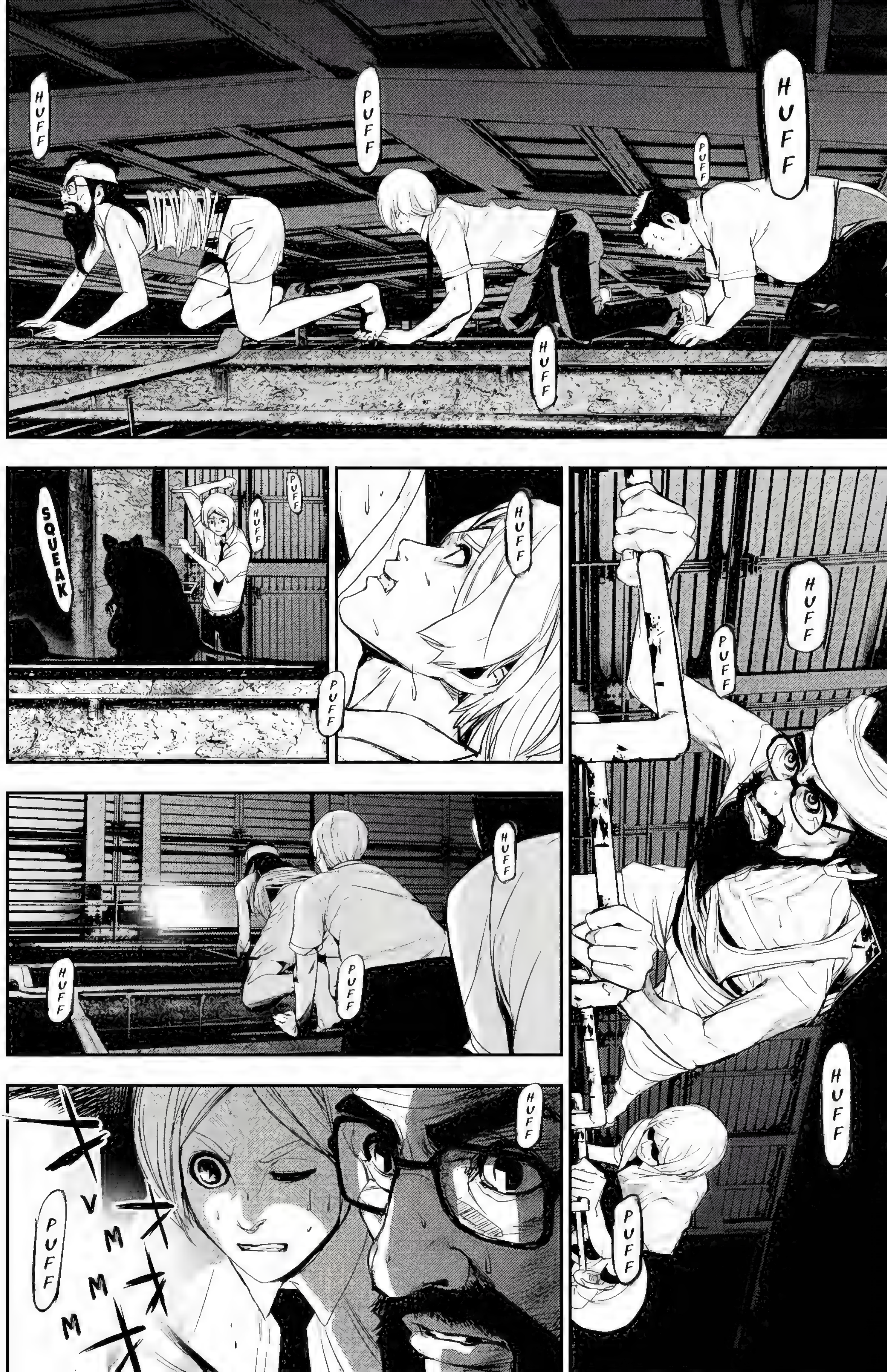

HUH...?
I FEEL LIKE WE'VE ALREADY BEEN THIS WAY...
HUH?! Y-Y-YOU DO?
Chapter 18
OGUC-CHAN... ARE YOU *SURE* YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING?
L-L-L-LEAVE IT TO ME!!
HUFF
PUFF

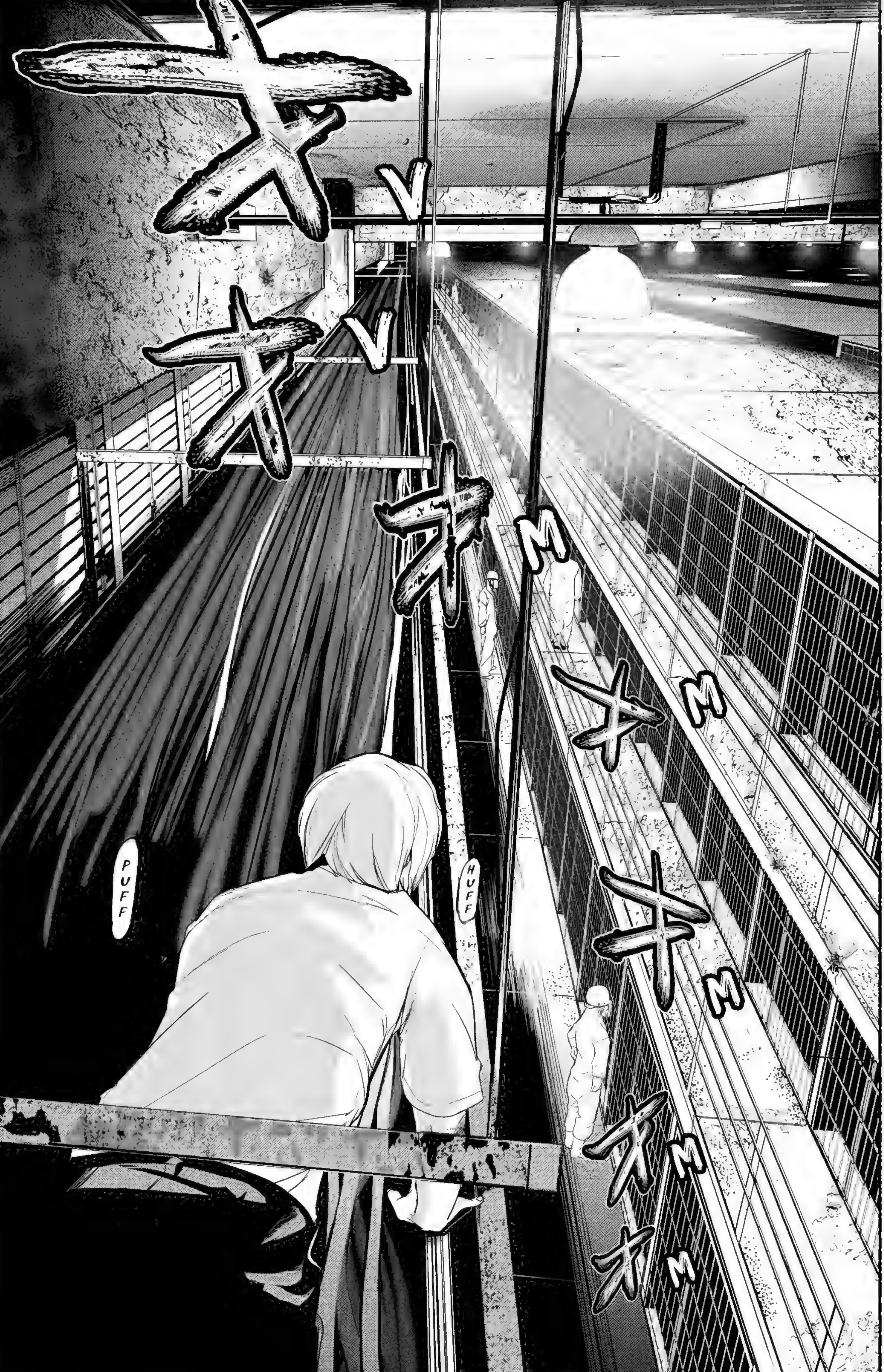

IF WE SCREW THIS UP, WE MIGHT HAVE TO TAKE THAT THING HE GAVE US!
C-C-C-CAN IT!! SH...SHUT UP AND FOLLOW ME!!
OKAY, THEN.
SEE YOU LATER.
OH, RIGHT!
I ALMOST FORGOT.


SINCE WE'LL NEVER MEET AGAIN... LET ME GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO REMEMBER ME BY.
HUH?
HERE YOU GO!
...?
WHAT, UH...IS THIS?
POISON!
YOU AND YOUR JOKES...
I'M DEAD SERIOUS.
HUH...?
IT'S FAST-ACTING, TOO. WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU CAN DIE IN PEACE.
HUH...?
THINK ABOUT IT!


WE'VE GOT OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US.
BUT LOOK WHO'S ON *YOUR* SIDE! SECURITY WILL FIND YOU.
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME!
MM?
UGH...
H-h-hey, kid!
Are you gonna let him put you down like that?!
AND THAT PUTS *US* IN AN AWKWARD SPOT.
ONCE THEY CATCH YOU, THEY'RE GOING TO TORTURE YOU...
...AND YOU'RE GOING TO SPILL YOUR GUTS ABOUT *OUR* LITTLE TEAM.
SO DO US ALL A FAVOR? IF YOU'RE ABOUT TO BE CAUGHT, WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO TAKE THAT LITTLE PILL AND DROP DEAD?


HUH...?
UHH... DON'T ...
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T TALK!
OH, BUT YOU WILL! TORTURE ISN'T EXACTLY FUN.
NO, REALLY. REALLY! I CAN HOLD OUT!
OH, NO, YOU CAN'T! NOT THE I'E I KNOW!
O-OKAY, THEN, KIDDO... WHY DON'T YOU HAND THAT OVER TO ME?
OH! HELP YOURSELF!
HEY! OGUCCHAN!!
Why did you let him give you something that dangerous?!
Heh heh! If there's one thing I've learned, it's never turn down a meal!


HUFF
PUFF
PUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
PUFF
HUFF
SQUEAK
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
VMMMM


ヌ
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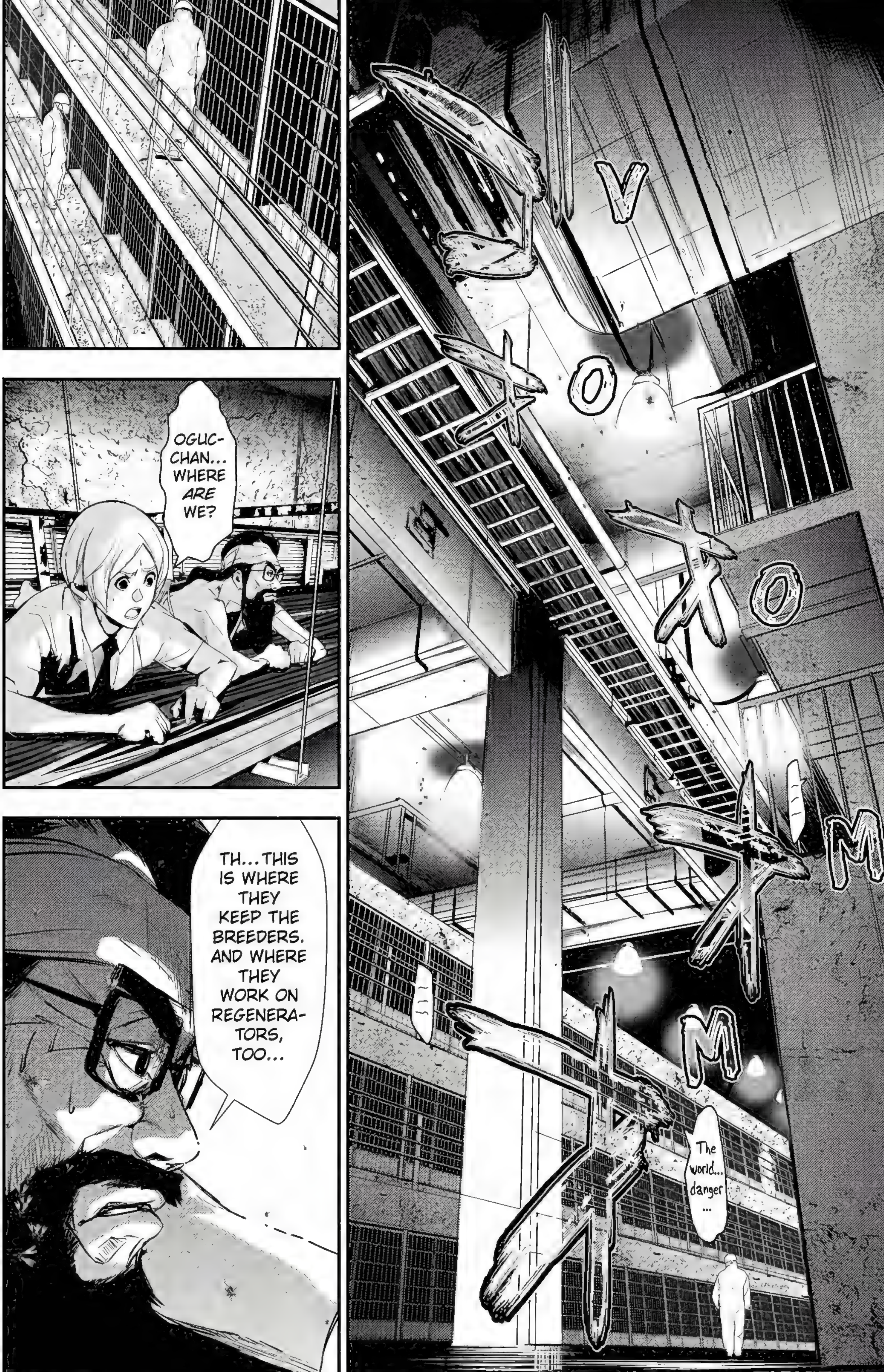
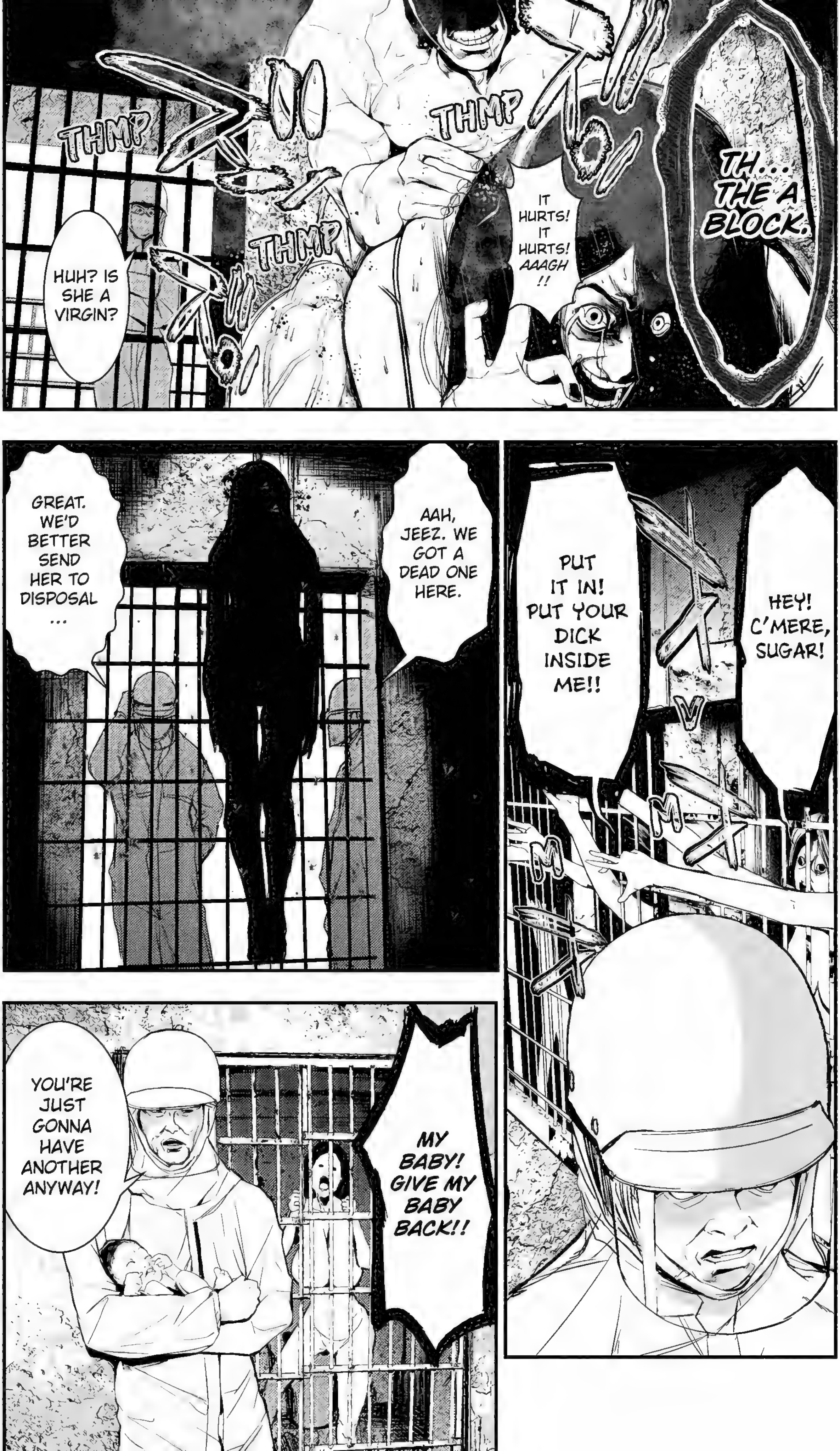
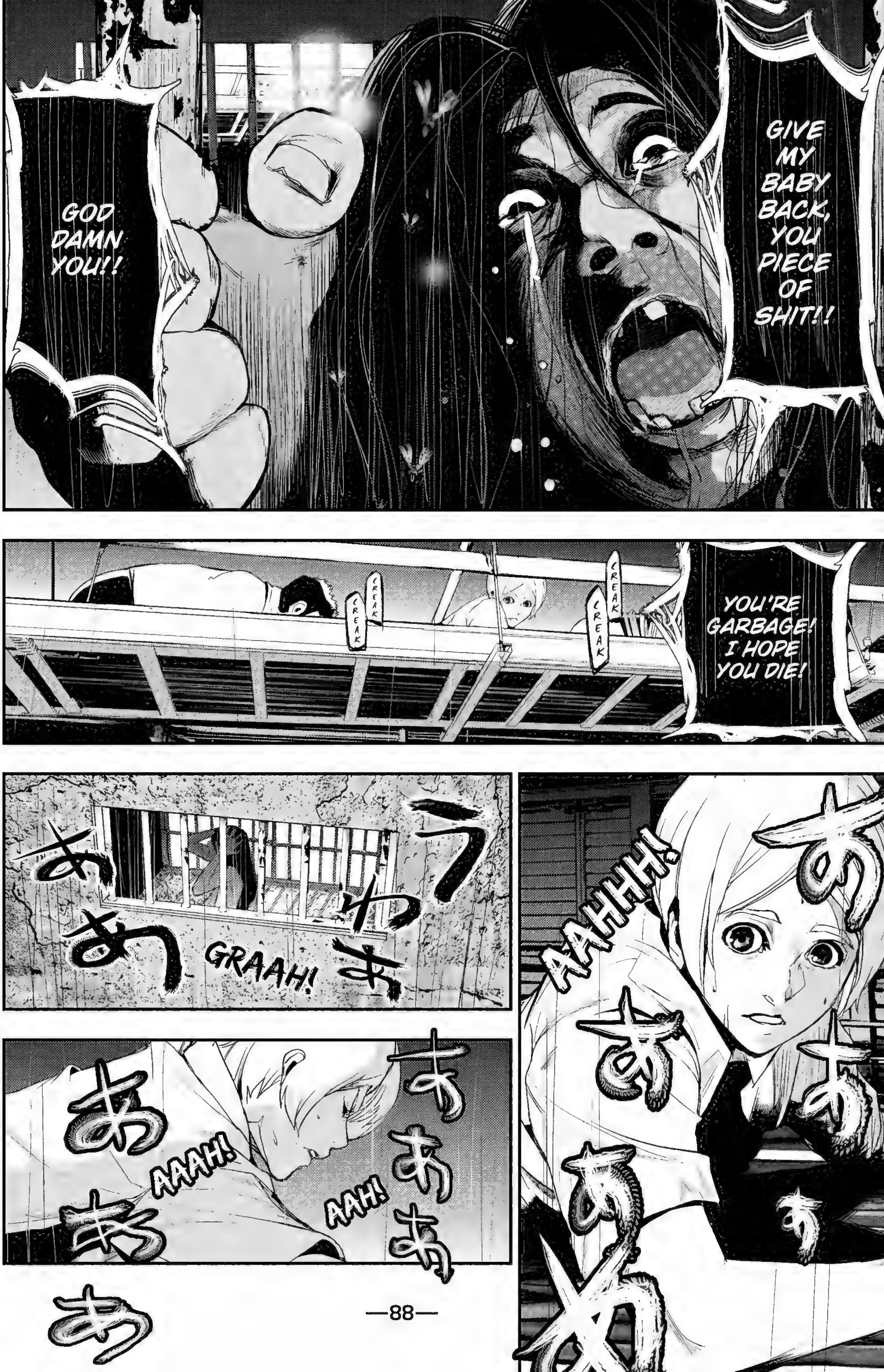
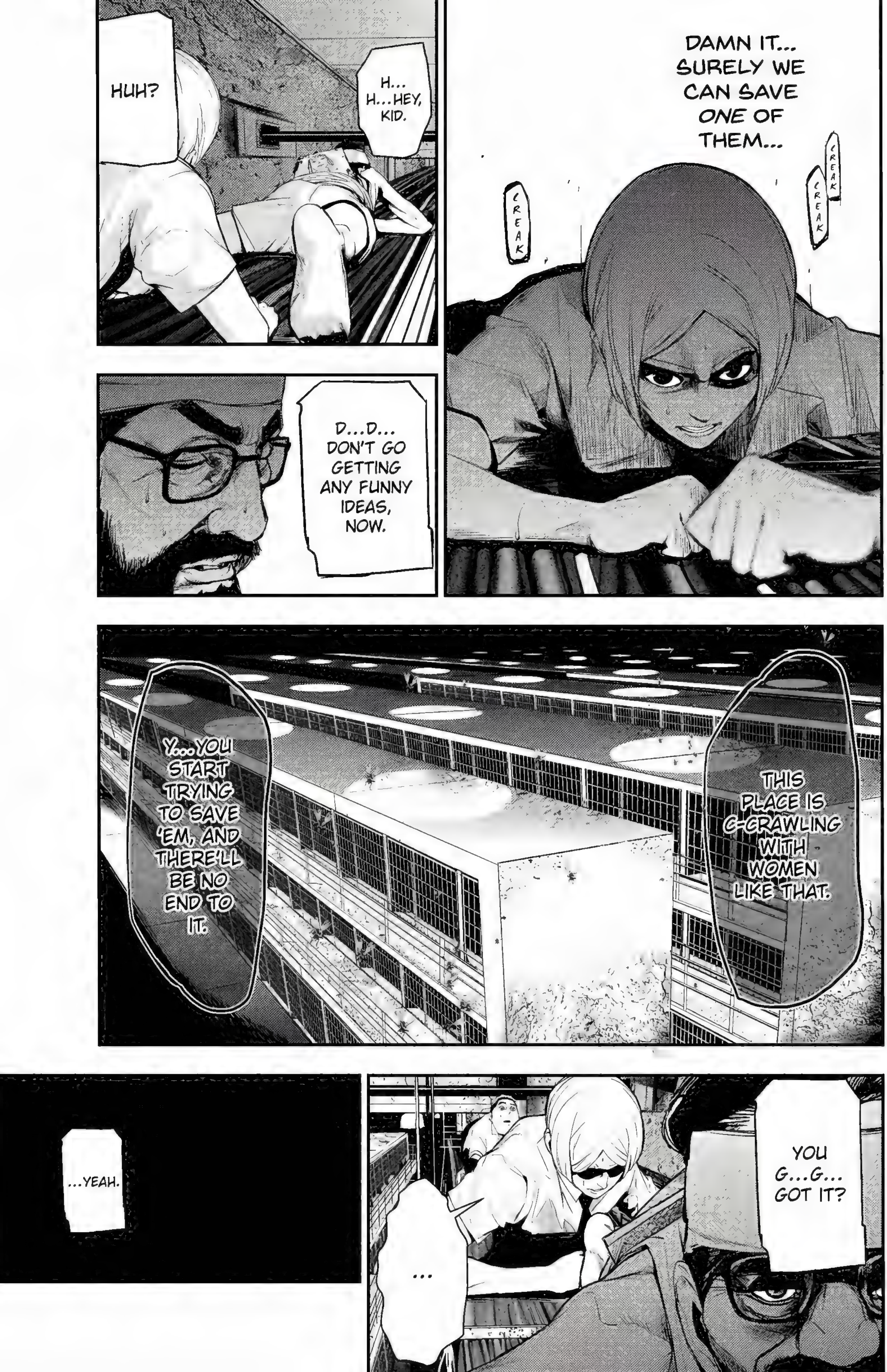
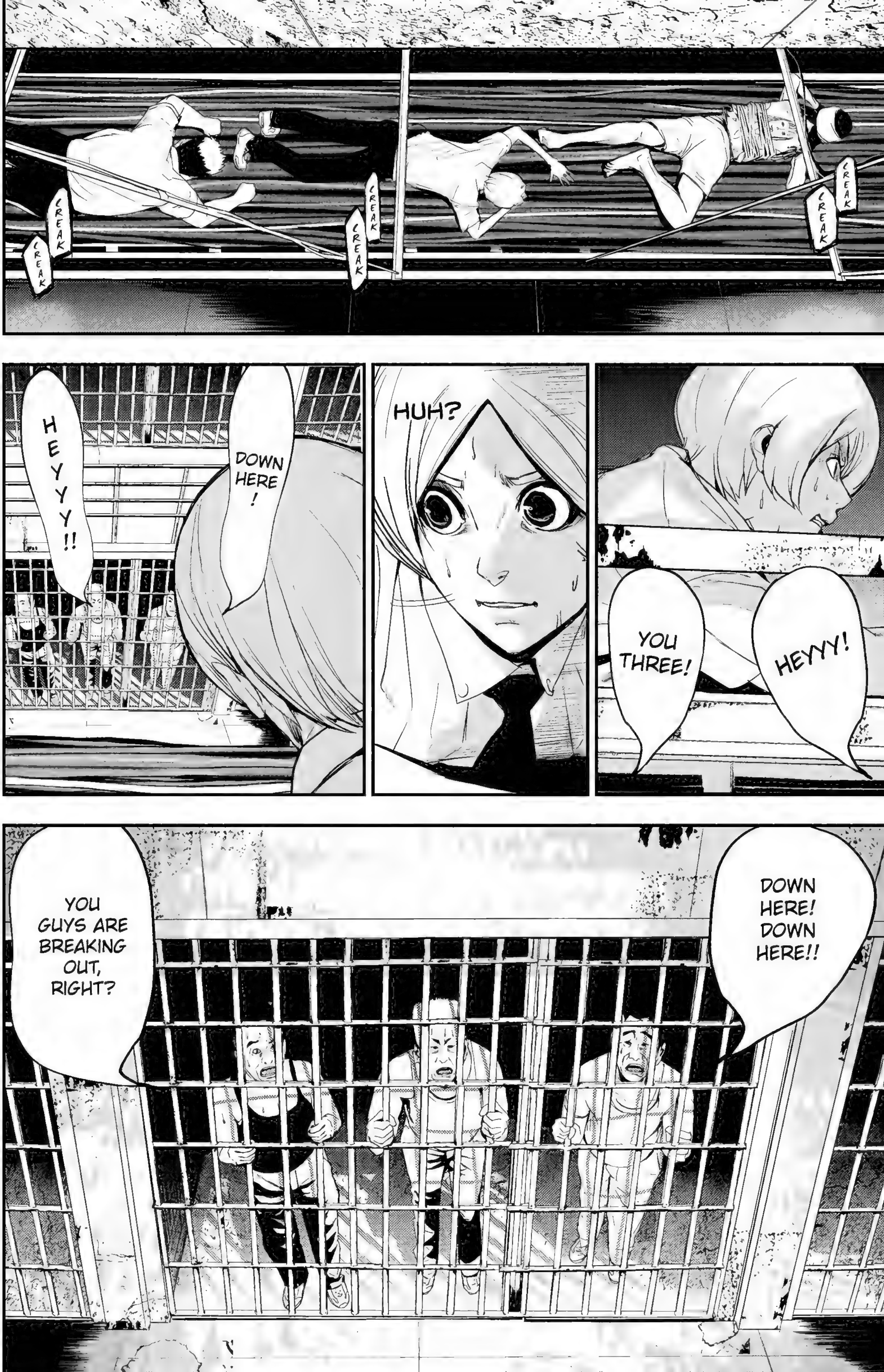
M
HUFF
PUFF

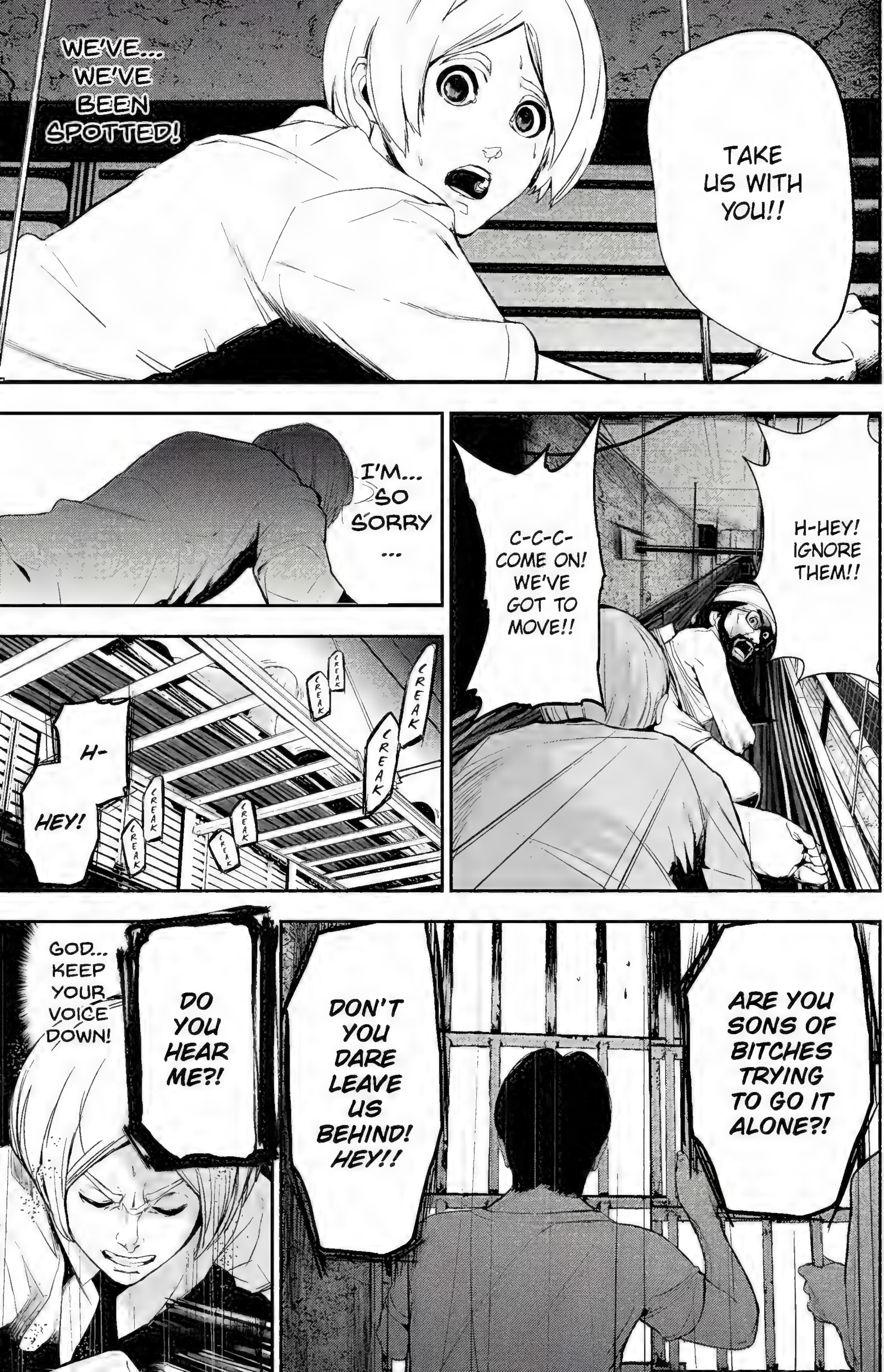

VOOMM
The world... danger...
OGUC-CHAN... WHERE *ARE* WE?
TH... THIS IS WHERE THEY KEEP THE BREEDERS. AND WHERE THEY WORK ON REGENERATORS, TOO...

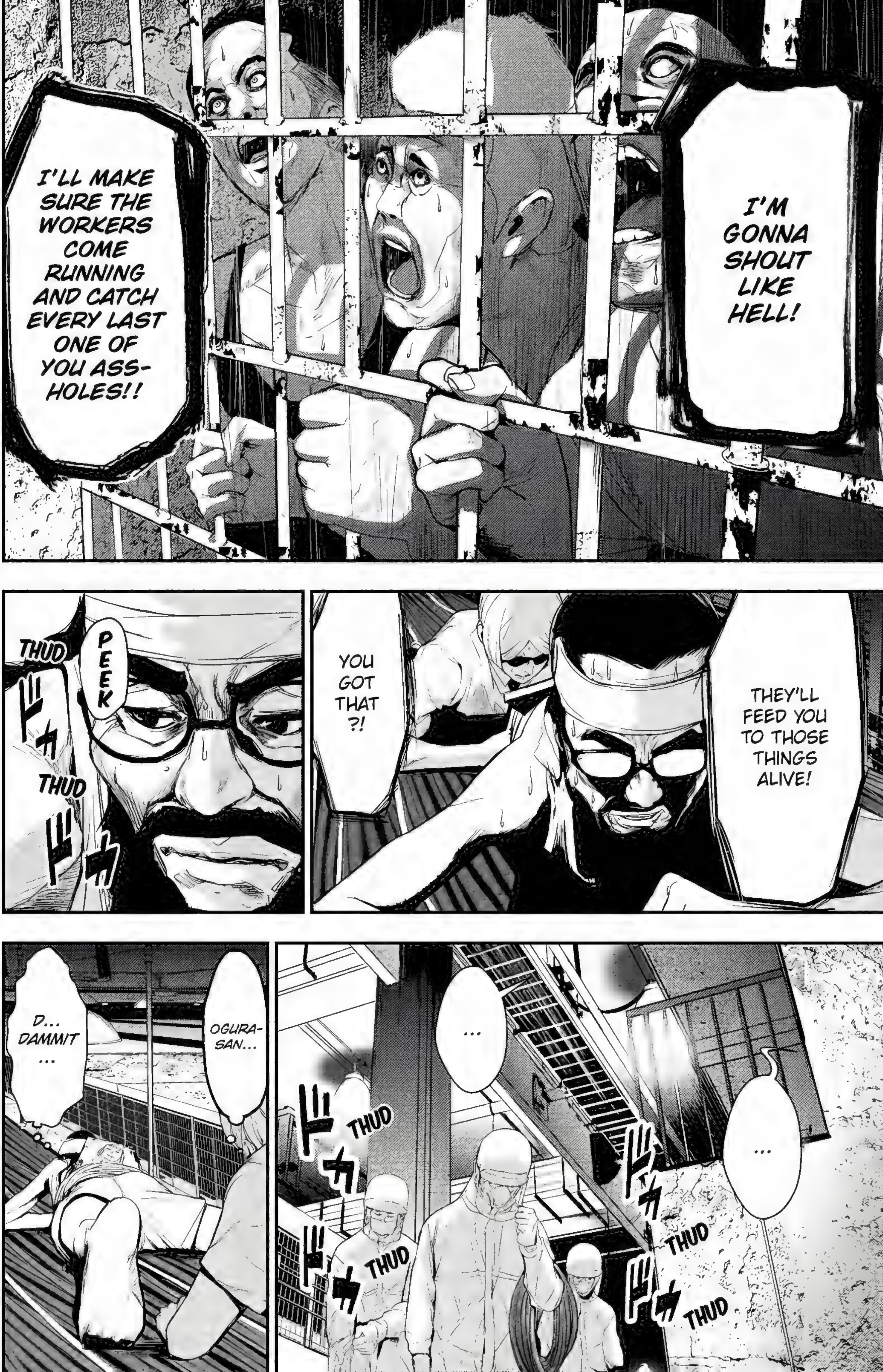

TH... THE A BLOCK.
THMP
THMP
IT HURTS! IT HURTS! AAAGH!!
THMP
HUH? IS SHE A VIRGIN?
HEY! C'MERE, SUGAR!
PUT IT IN! PUT YOUR DICK INSIDE ME!!
AAH, JEEZ. WE GOT A DEAD ONE HERE.
GREAT. WE'D BETTER SEND HER TO DISPOSAL...
MY BABY! GIVE MY BABY BACK!!
YOU'RE JUST GONNA HAVE ANOTHER ANYWAY!

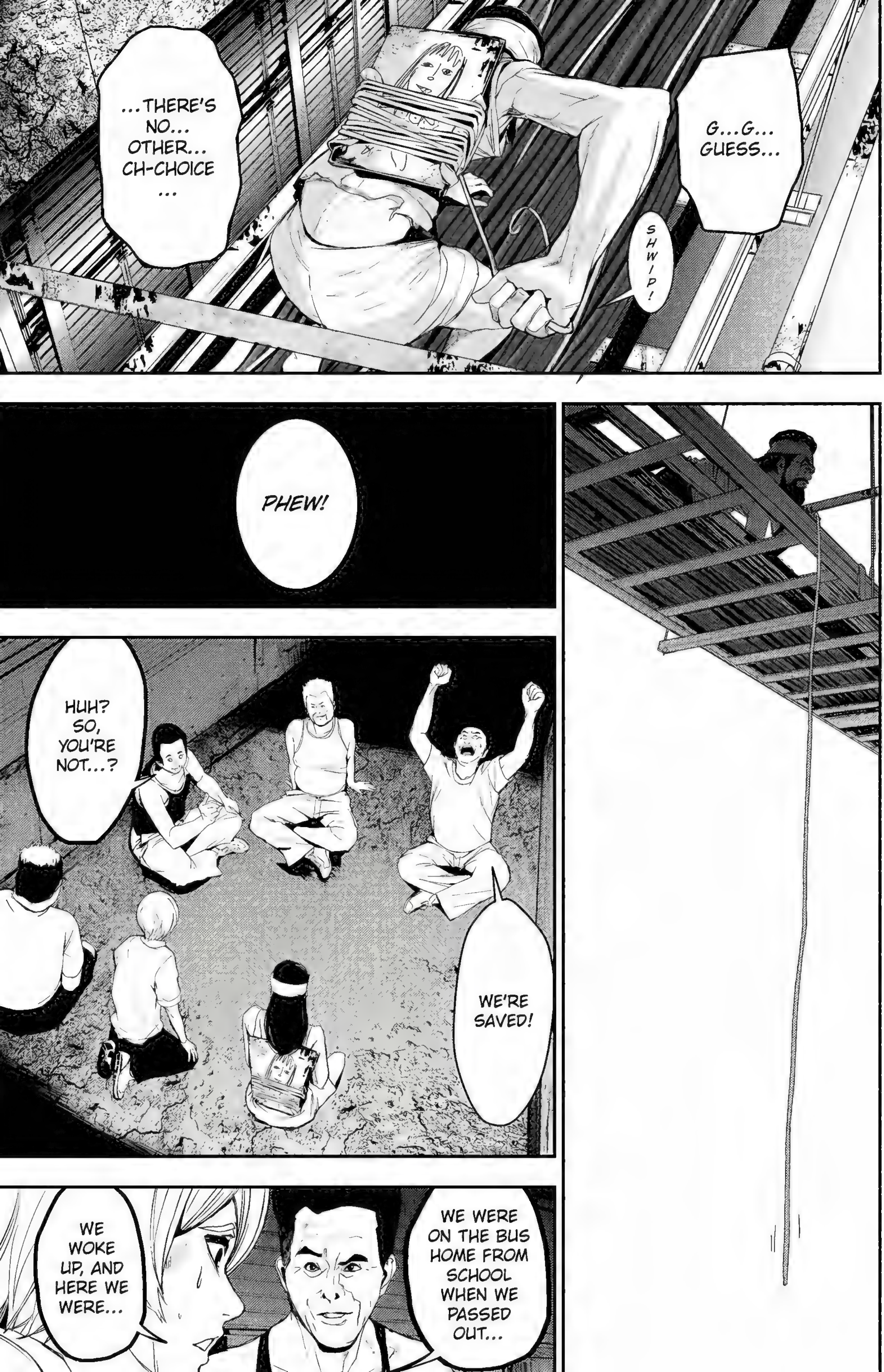

GIVE MY BABY BACK, YOU PIECE OF SHIT!!
GOD DAMN YOU!!
YOU'RE GARBAGE! I HOPE YOU DIE!
CREAK CREAK
CREAK CREAK
AAHHH!
あああああ
うわあ
GRAAH!
ああ
ああああ
AAH!
AAAH!
あああ

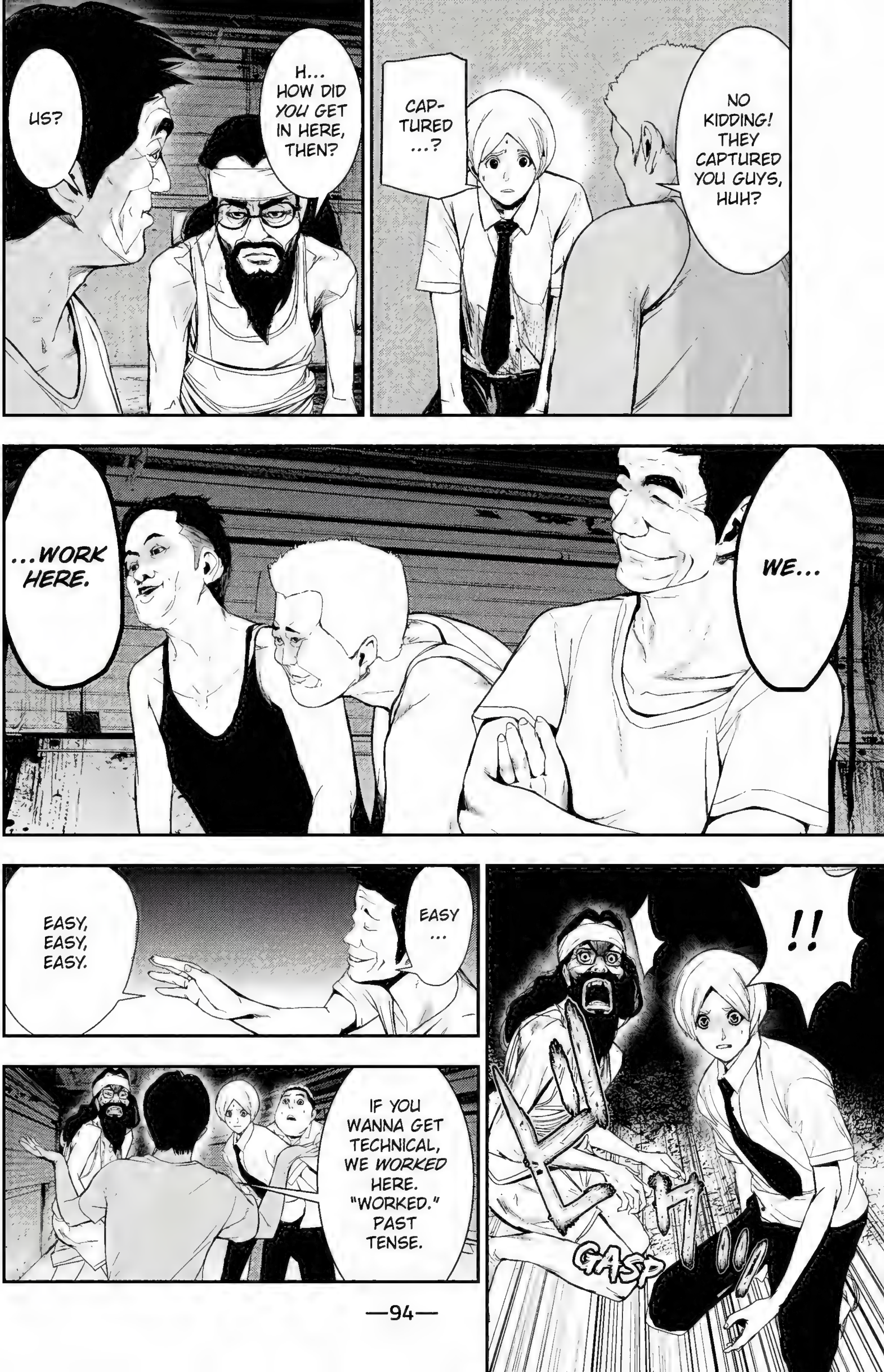

DAMN IT... SURELY WE CAN SAVE *ONE* OF THEM...
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
H... H...HEY, KID.
HUH?
D...D... DON'T GO GETTING ANY FUNNY IDEAS, NOW.
THIS PLACE IS C-CRAWLING WITH WOMEN LIKE THAT.
Y...YOU START TRYING TO SAVE 'EM, AND THERE'LL BE NO END TO IT.
YOU G...G... GOT IT?
...
...YEAH.

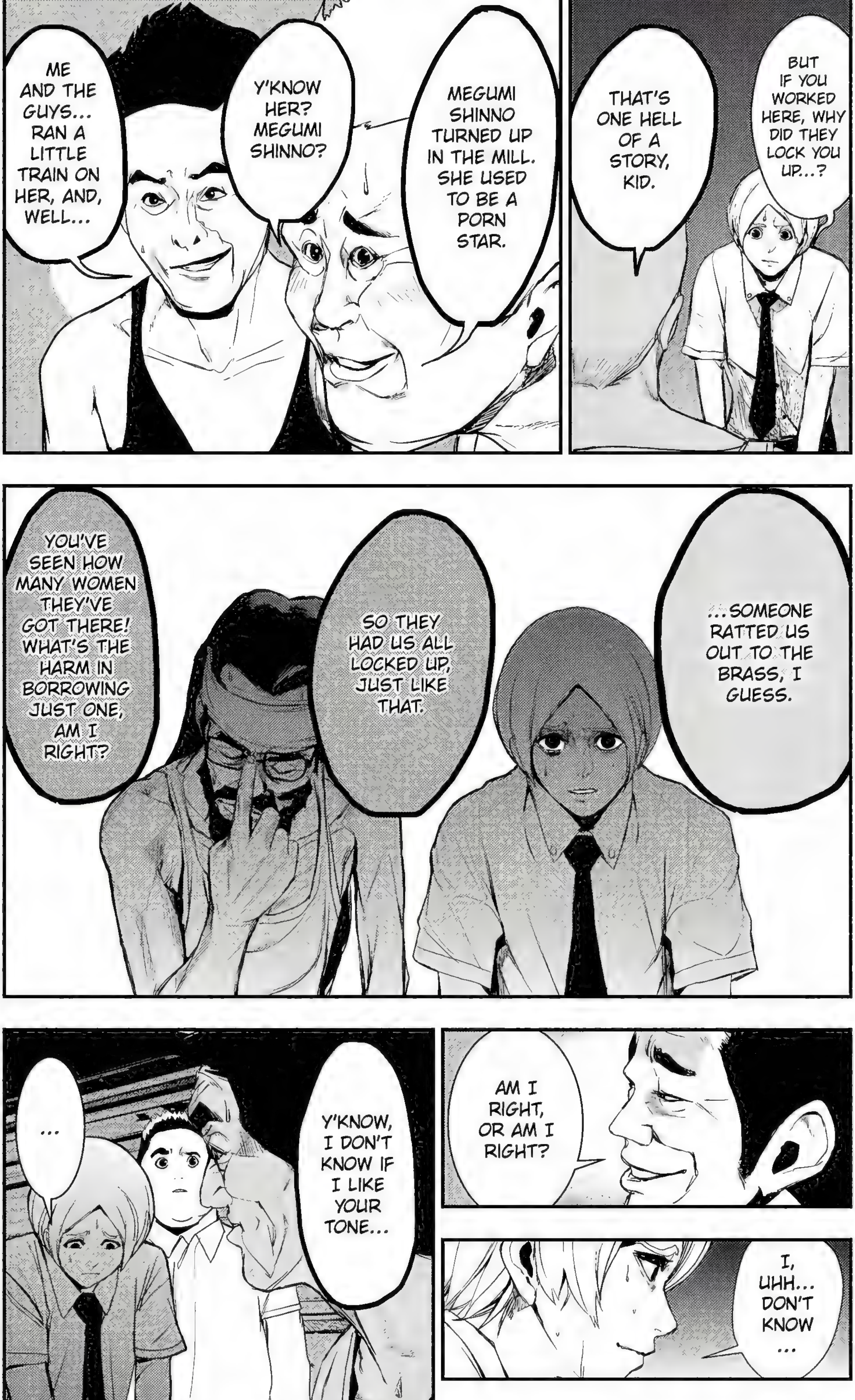

CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
HEYYY!
YOU THREE!
HUH?
DOWN HERE!
HEYYY!!
DOWN HERE! DOWN HERE!!
YOU GUYS ARE BREAKING OUT, RIGHT?

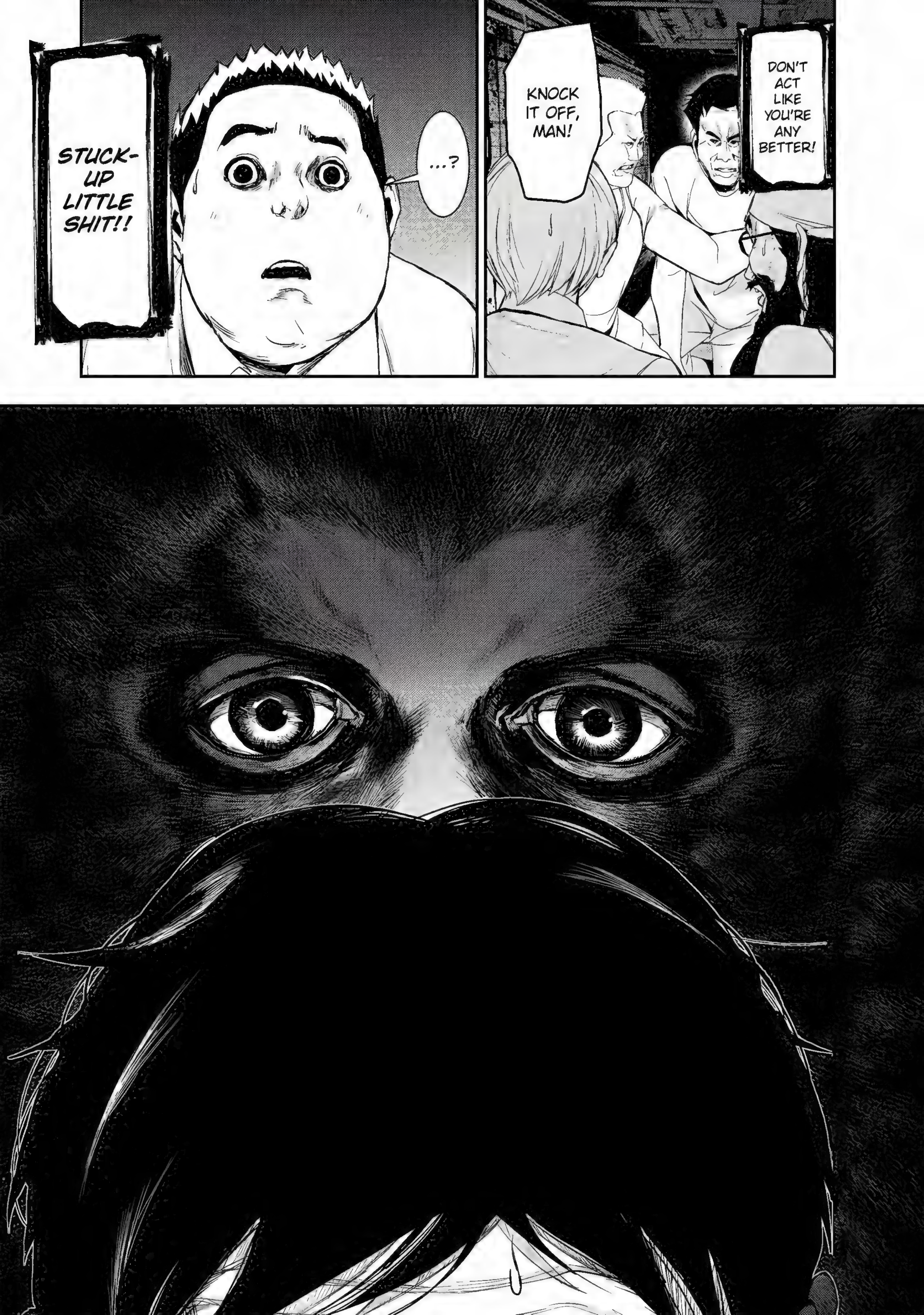

TAKE US WITH YOU!!
WE'VE... WE'VE BEEN SPOTTED!
H-HEY! IGNORE THEM!!
C-C-C-COME ON! WE'VE GOT TO MOVE!!
I'M... SO SORRY...
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
H- HEY!
ARE YOU SONS OF BITCHES TRYING TO GO IT ALONE?!
DON'T YOU DARE LEAVE US BEHIND! HEY!!
DO YOU HEAR ME?!
GOD... KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN!


I'M GONNA SHOUT LIKE HELL!
I'LL MAKE SURE THE WORKERS COME RUNNING AND CATCH EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU ASSHOLES!!
THEY'LL FEED YOU TO THOSE THINGS ALIVE!
YOU GOT THAT?!
PEEK
THUD ドッ
THUD ドッ
...
THUD ドッ
THUD ドッ
...
THUD ドッ
THUD ドッ
OGURA-SAN...
D... DAMMIT...

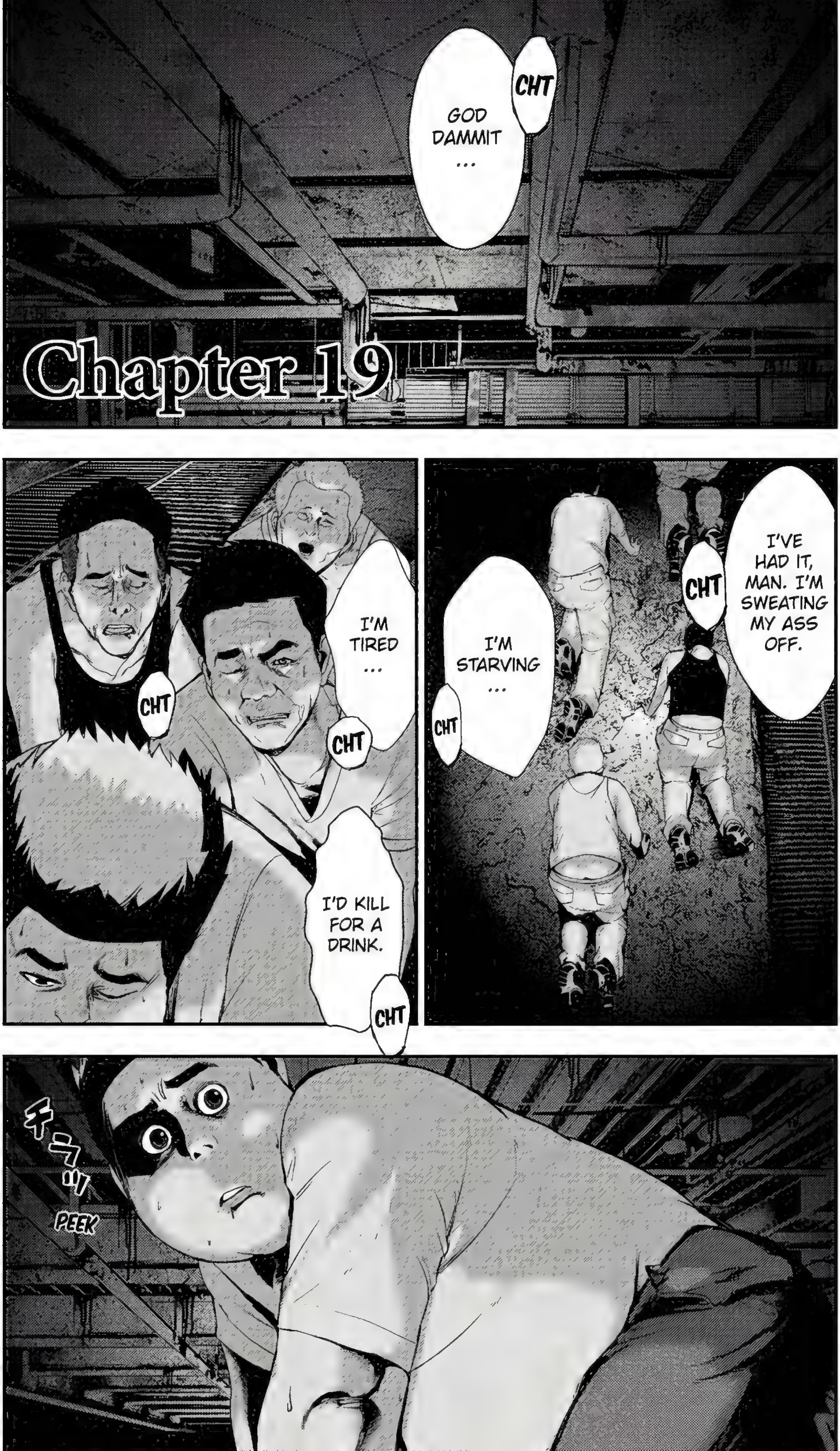

G…G… GUESS…
SHWIP!
…THERE'S NO… OTHER… CH-CHOICE …
PHEW!
WE'RE SAVED!
HUH? SO, YOU'RE NOT…?
WE WERE ON THE BUS HOME FROM SCHOOL WHEN WE PASSED OUT…
WE WOKE UP, AND HERE WE WERE…

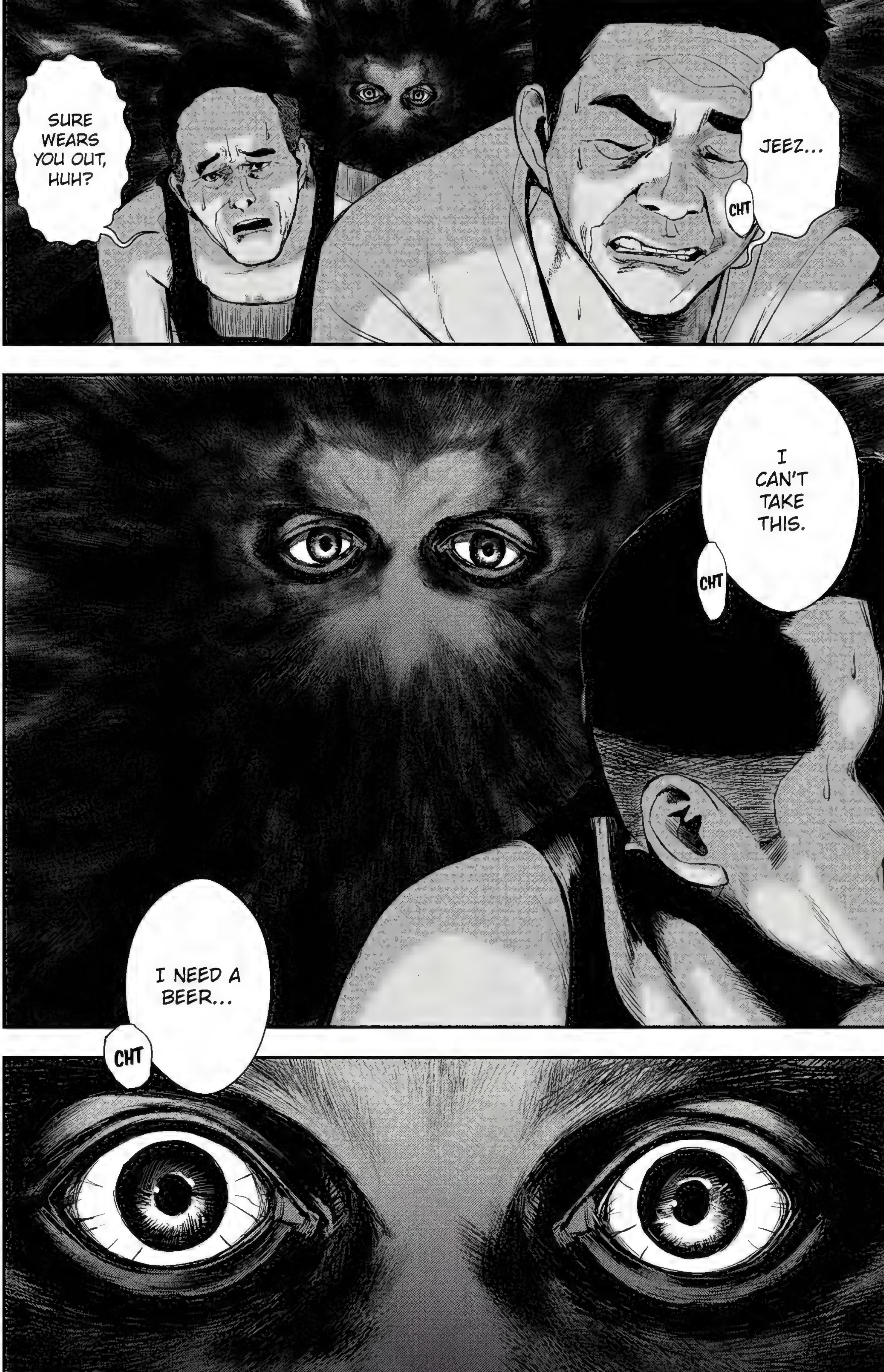

NO KIDDING! THEY CAPTURED YOU GUYS, HUH?
CAPTURED...?
H... HOW DID *YOU* GET IN HERE, THEN?
US?
WE...
...WORK HERE.
EASY...
EASY, EASY, EASY.
IF YOU WANNA GET TECHNICAL, WE *WORKED* HERE. "WORKED." PAST TENSE.
!!
GASP

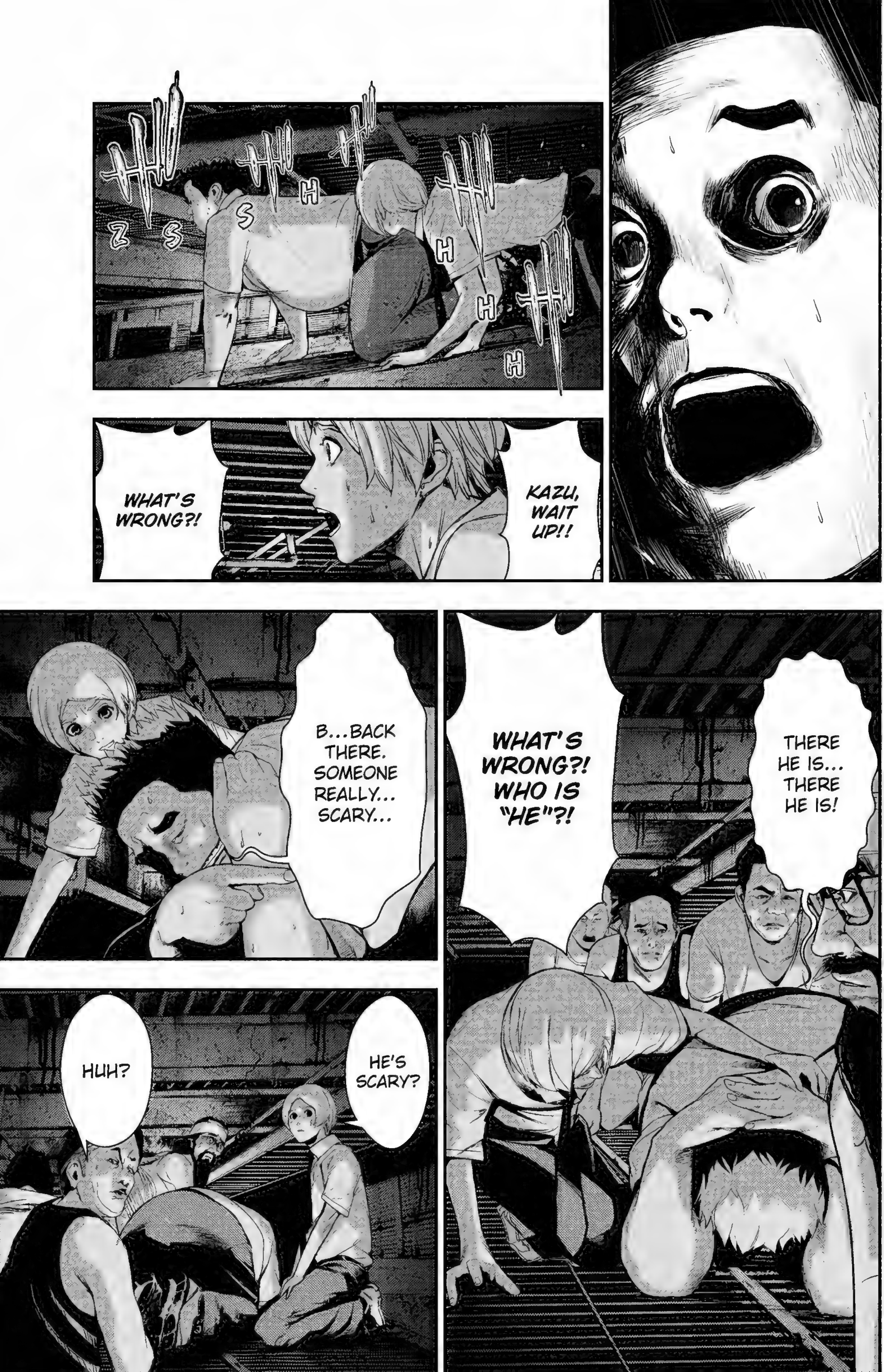

BUT IF YOU WORKED HERE, WHY DID THEY LOCK YOU UP...?
THAT'S ONE HELL OF A STORY, KID.
MEGUMI SHINNO TURNED UP IN THE MILL. SHE USED TO BE A PORN STAR.
Y'KNOW HER? MEGUMI SHINNO?
ME AND THE GUYS... RAN A LITTLE TRAIN ON HER, AND, WELL...
...SOMEONE RATTED US OUT TO THE BRASS, I GUESS.
SO THEY HAD US ALL LOCKED UP, JUST LIKE THAT.
YOU'VE SEEN HOW MANY WOMEN THEY'VE GOT THERE! WHAT'S THE HARM IN BORROWING JUST ONE, AM I RIGHT?
AM I RIGHT, OR AM I RIGHT?
I, UHH... DON'T KNOW...
Y'KNOW, I DON'T KNOW IF I LIKE YOUR TONE...
...

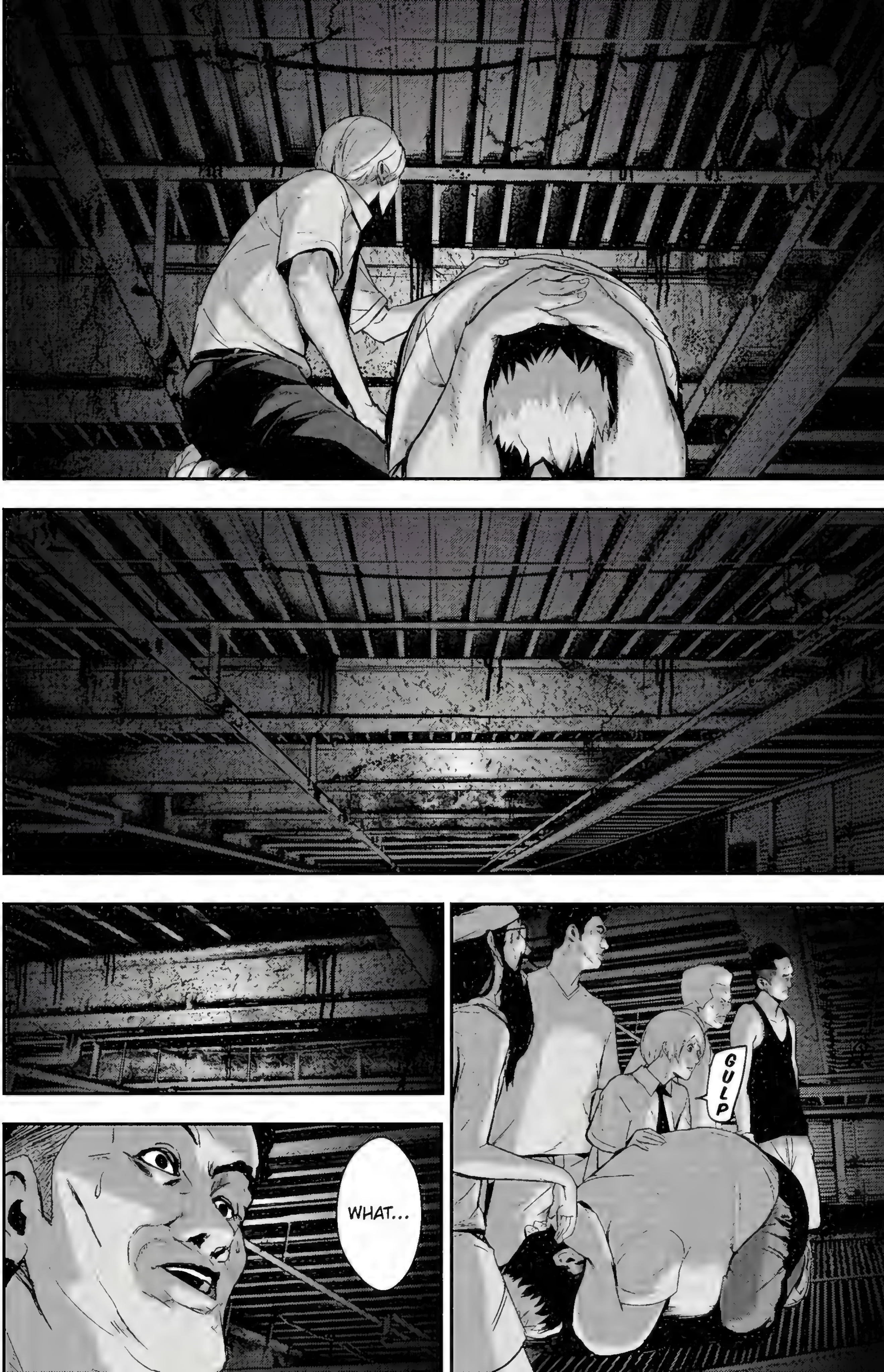

DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE ANY BETTER!
KNOCK IT OFF, MAN!
...?
STUCK-UP LITTLE SHIT!!

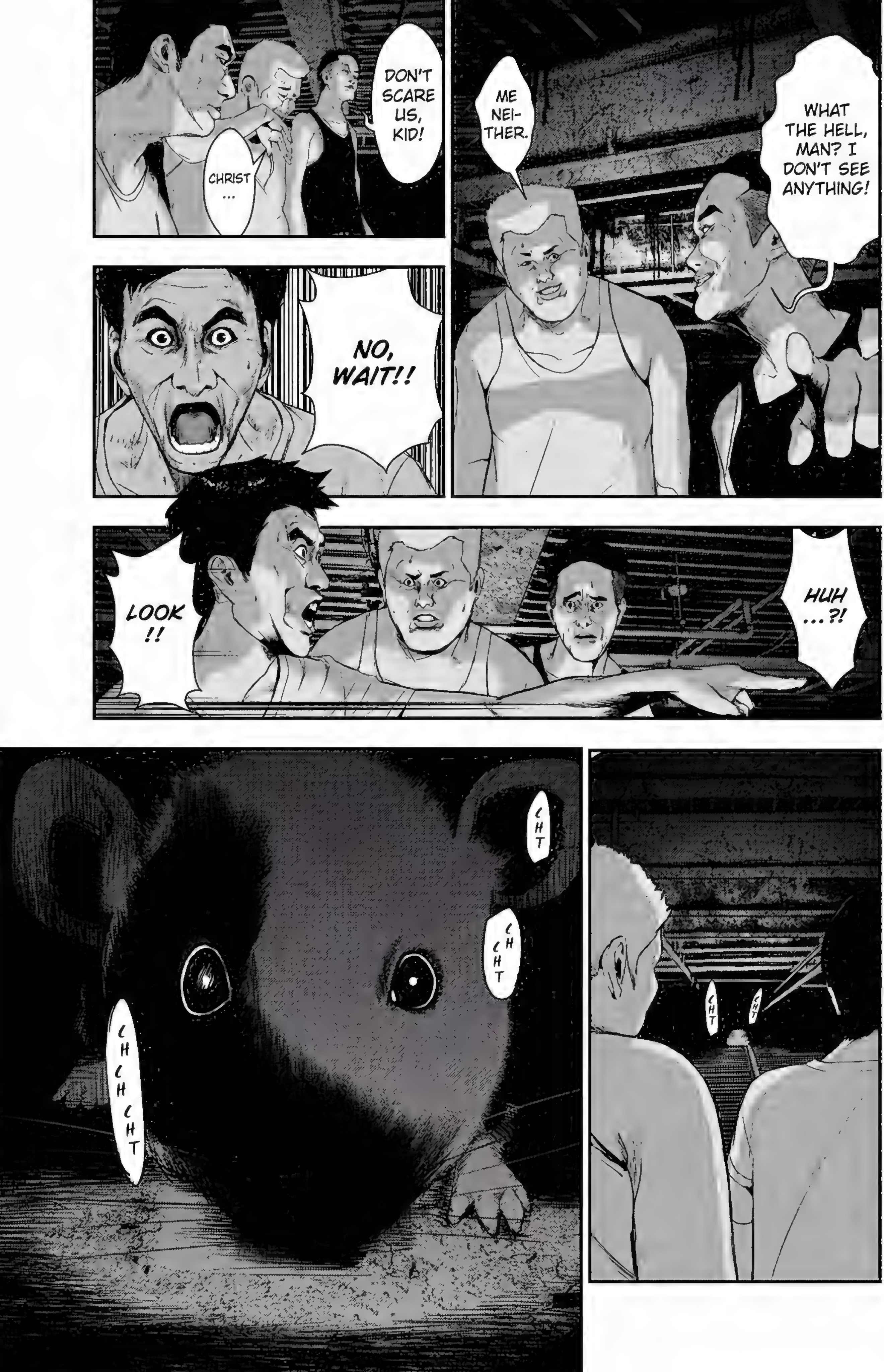
Chapter 19

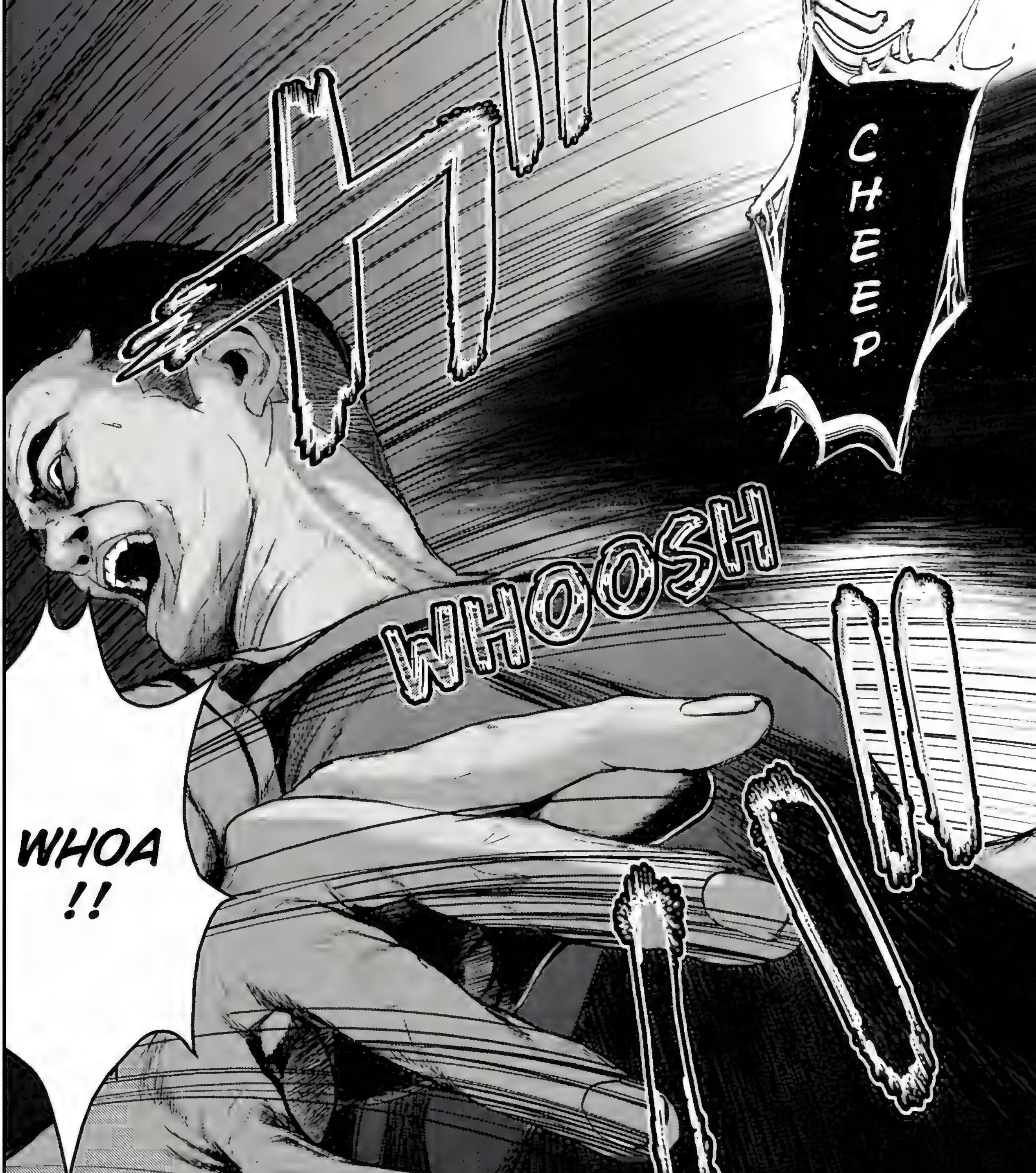

CHT
GOD DAMMIT …
I'VE HAD IT, MAN. I'M SWEATING MY ASS OFF.
CHT
I'M STARVING …
CHT
I'M TIRED …
CHT
CHT
I'D KILL FOR A DRINK.
CHT
チラッ
PEEK

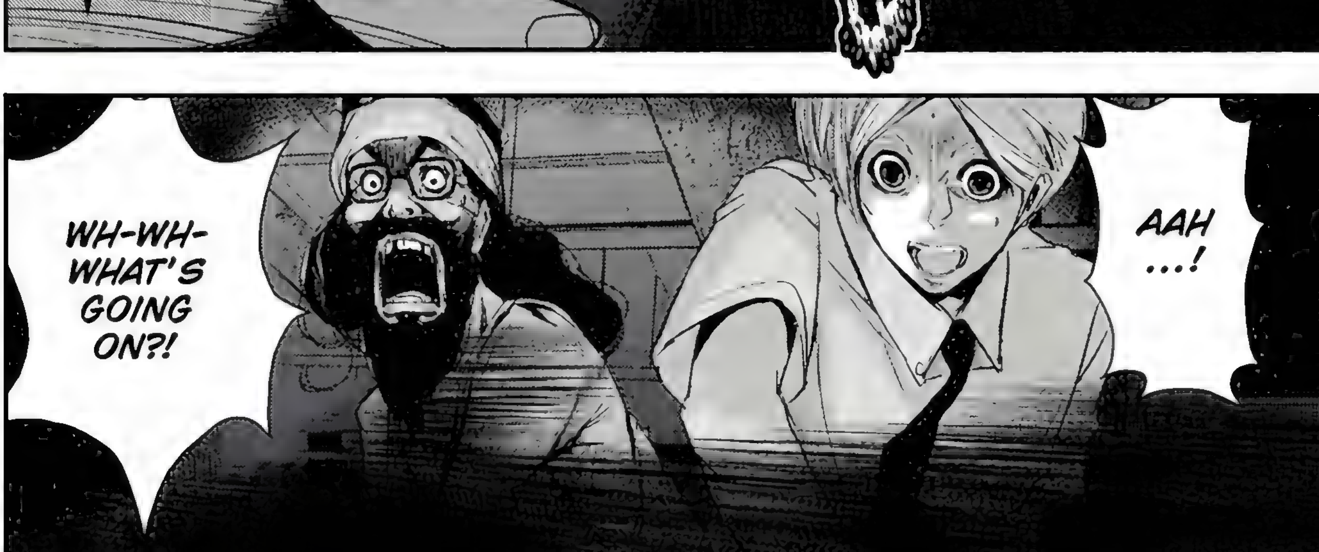

JEEZ…
CHT
SURE WEARS YOU OUT, HUH?
I CAN'T TAKE THIS.
CHT
I NEED A BEER…
CHT

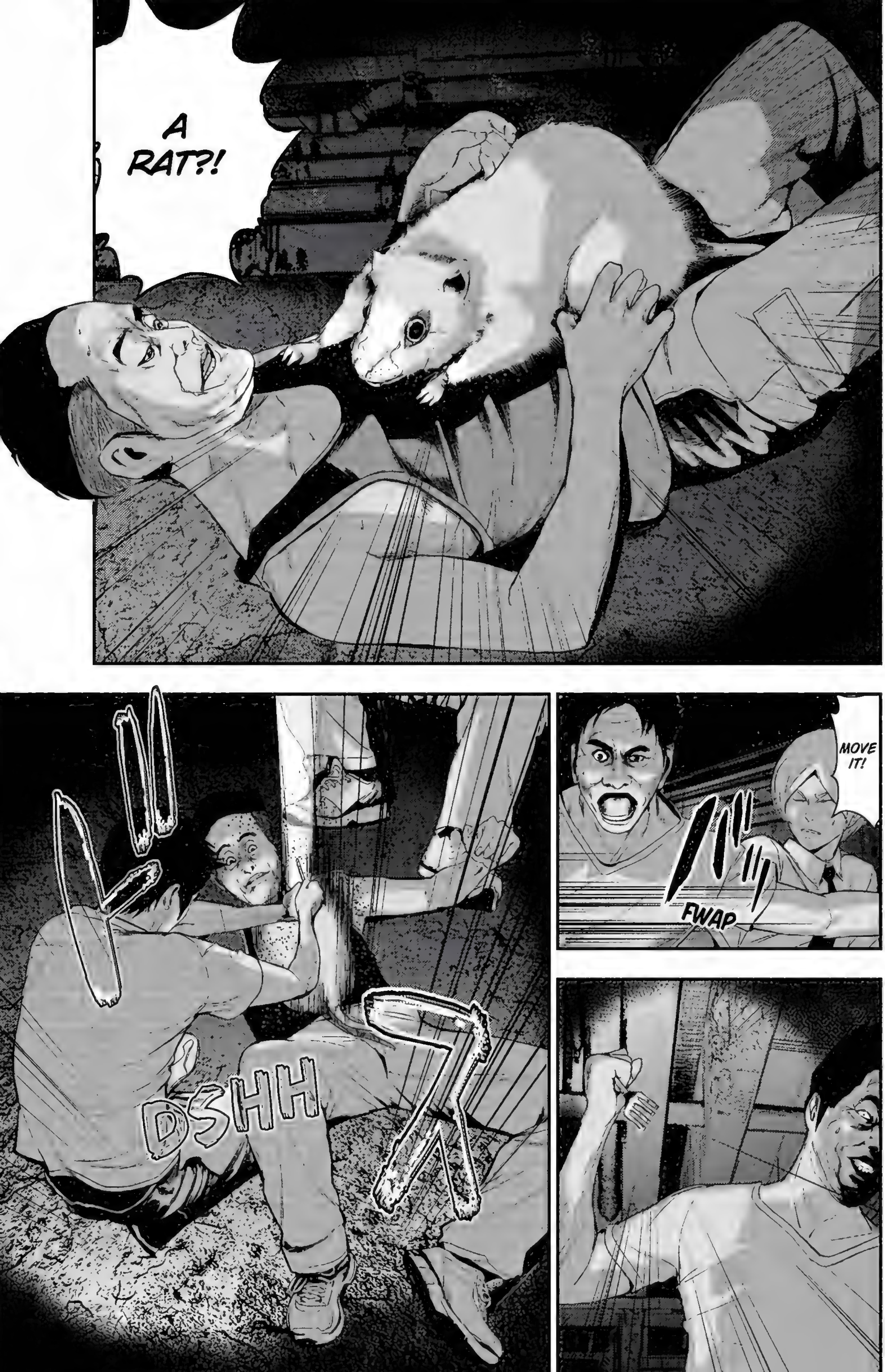

ZSS
SH
HHHH
WHAT'S WRONG?!
KAZU, WAIT UP!!
B...BACK THERE. SOMEONE REALLY... SCARY...
HUH?
HE'S SCARY?
WHAT'S WRONG?! WHO IS "HE"?!
THERE HE IS... THERE HE IS!

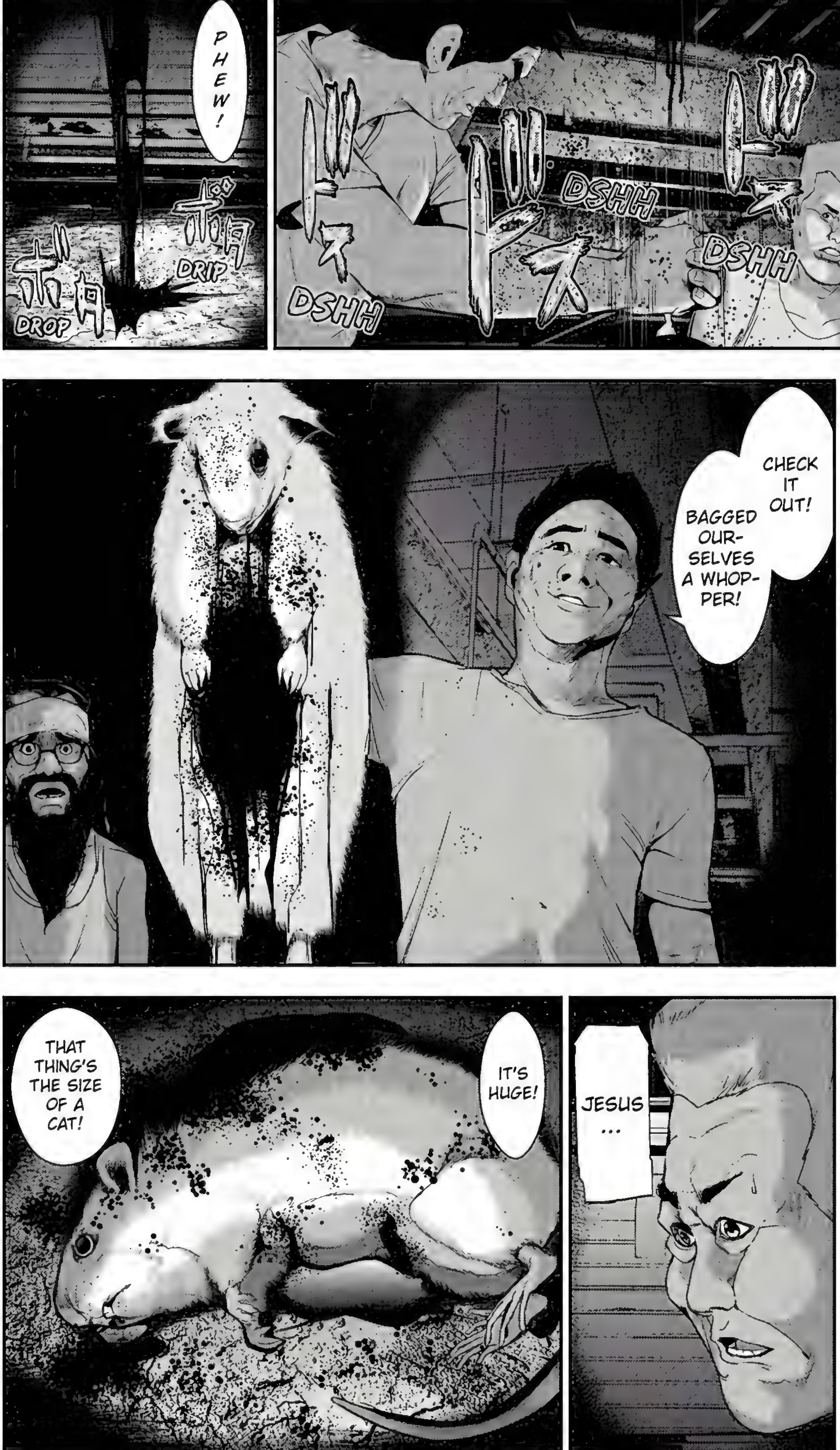

GULP
WHAT...

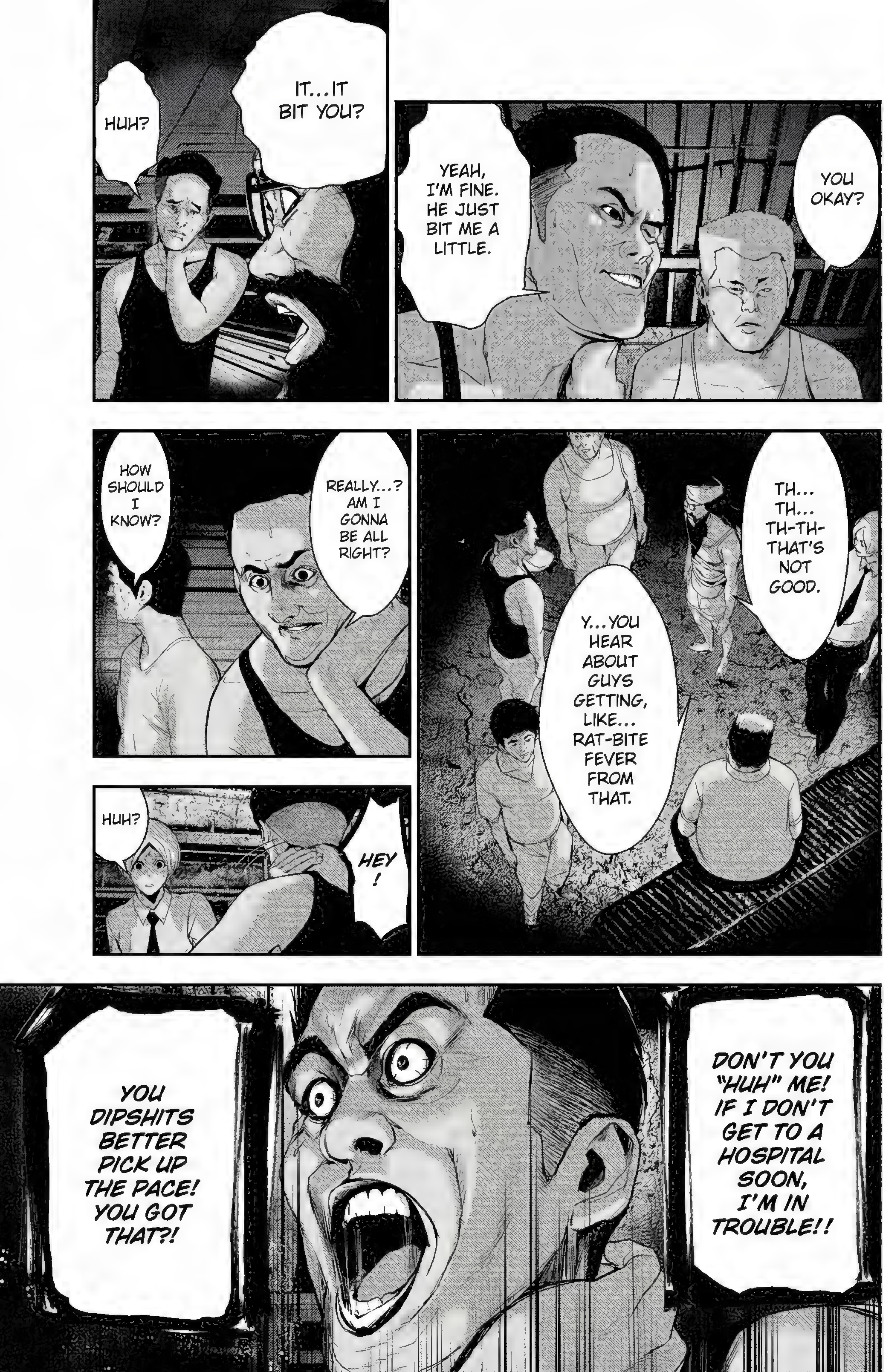

CHRIST ...
DON'T SCARE US, KID!
WHAT THE HELL, MAN? I DON'T SEE ANYTHING!
ME NEITHER.
NO, WAIT!!
LOOK !!
HUH ...?!
CHT
CH CHT
CH CH CHT
CHT
CHT

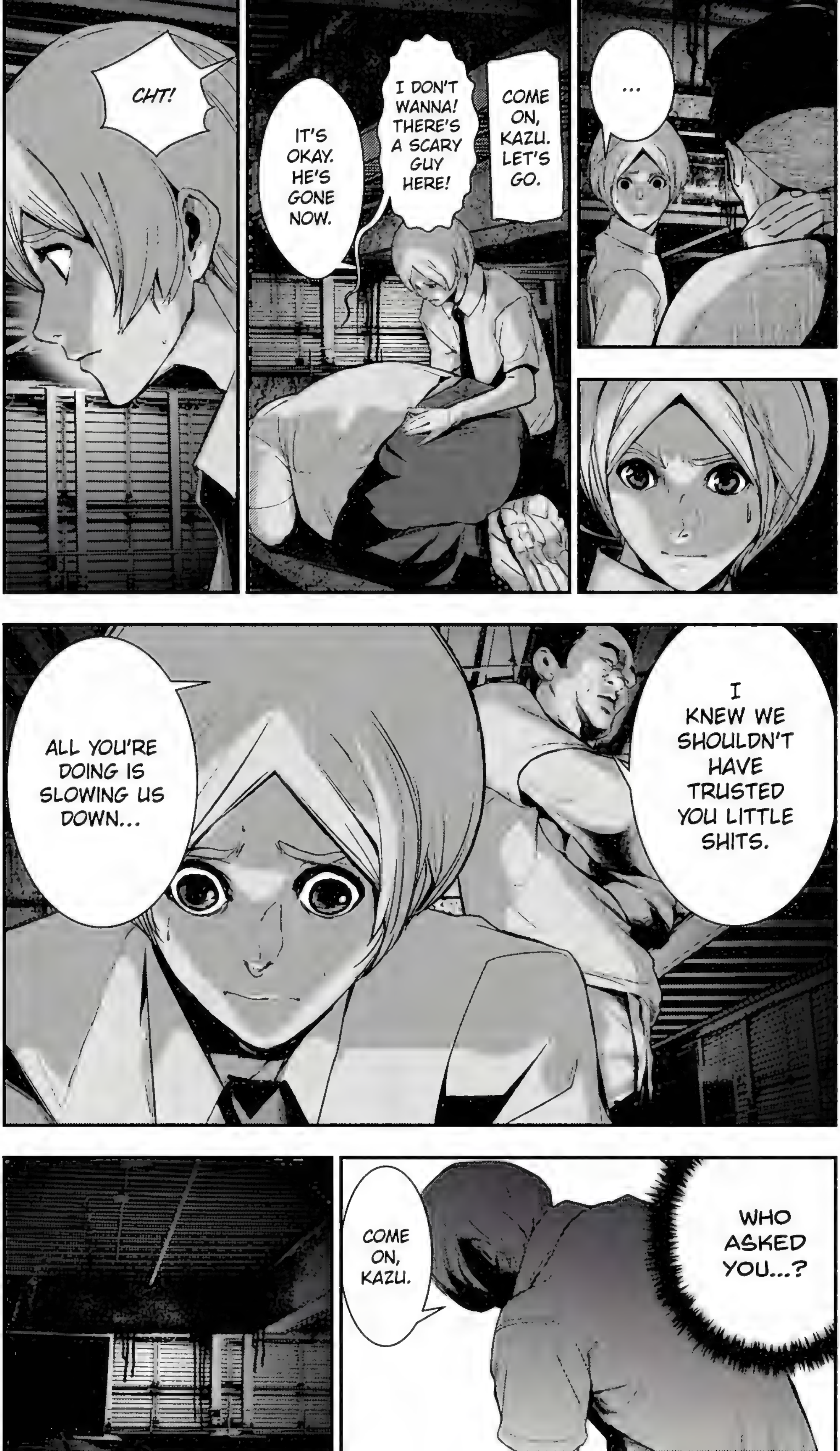

CHEEP
WHOOSH
WHOA!!

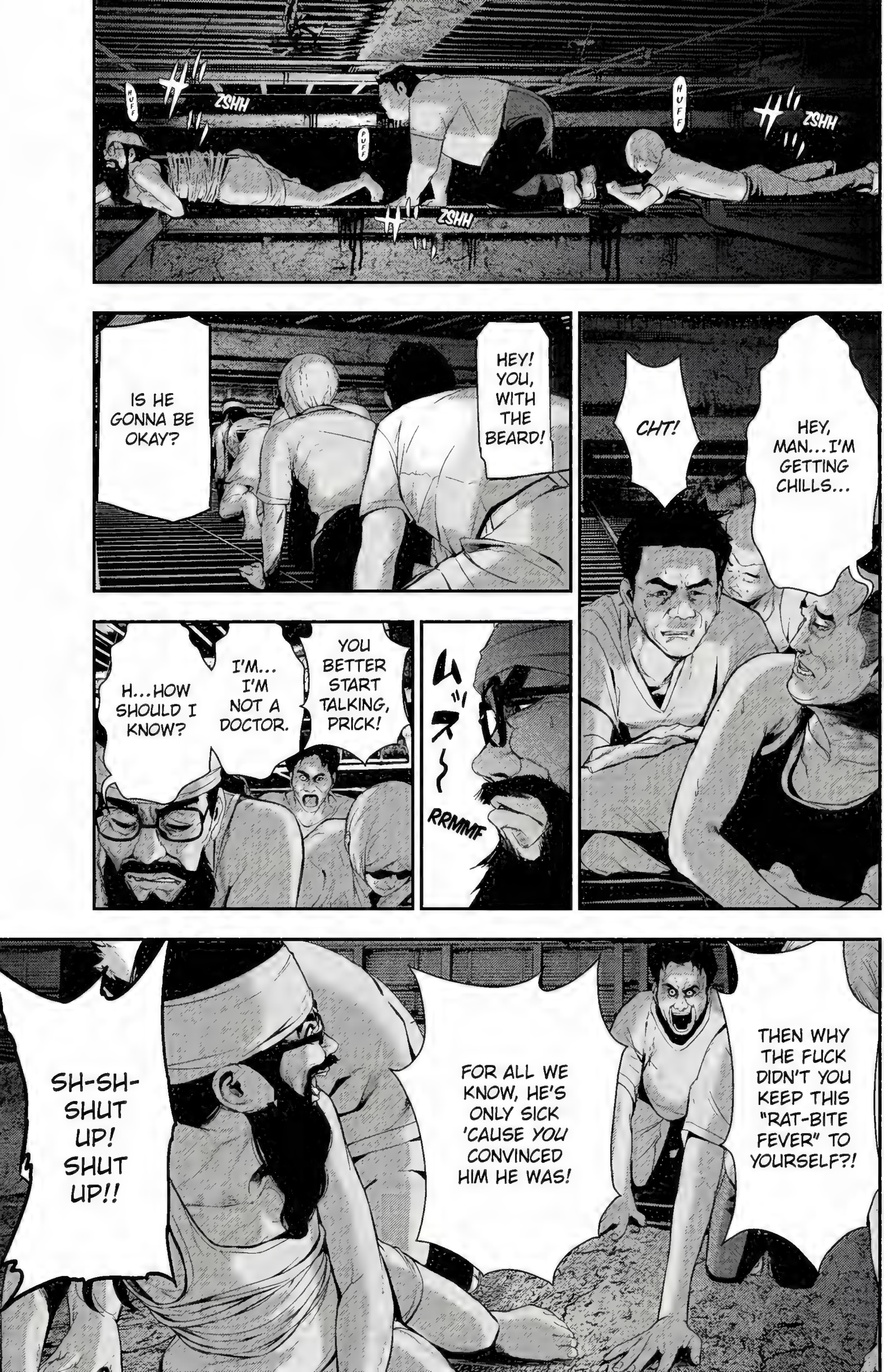

AAH...!
WH-WH-WHAT'S GOING ON?!

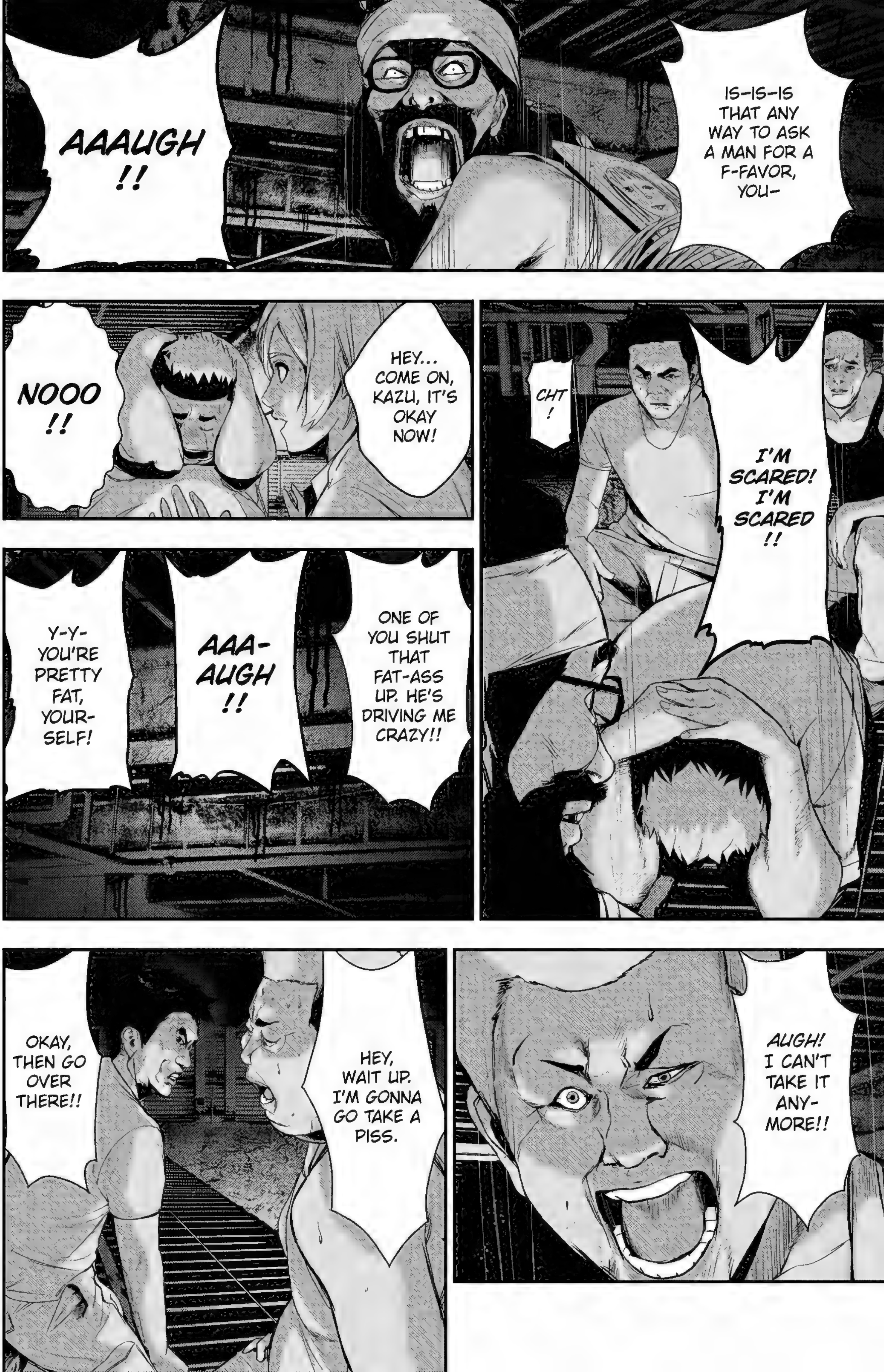

A RAT?!
MOVE IT!
FWAP
DSHH

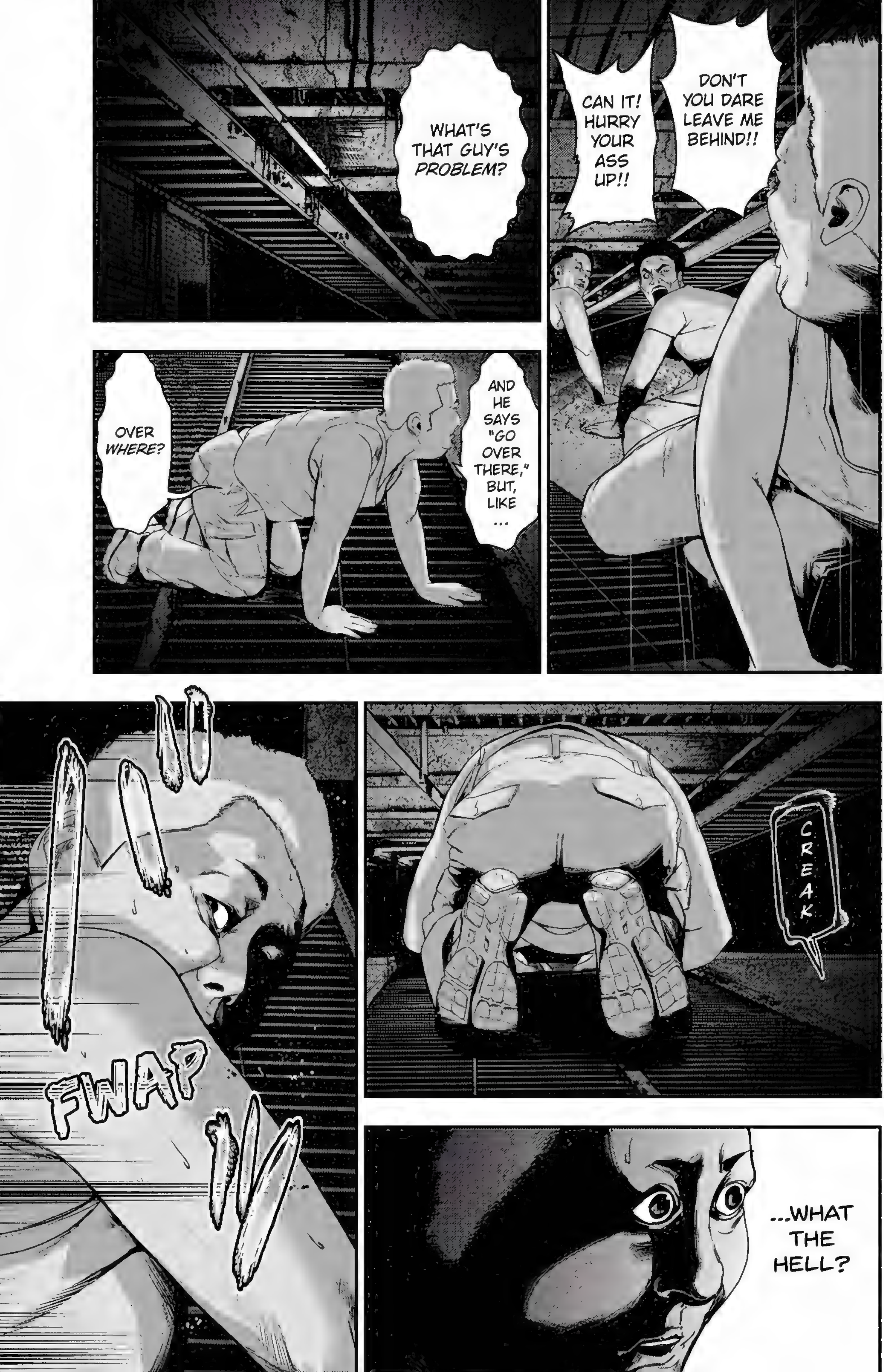

DSHH
DSHH
DSHH
PHEW!
DRIP
DROP
CHECK IT OUT!
BAGGED OURSELVES A WHOPPER!
JESUS ...
IT'S HUGE!
THAT THING'S THE SIZE OF A CAT!

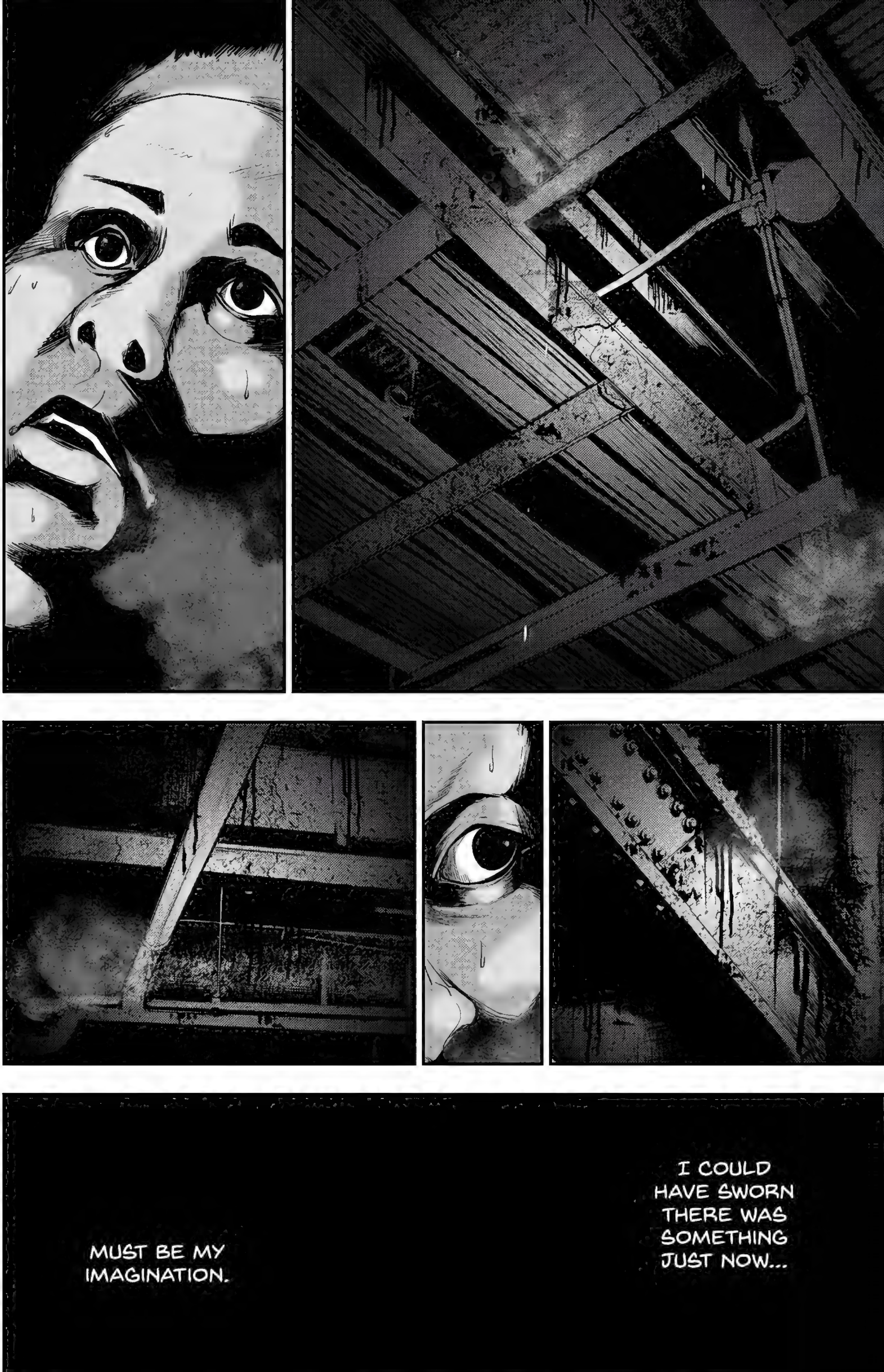

YOU OKAY?
YEAH, I'M FINE. HE JUST BIT ME A LITTLE.
IT...IT BIT YOU?
HUH?
TH... TH... TH-TH-THAT'S NOT GOOD.
Y...YOU HEAR ABOUT GUYS GETTING, LIKE... RAT-BITE FEVER FROM THAT.
REALLY...? AM I GONNA BE ALL RIGHT?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
HEY!
HUH?
DON'T YOU "HUH" ME! IF I DON'T GET TO A HOSPITAL SOON, I'M IN TROUBLE!!
YOU DIPSHITS BETTER PICK UP THE PACE! YOU GOT THAT?!

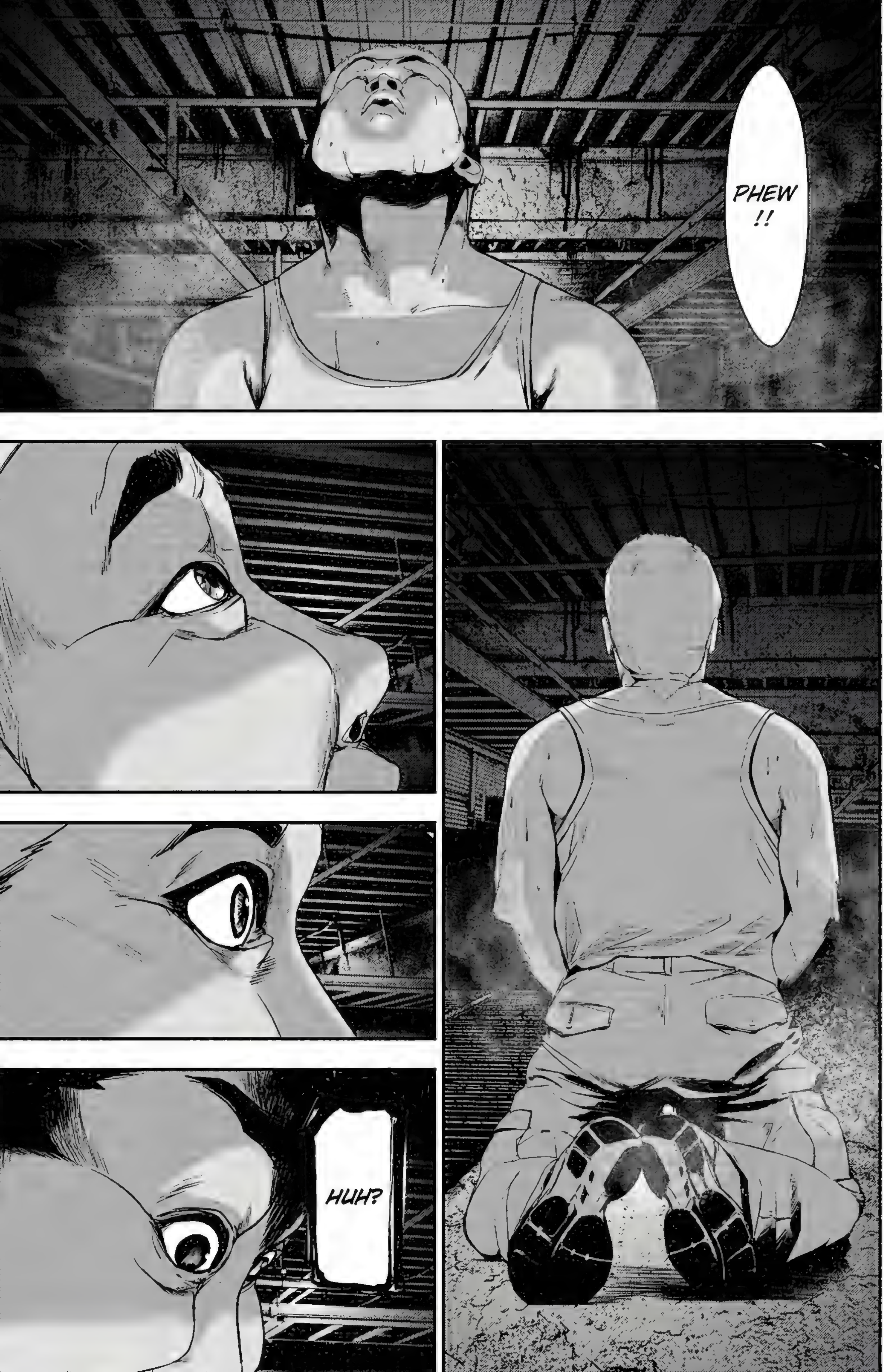

...
COME ON, KAZU. LET'S GO.
I DON'T WANNA! THERE'S A SCARY GUY HERE!
IT'S OKAY. HE'S GONE NOW.
CHT!
I KNEW WE SHOULDN'T HAVE TRUSTED YOU LITTLE SHITS.
ALL YOU'RE DOING IS SLOWING US DOWN...
WHO ASKED YOU...?
COME ON, KAZU.

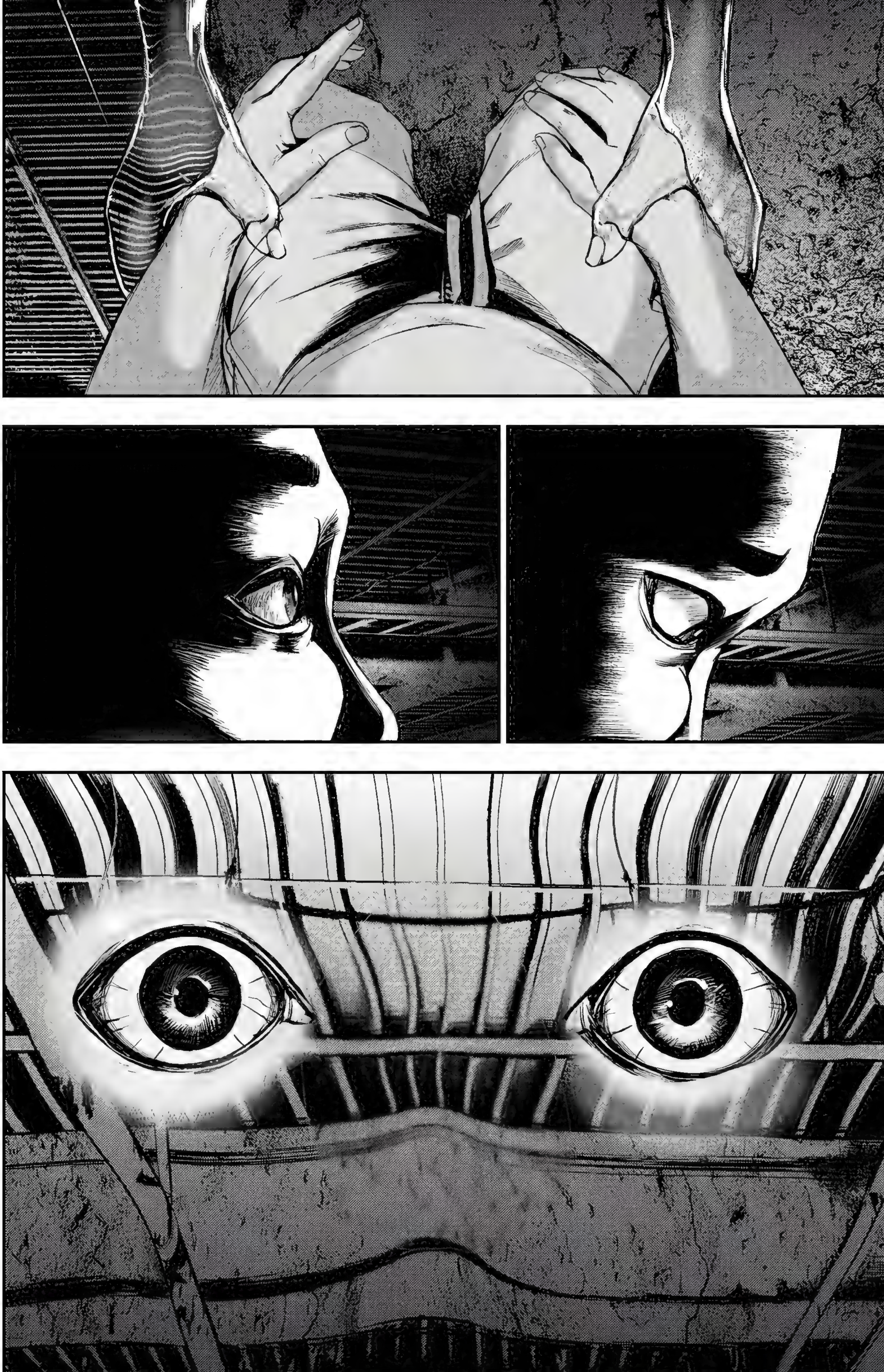

HUFF
ZSHH
ZSHH
PUFF
ZSHH
HUFF
HEY, MAN...I'M GETTING CHILLS...
CHT!
HEY! YOU, WITH THE BEARD!
IS HE GONNA BE OKAY?
ムズ～
RRMMF
YOU BETTER START TALKING, PRICK!
I'M... I'M NOT A DOCTOR.
H...HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
THEN WHY THE FUCK DIDN'T YOU KEEP THIS "RAT-BITE FEVER" TO YOURSELF?!
FOR ALL WE KNOW, HE'S ONLY SICK 'CAUSE *YOU* CONVINCED HIM HE WAS!
SH-SH-SHUT UP! SHUT UP!!

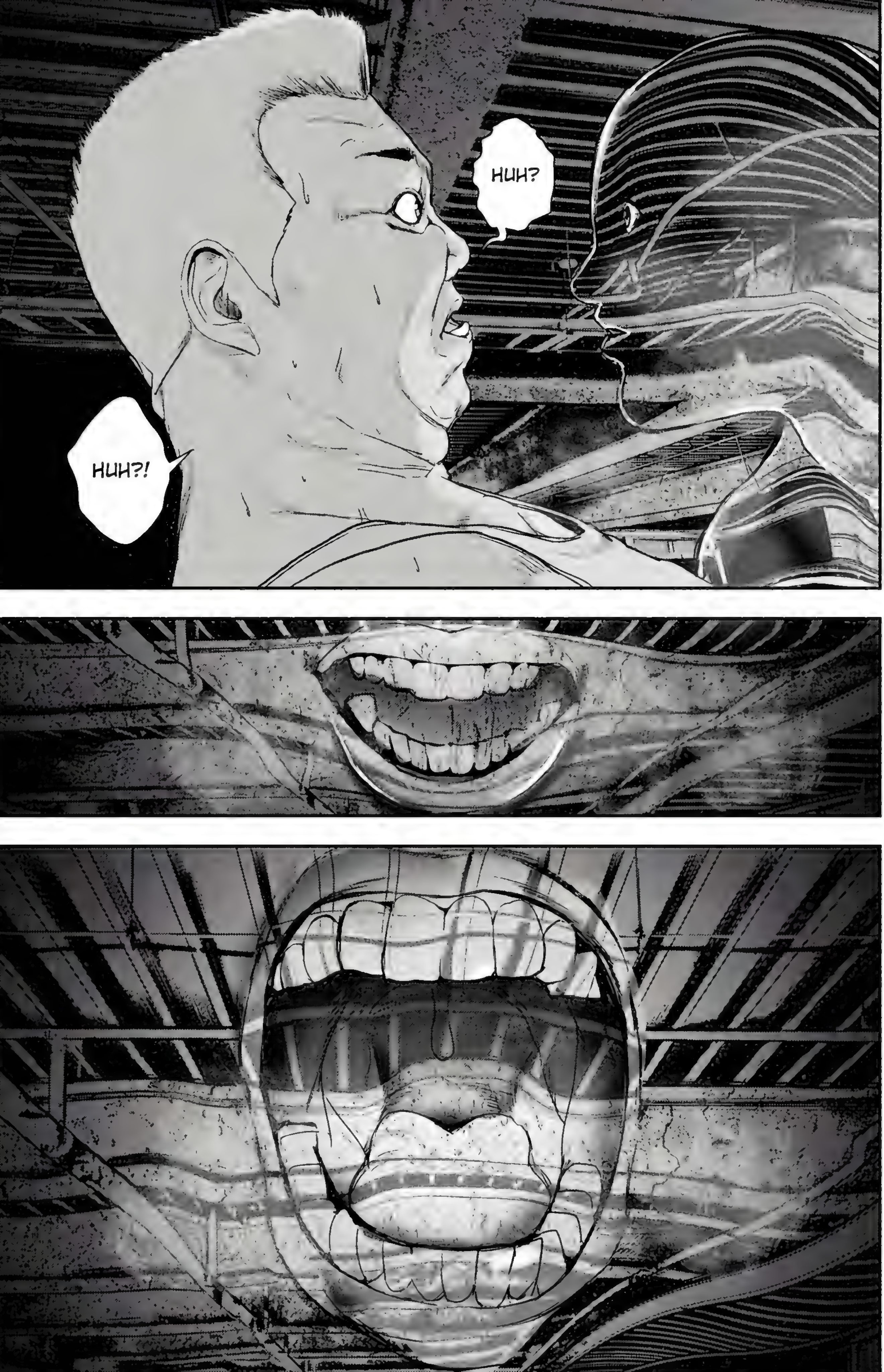

IS-IS-IS THAT ANY WAY TO ASK A MAN FOR A F-FAVOR, YOU-
AAAUGH!!
CHT!
I'M SCARED! I'M SCARED!!
HEY... COME ON, KAZU, IT'S OKAY NOW!
NOOO!!
ONE OF YOU SHUT THAT FAT-ASS UP. HE'S DRIVING ME CRAZY!!
AAA-AUGH!!
Y-Y-YOU'RE PRETTY FAT, YOURSELF!
AUGH! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!!
HEY, WAIT UP. I'M GONNA GO TAKE A PISS.
OKAY, THEN GO OVER THERE!!

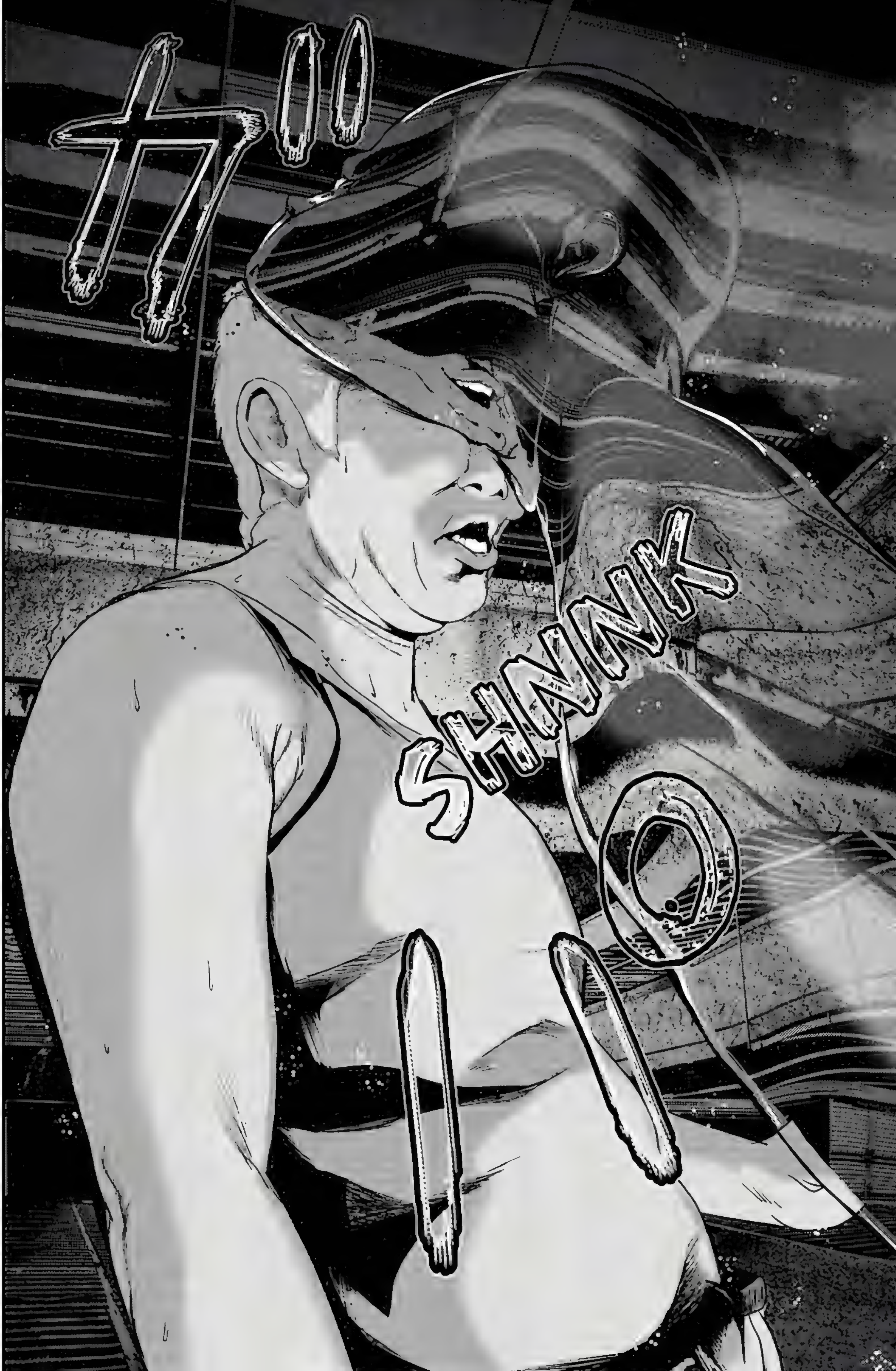

DON'T YOU DARE LEAVE ME BEHIND!!
CAN IT! HURRY YOUR ASS UP!!
WHAT'S THAT GUY'S *PROBLEM?*
AND HE SAYS "GO OVER THERE," BUT, LIKE ...
OVER *WHERE?*
CREAK
...WHAT THE HELL?
FWAP

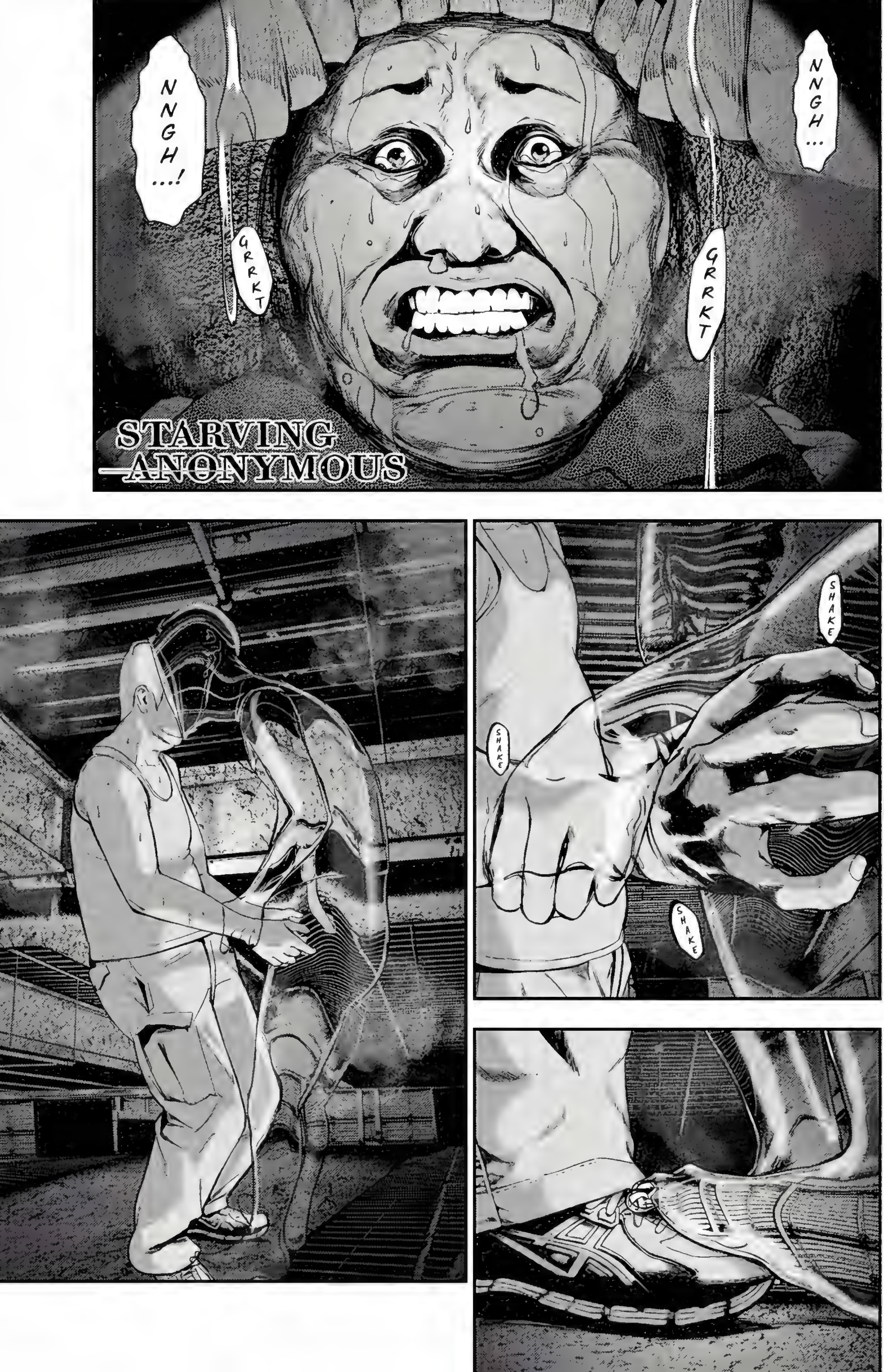

I COULD HAVE SWORN THERE WAS SOMETHING JUST NOW...
MUST BE MY IMAGINATION.


PHEW !!
HUH?

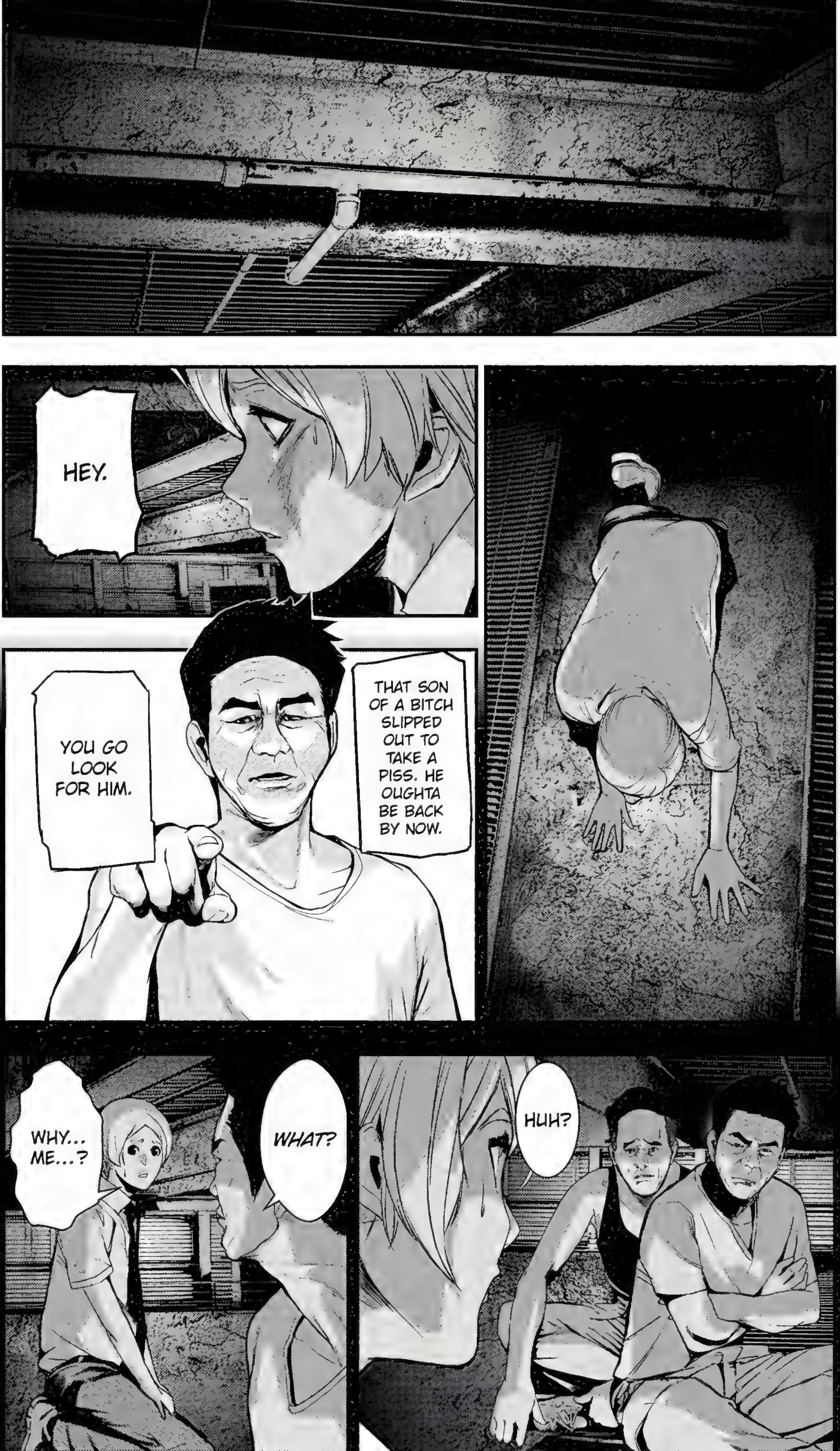


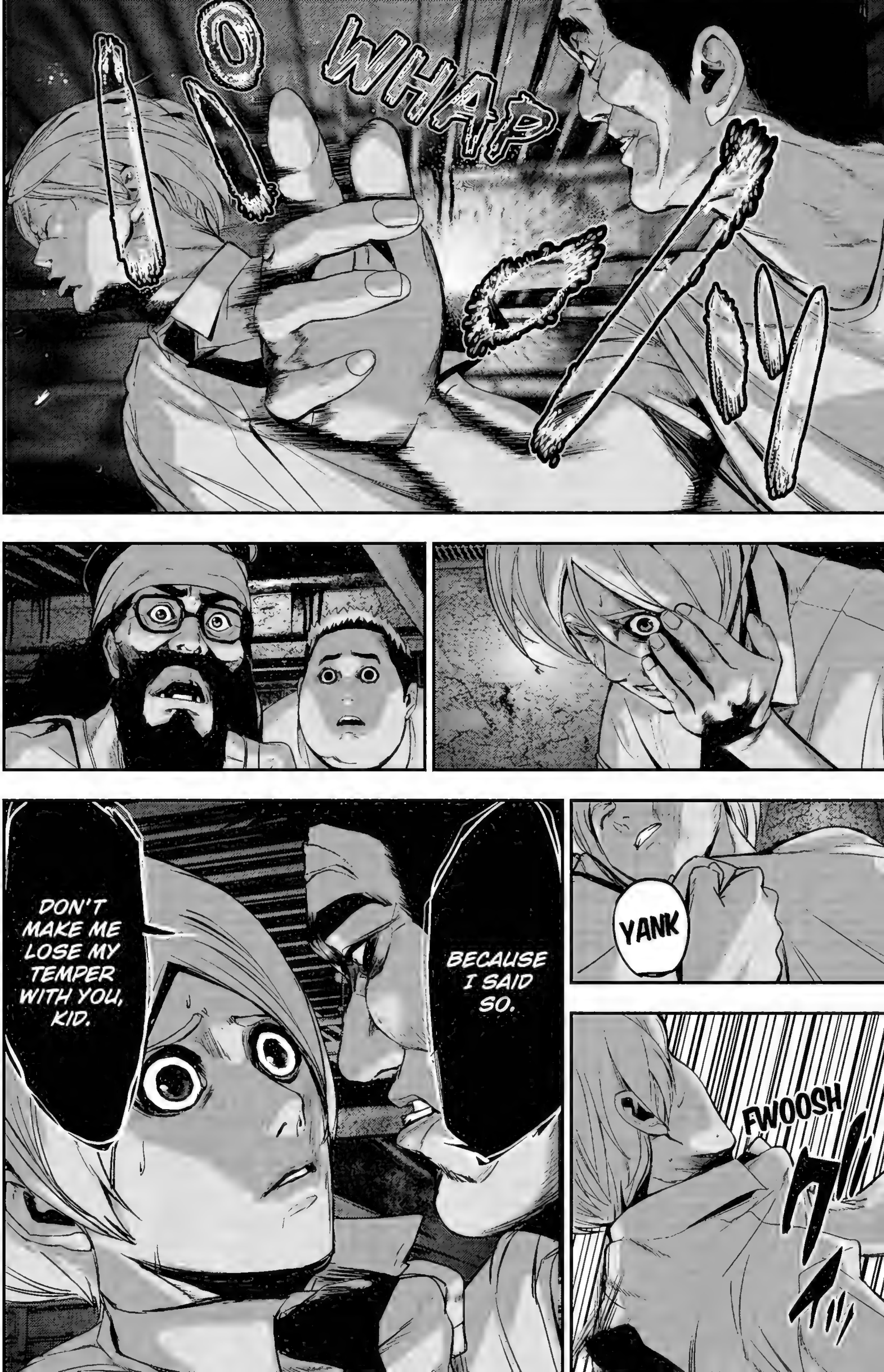

HUH?
HUH?!

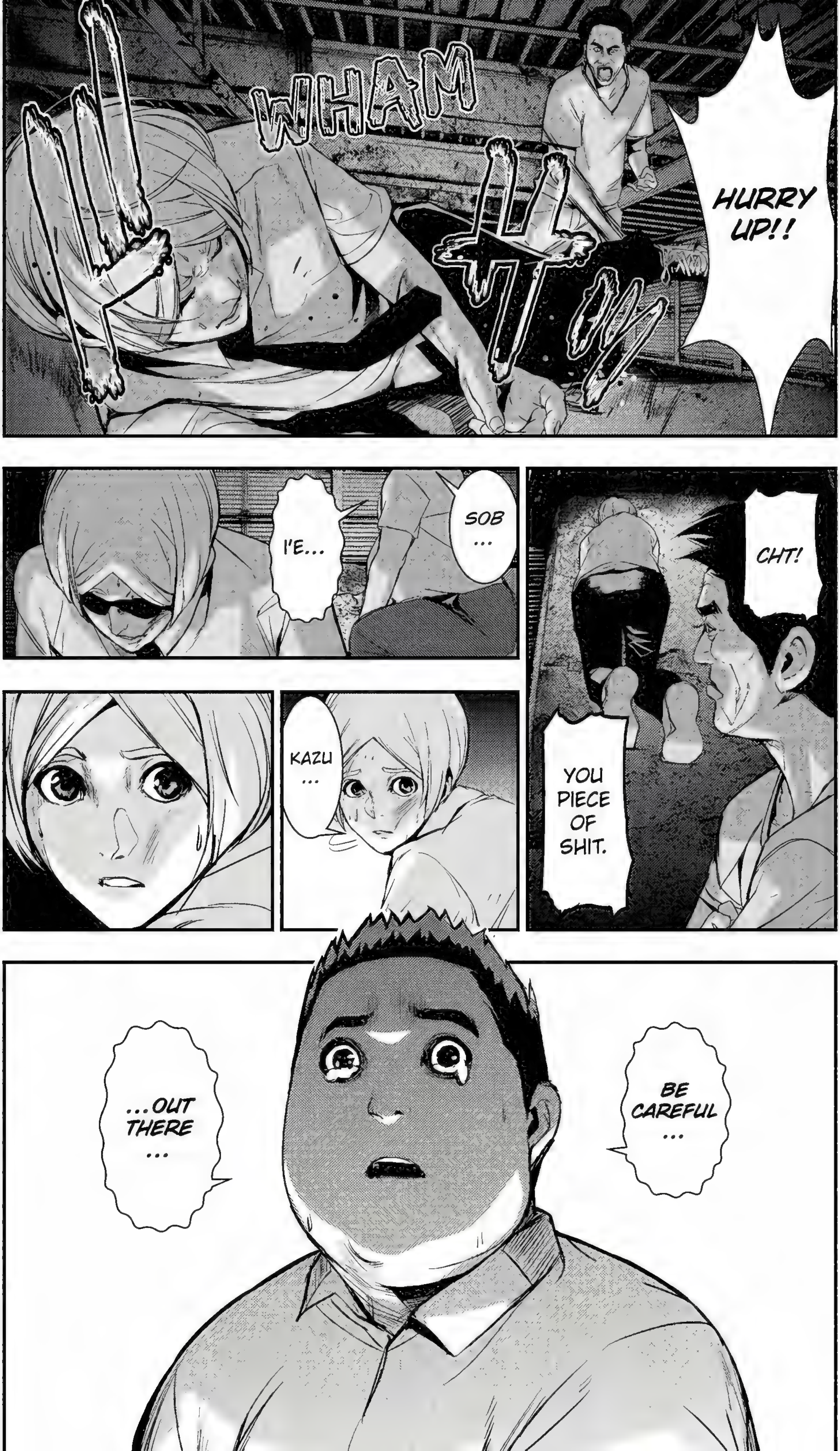

ガ
SHNNK

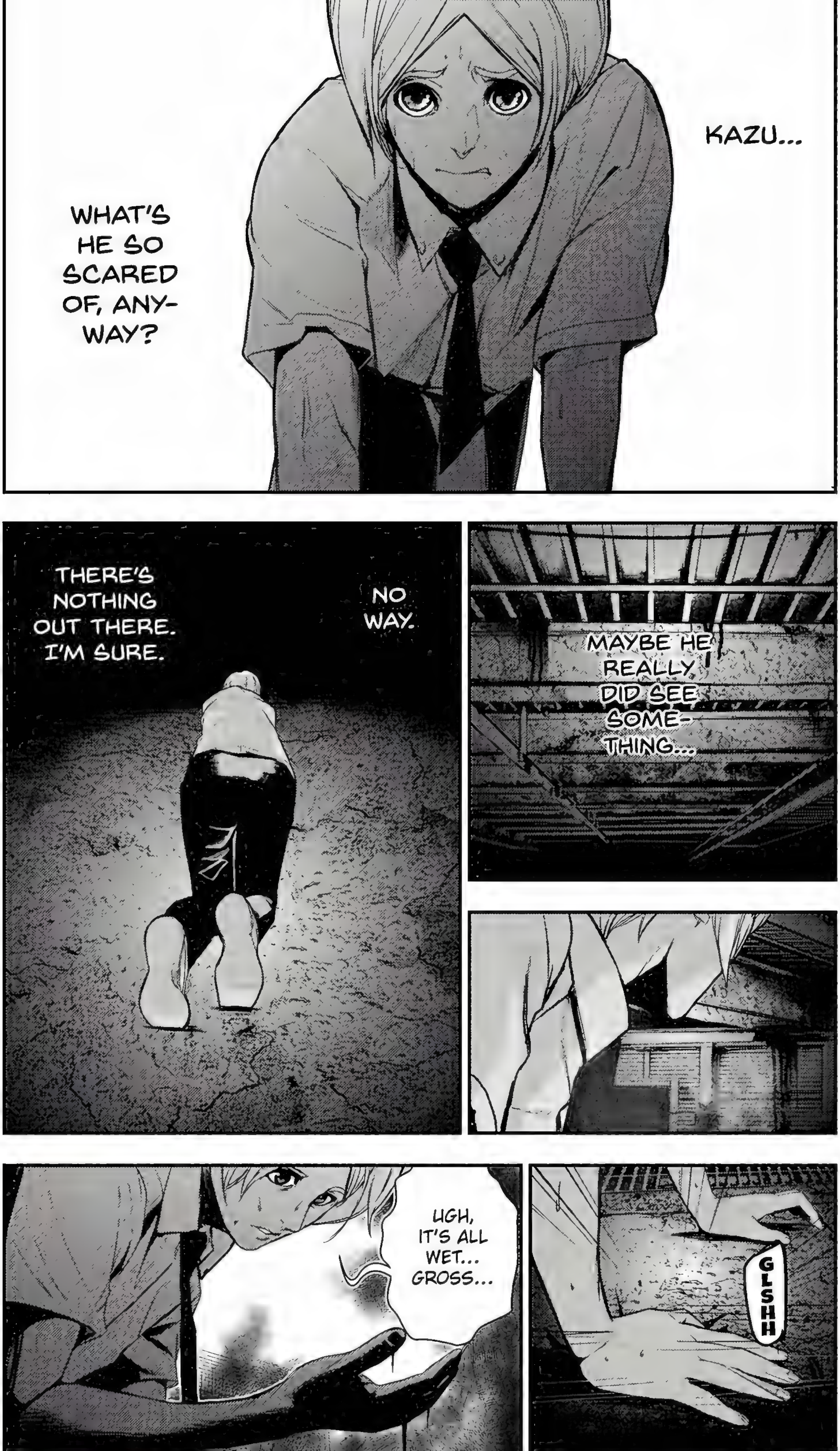

NNGH…
GRRKT
NNGH…!
GRRKT
STARVING ANONYMOUS
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE

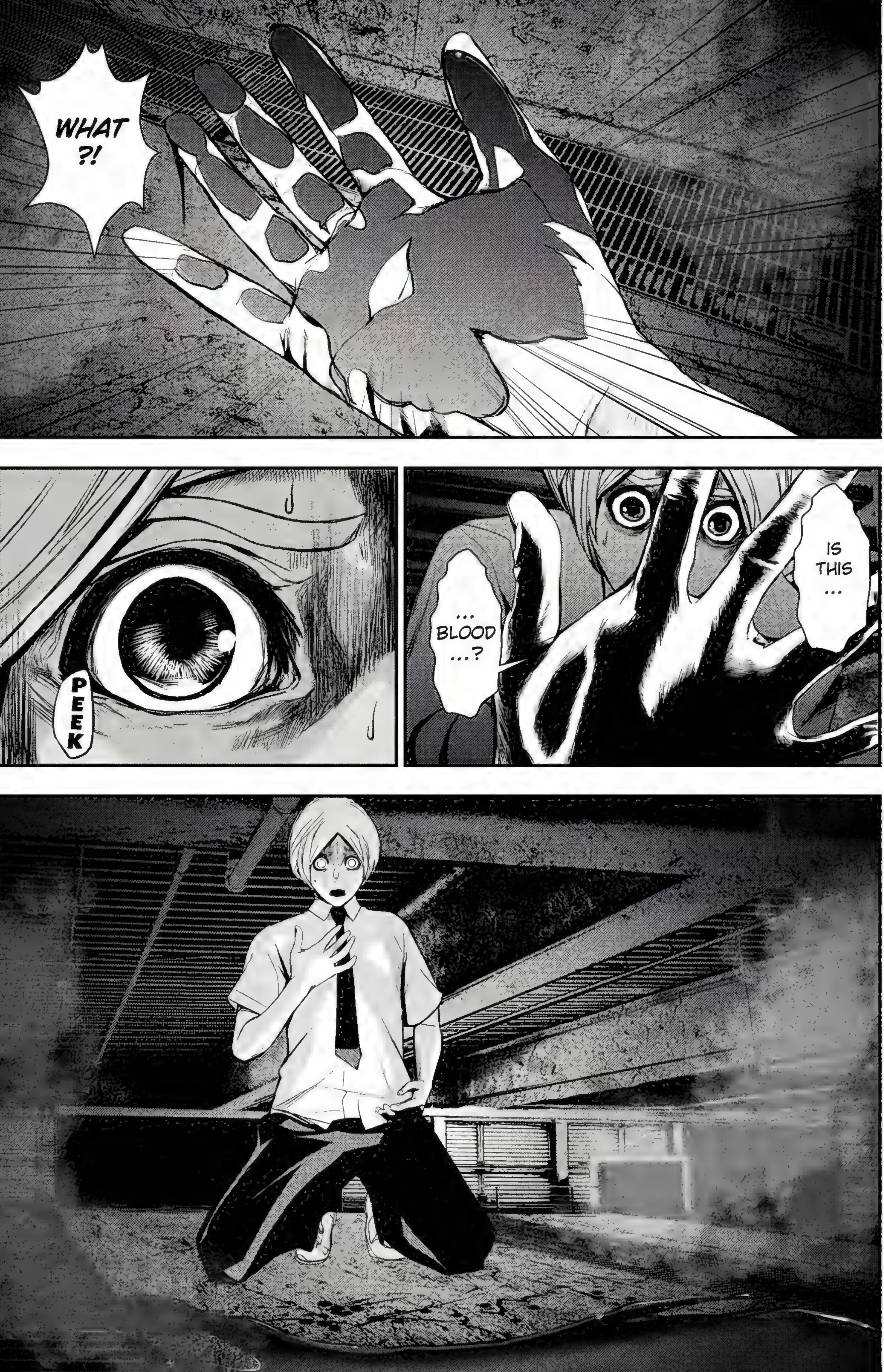
Chapter 20

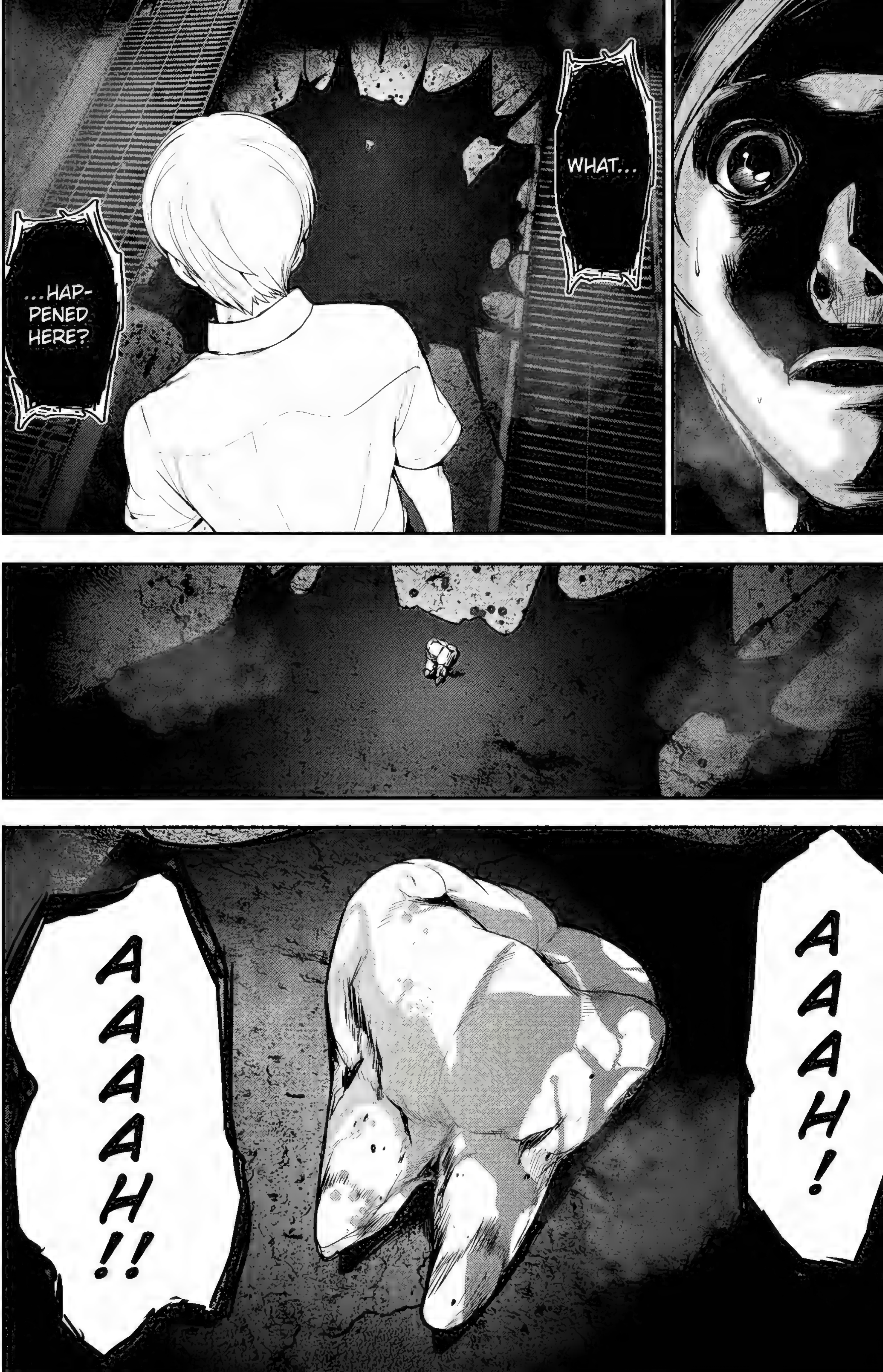

HEY.
THAT SON OF A BITCH SLIPPED OUT TO TAKE A PISS. HE OUGHTA BE BACK BY NOW.
YOU GO LOOK FOR HIM.
HUH?
WHAT?
WHY... ME...?

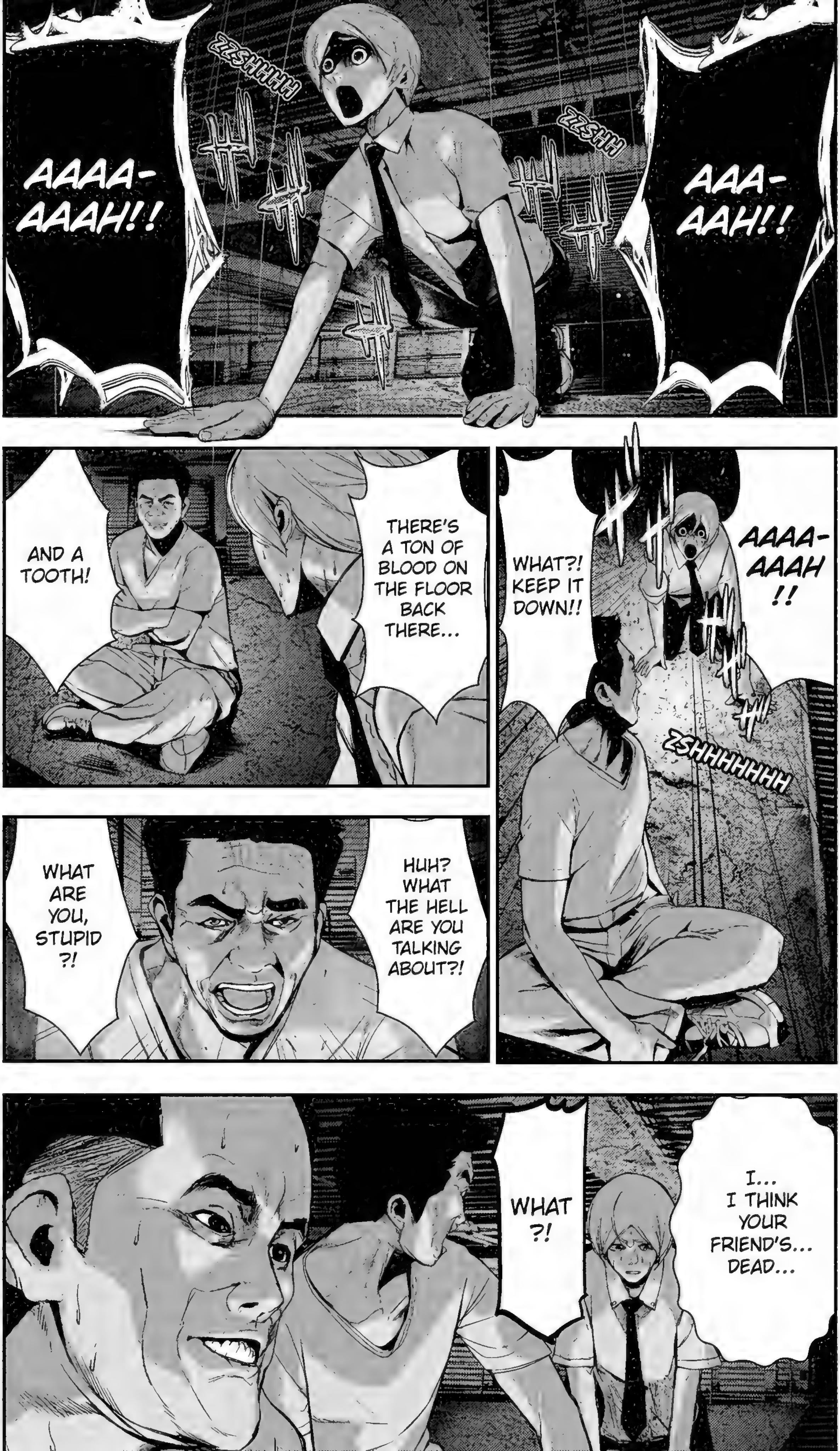

WHAP
BECAUSE I SAID SO.
DON'T MAKE ME LOSE MY TEMPER WITH YOU, KID.
YANK
FWOOSH

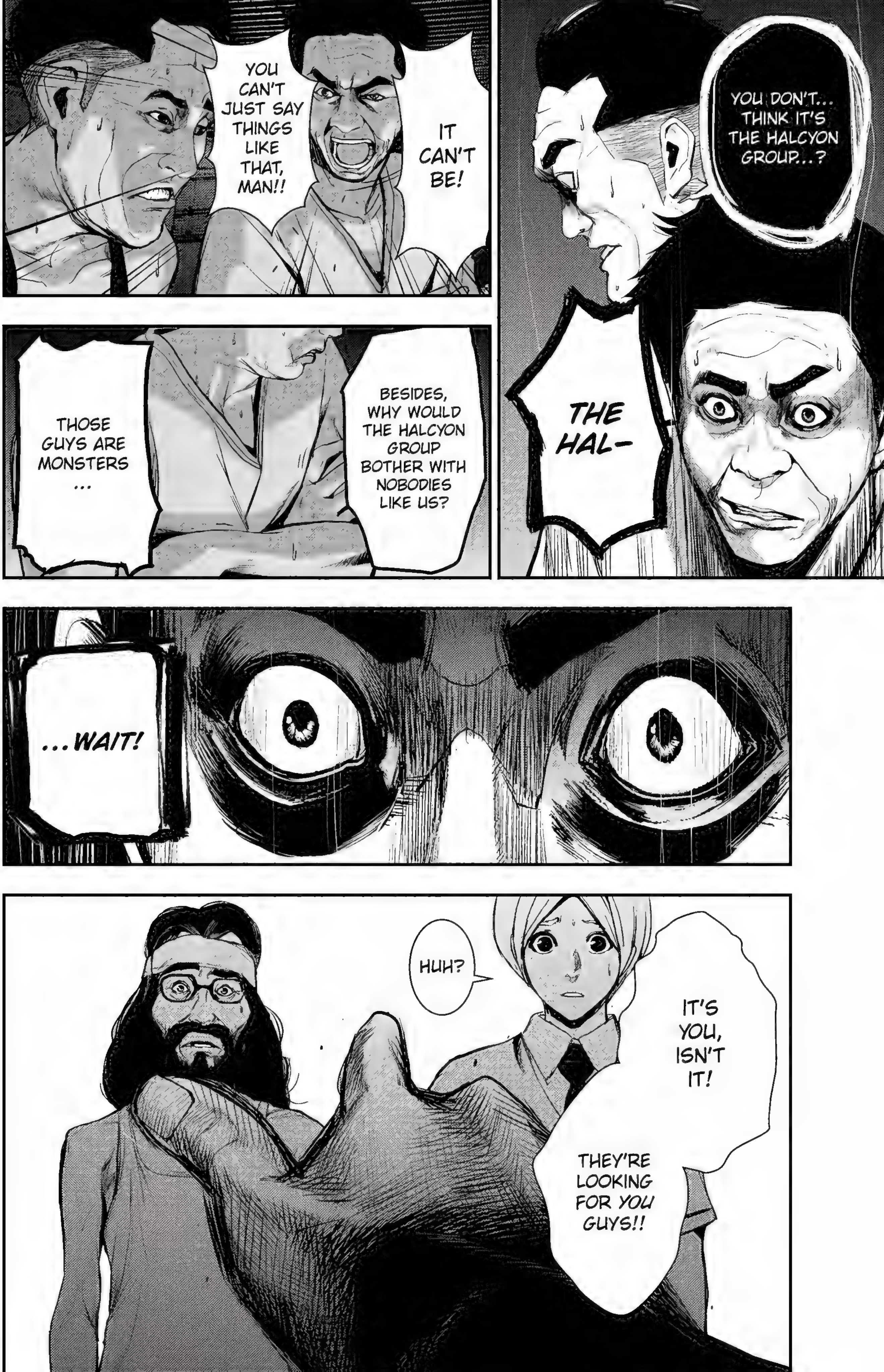

WHAM
HURRY UP!!
CHT!
YOU PIECE OF SHIT.
SOB...
I'E...
KAZU...
BE CAREFUL...
...OUT THERE...

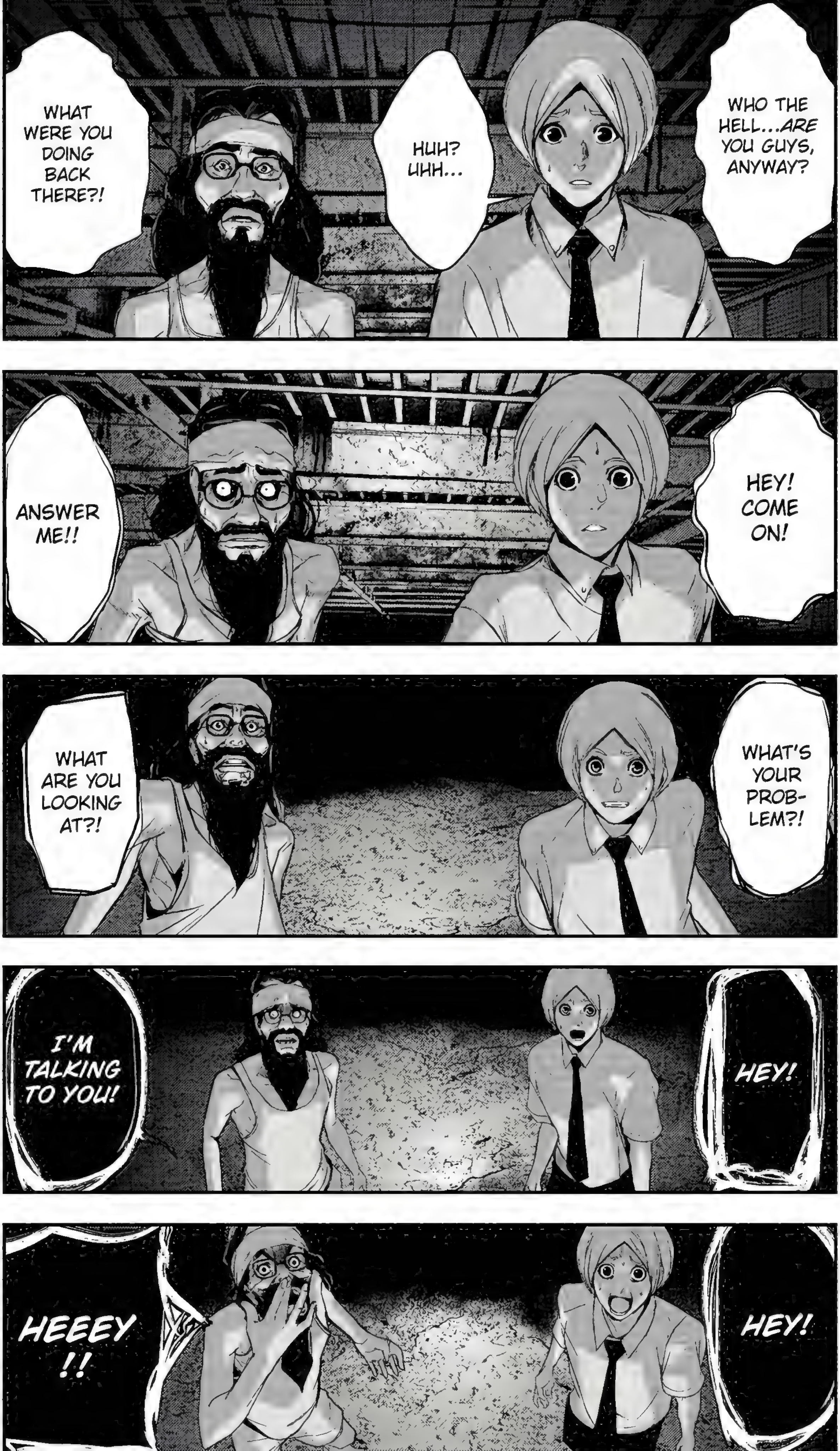

KAZU...
WHAT'S HE SO SCARED OF, ANYWAY?
NO WAY.
THERE'S NOTHING OUT THERE. I'M SURE.
MAYBE HE REALLY DID SEE SOMETHING...
GLSHH
UGH, IT'S ALL WET... GROSS...

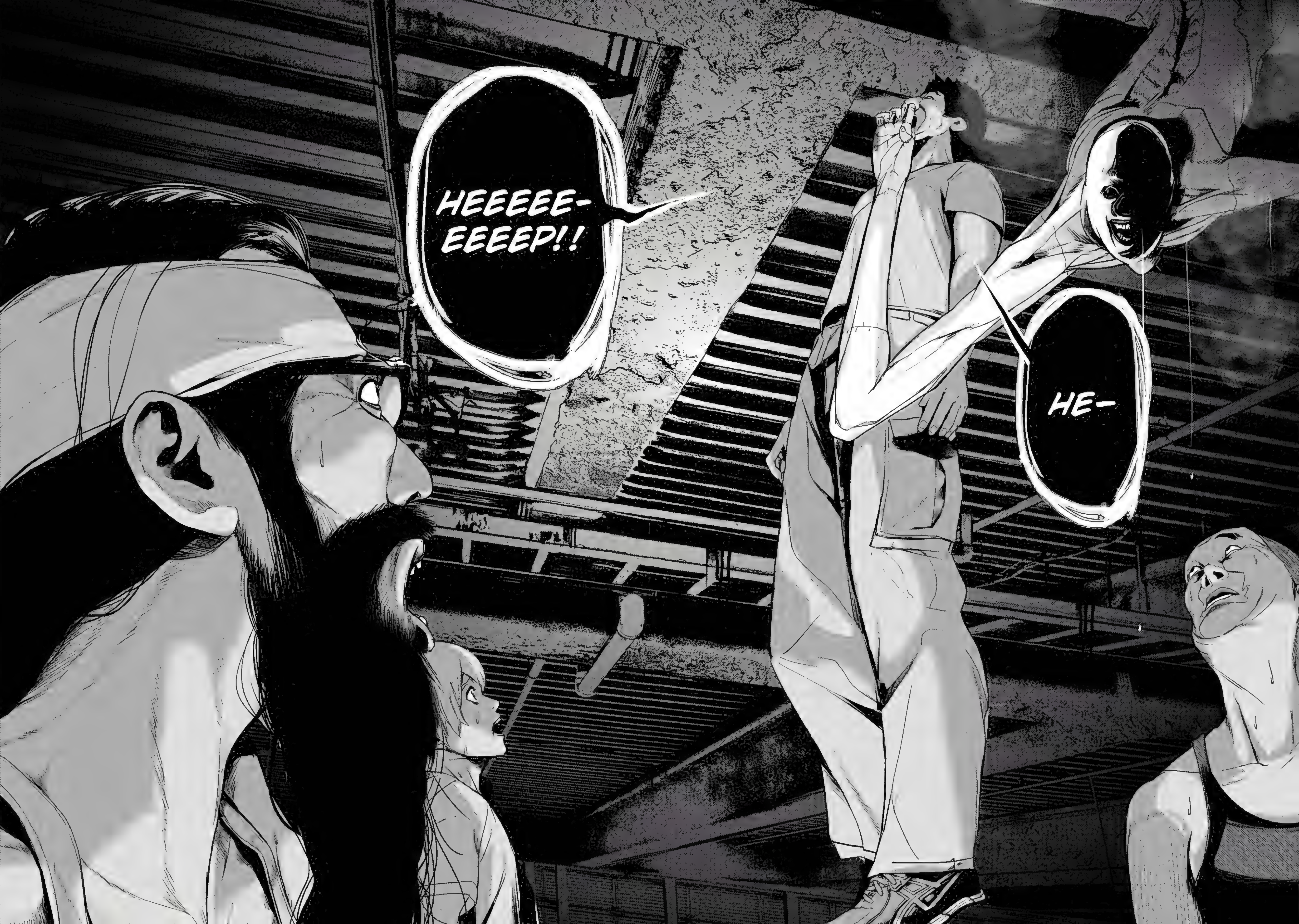

WHAT ?!
IS THIS ...
... BLOOD ...?
PEEK

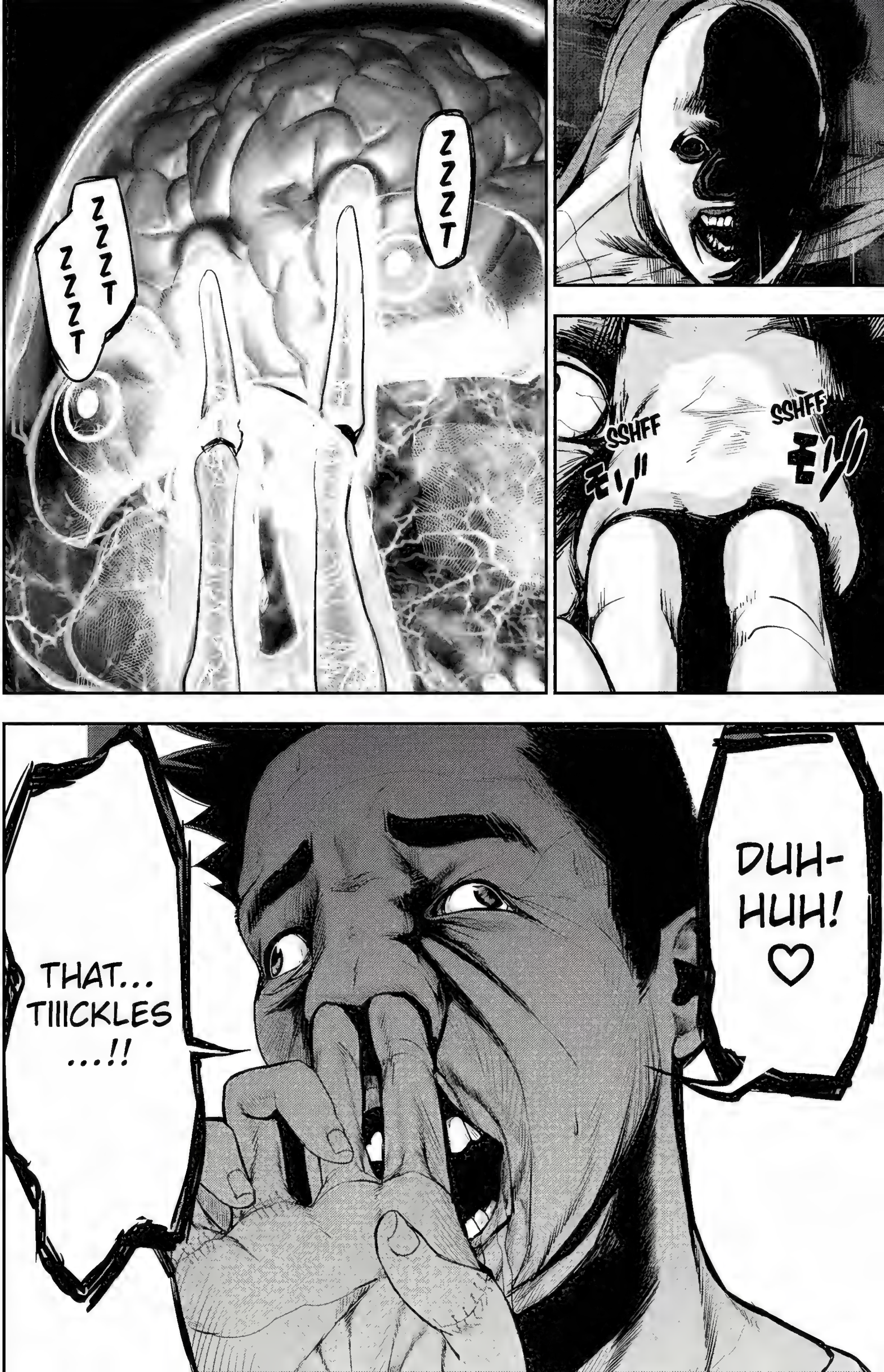

WHAT...
...HAPPENED HERE?
AAAH!
AAAAH!!

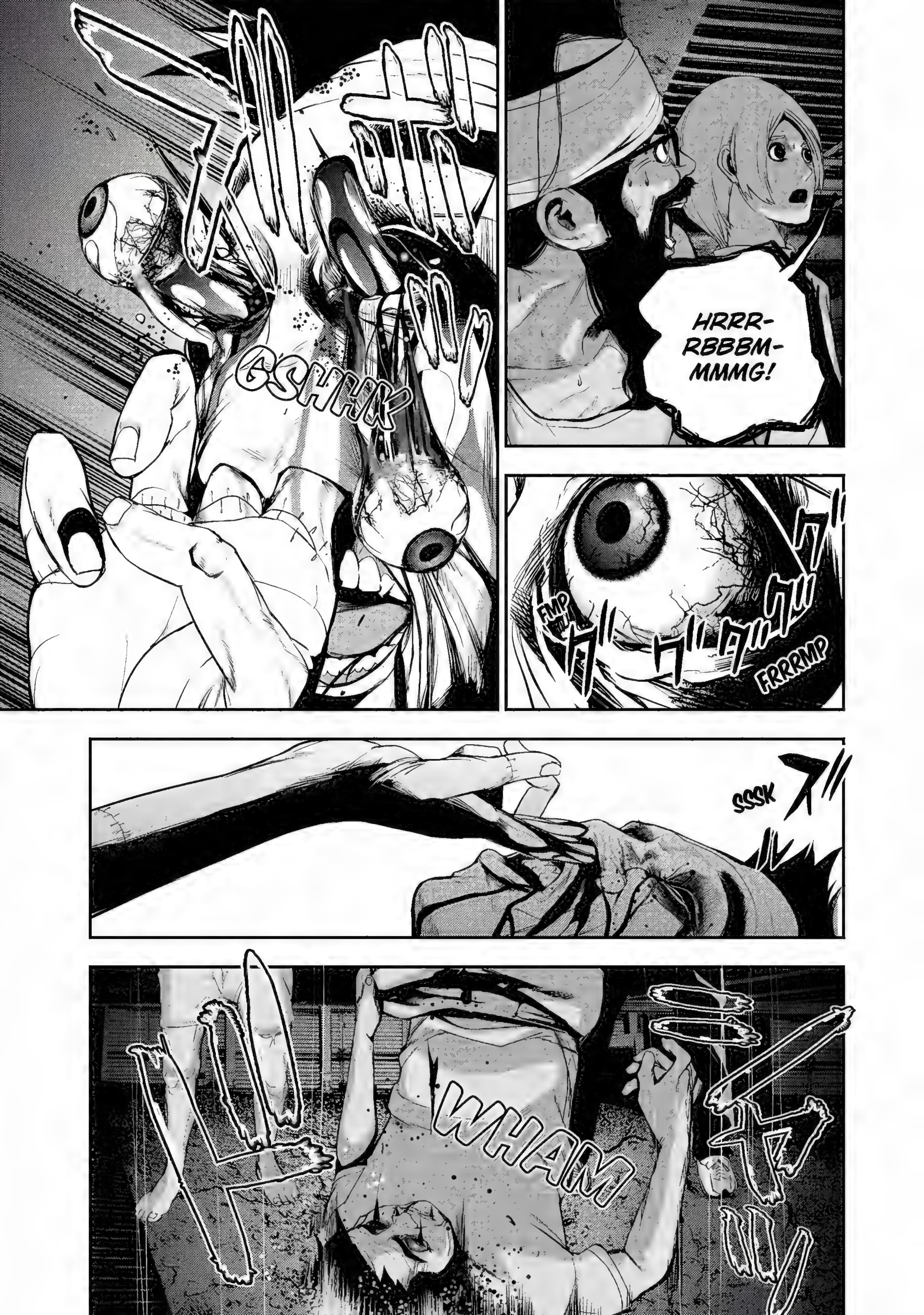

AAA-AAH!!
ZZSHH
ZZSHHHH
AAAA-AAAH!!
AAAA-AAAH!!
WHAT?! KEEP IT DOWN!!
ZSHHHHHHH
THERE'S A TON OF BLOOD ON THE FLOOR BACK THERE...
AND A TOOTH!
HUH? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID?!
I... I THINK YOUR FRIEND'S... DEAD...
WHAT?!

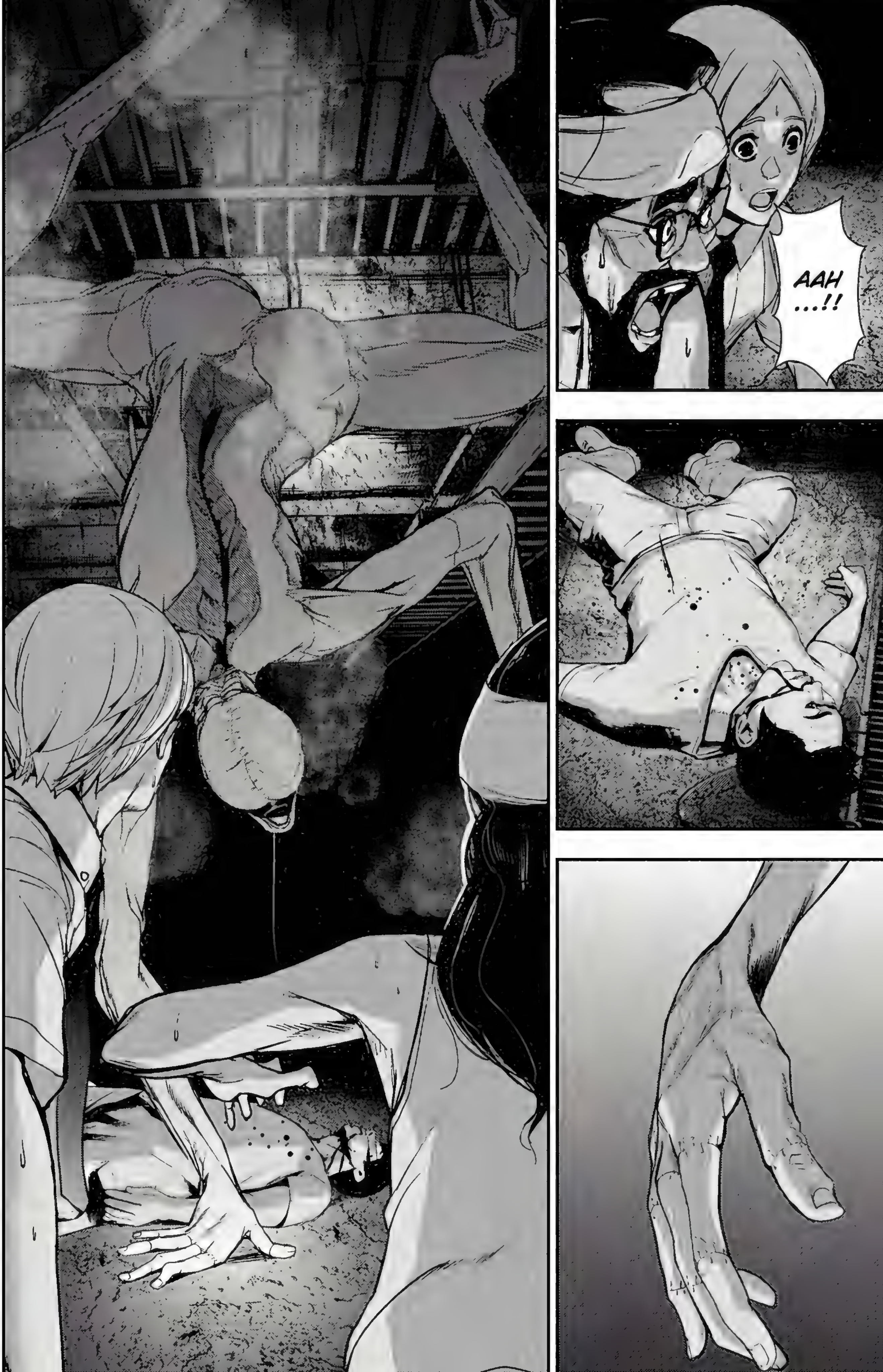

YOU DON'T... THINK IT'S THE HALCYON GROUP...?
THE HAL-
IT CAN'T BE!
YOU CAN'T JUST SAY THINGS LIKE THAT, MAN!!
BESIDES, WHY WOULD THE HALCYON GROUP BOTHER WITH NOBODIES LIKE US?
THOSE GUYS ARE MONSTERS...
...WAIT!
IT'S YOU, ISN'T IT!
THEY'RE LOOKING FOR *YOU* GUYS!!
HUH?

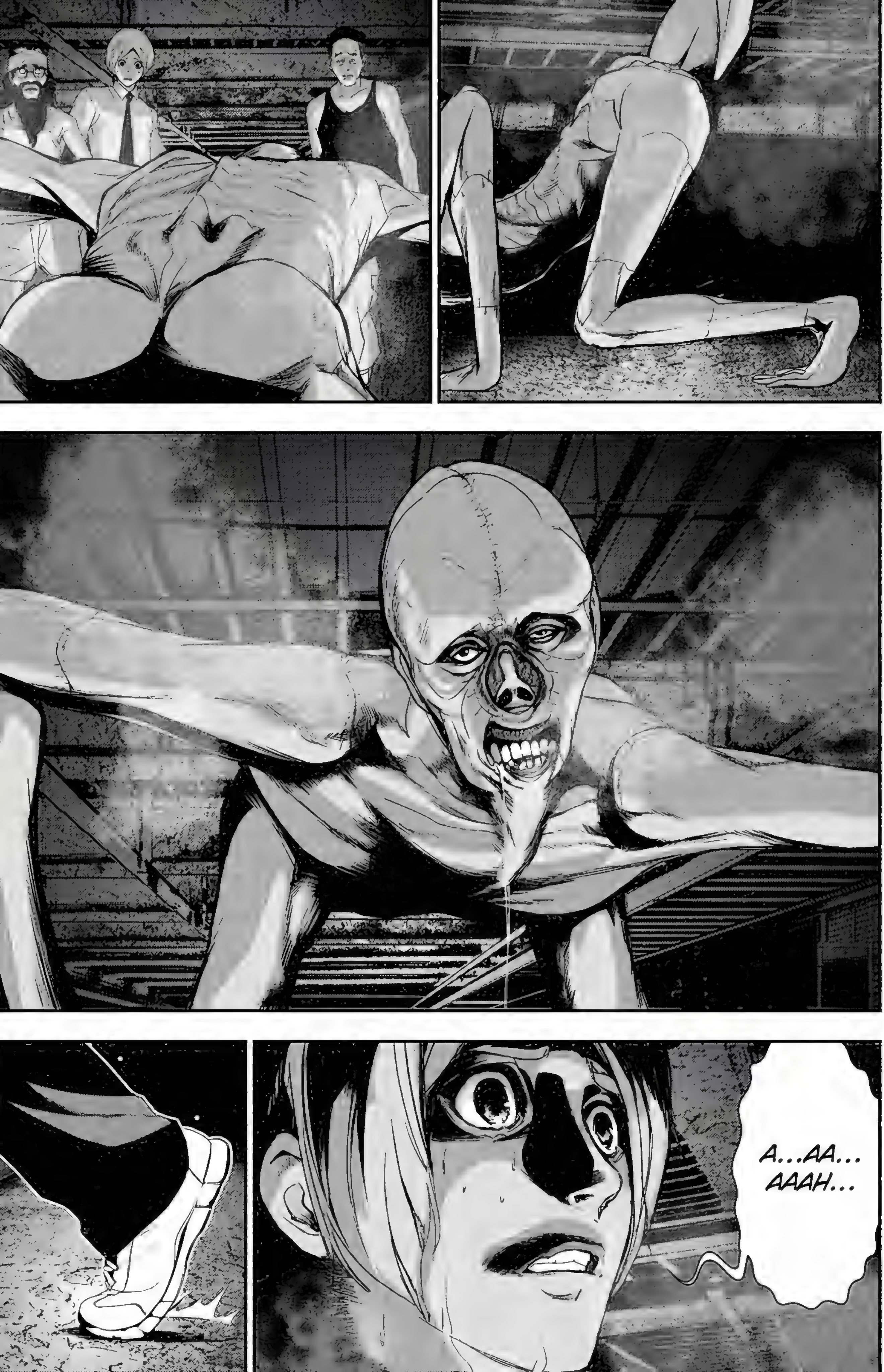

WHO THE HELL...*ARE* YOU GUYS, ANYWAY?
HUH? UHH...
WHAT WERE YOU DOING BACK THERE?!
HEY! COME ON!
ANSWER ME!!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?!
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?!
HEY!
I'M TALKING TO YOU!
HEY!
HEEEY!!

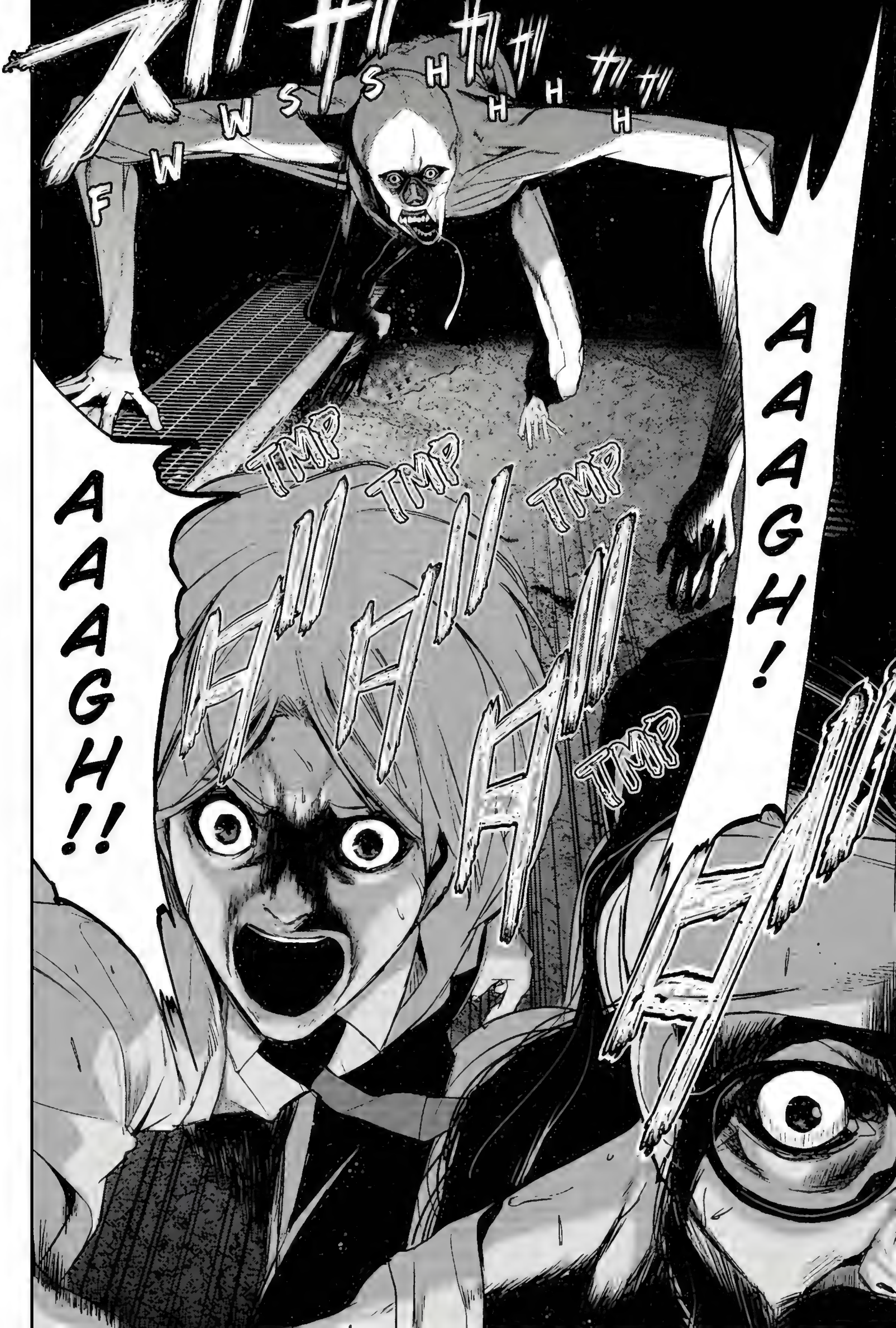

HE-
HEEEEEE-EEEEP!!


SSHFF
SSHFF
ZZZT
ZZZT ZZZT
DUH-HUH! ♡
THAT... TIIICKLES ...!!

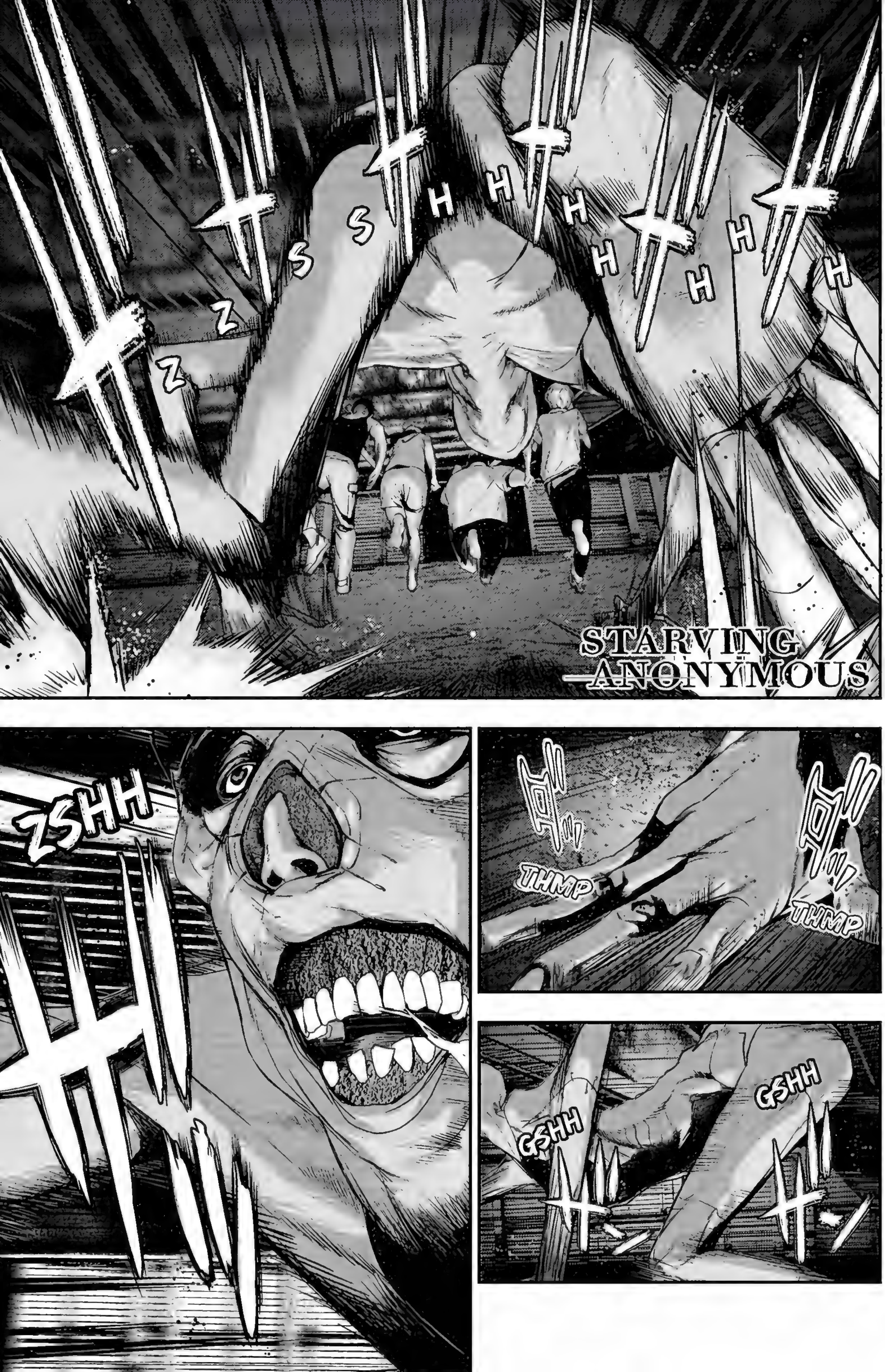

HRRR-RBBBM-MMMG!
FMP
FRRRMP
GSHHK
SSSK
WHAM


AAH ...!!

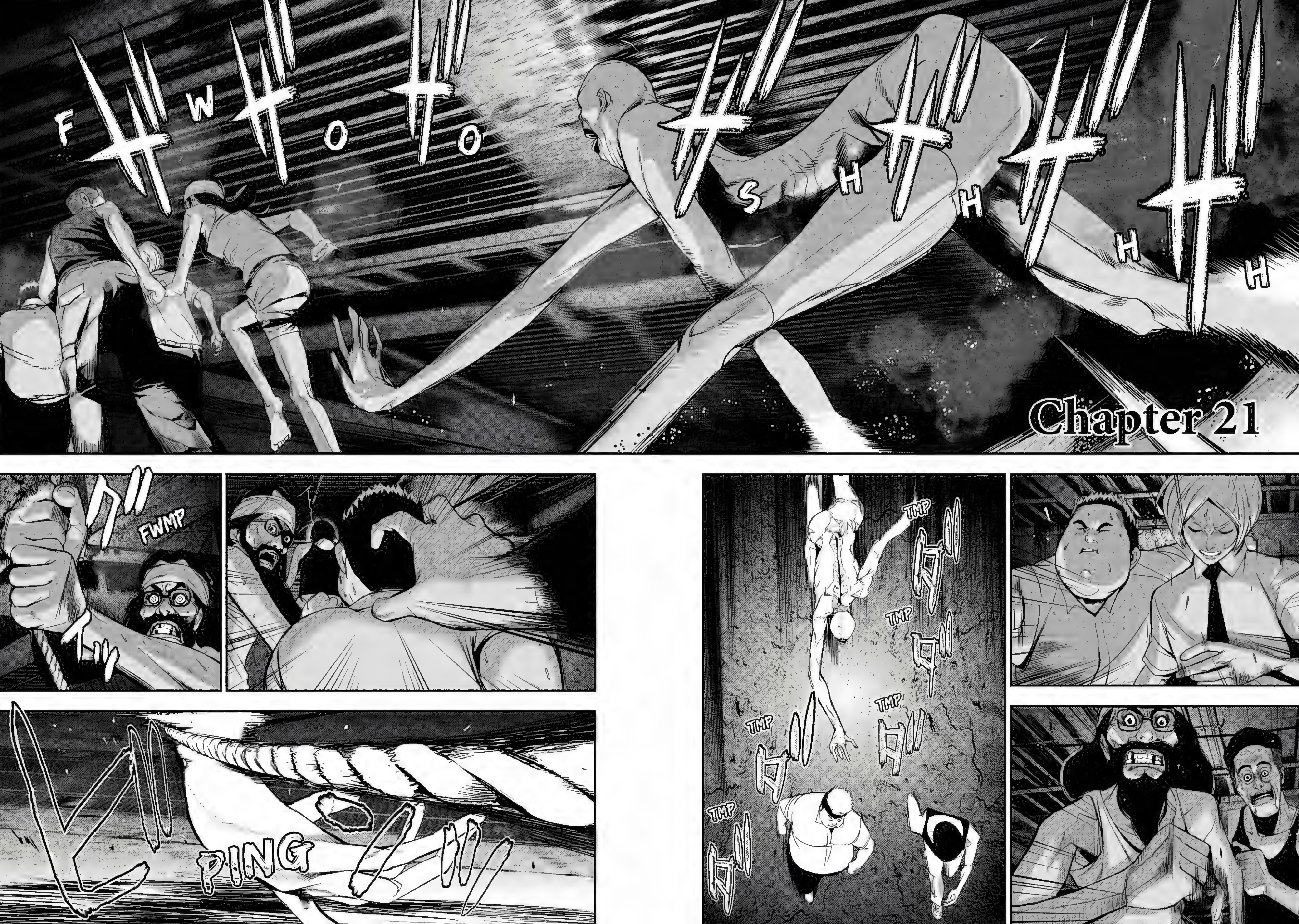

A...AA...
AAAH...

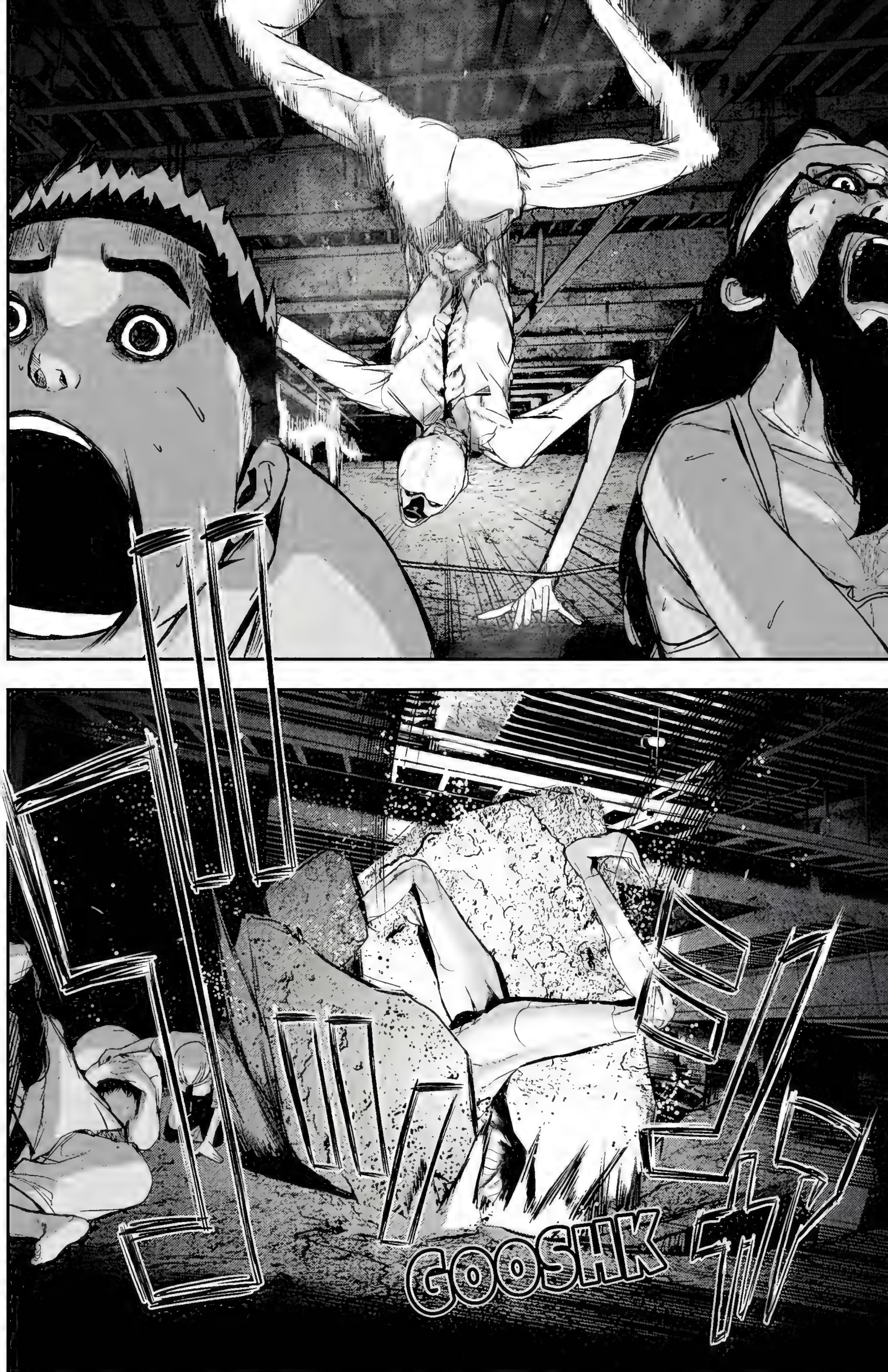


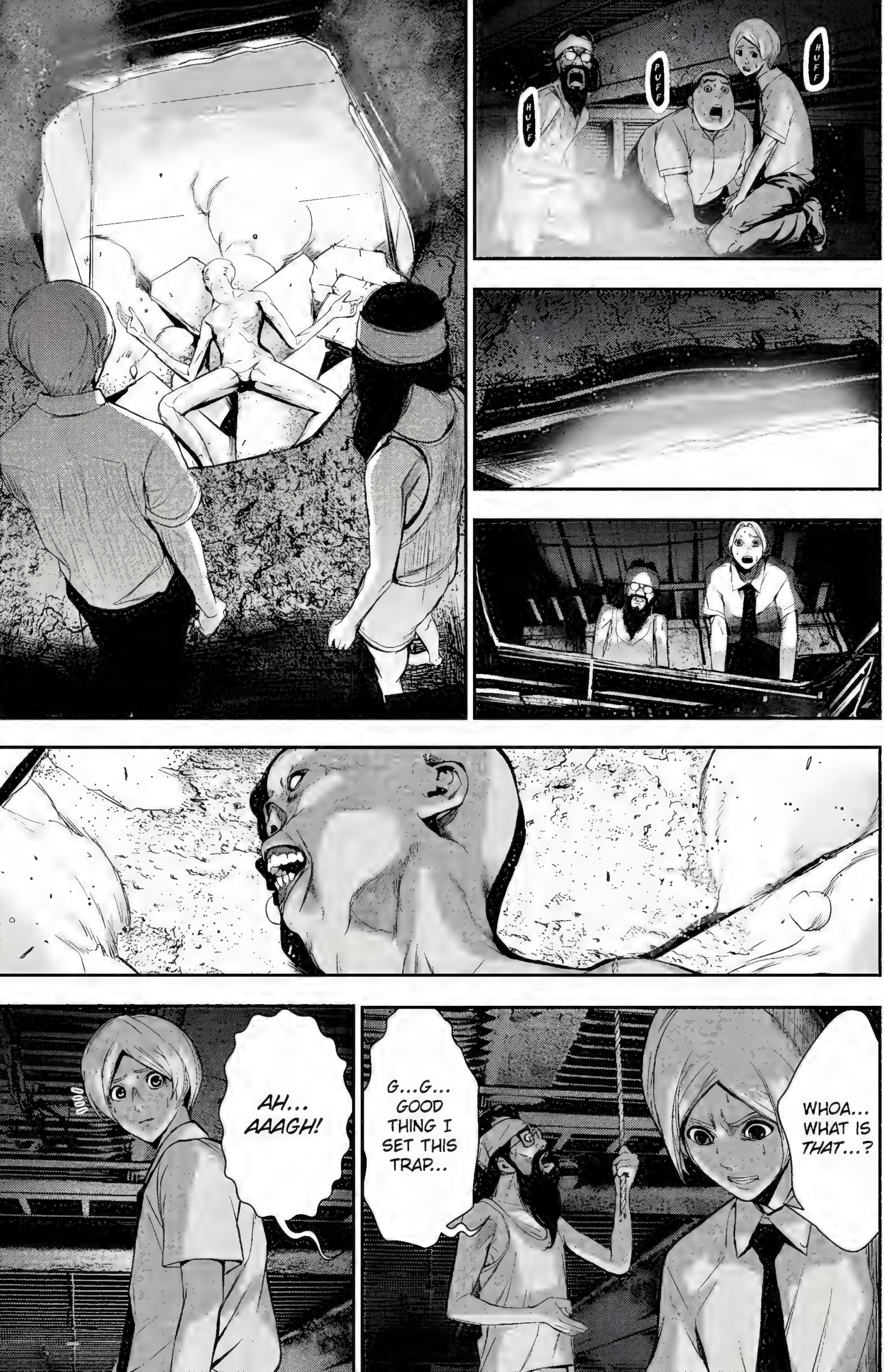
スザザザ
FWSSHHH
AAAAGH!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
ダダダダ
AAAAGH!!

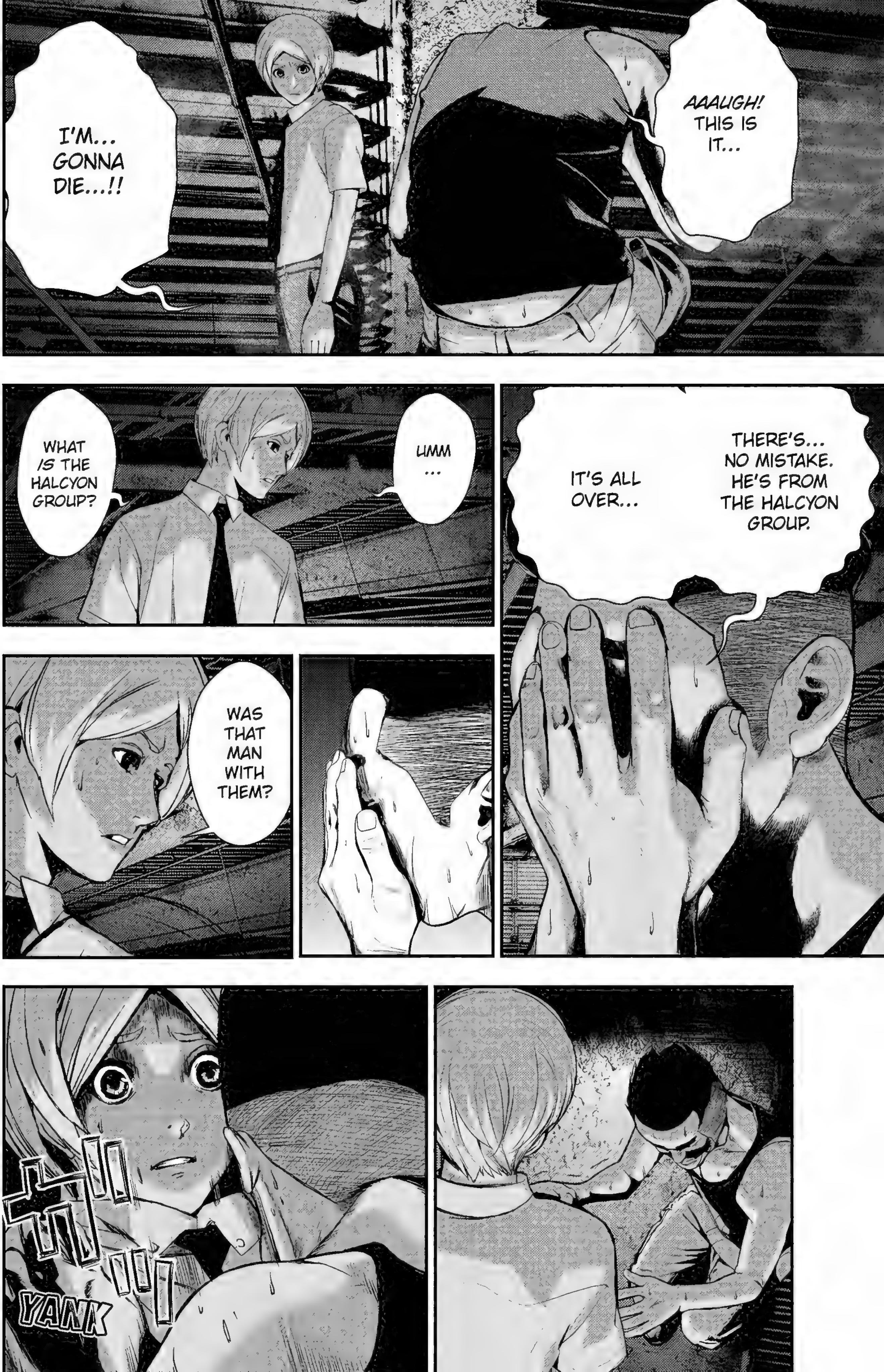

ZZSSHHHHHHH
STARVING ANONYMOUS
THMP
THMP
GSHH
GSHH
ZSHH

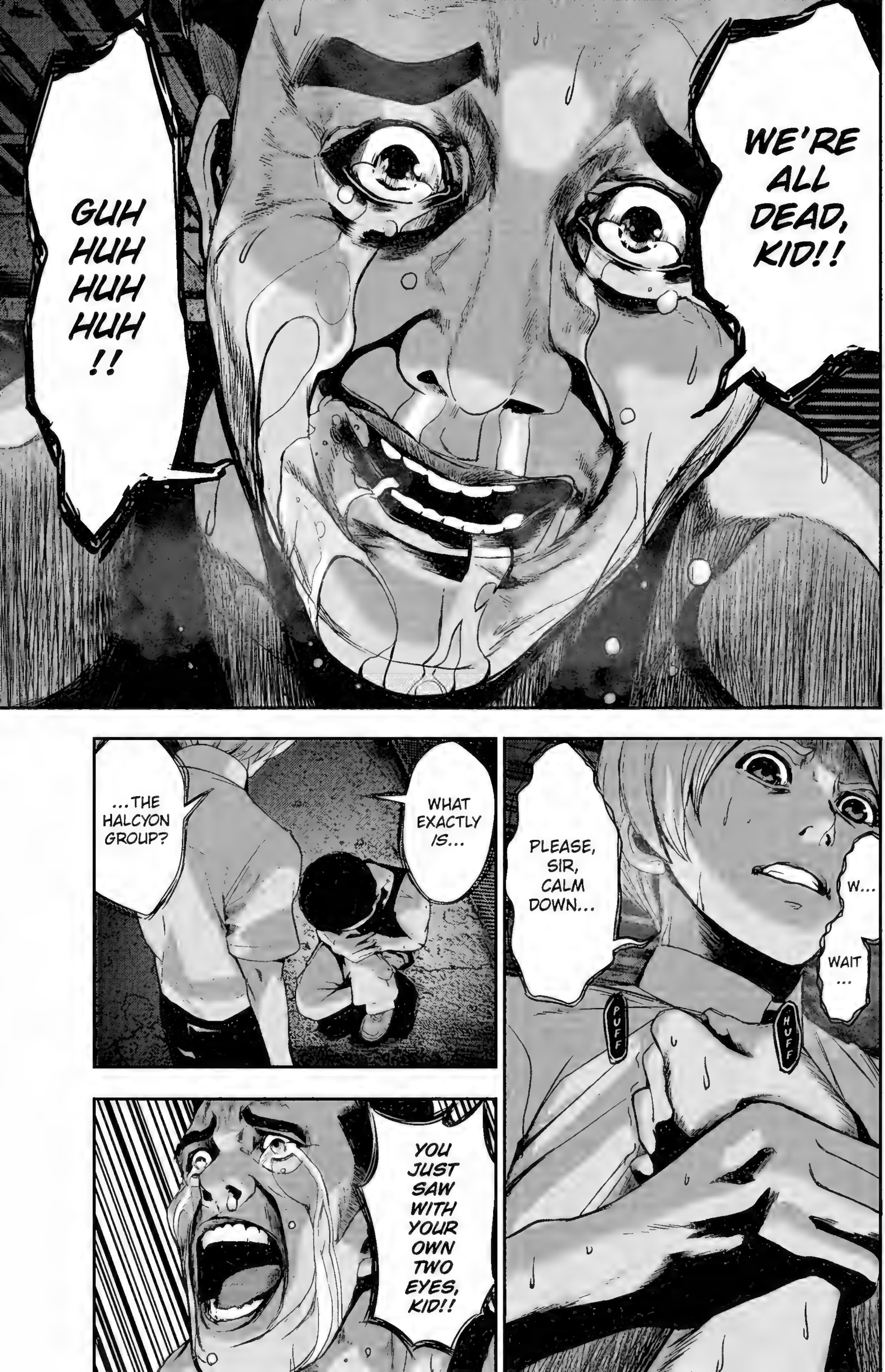
Chapter 21

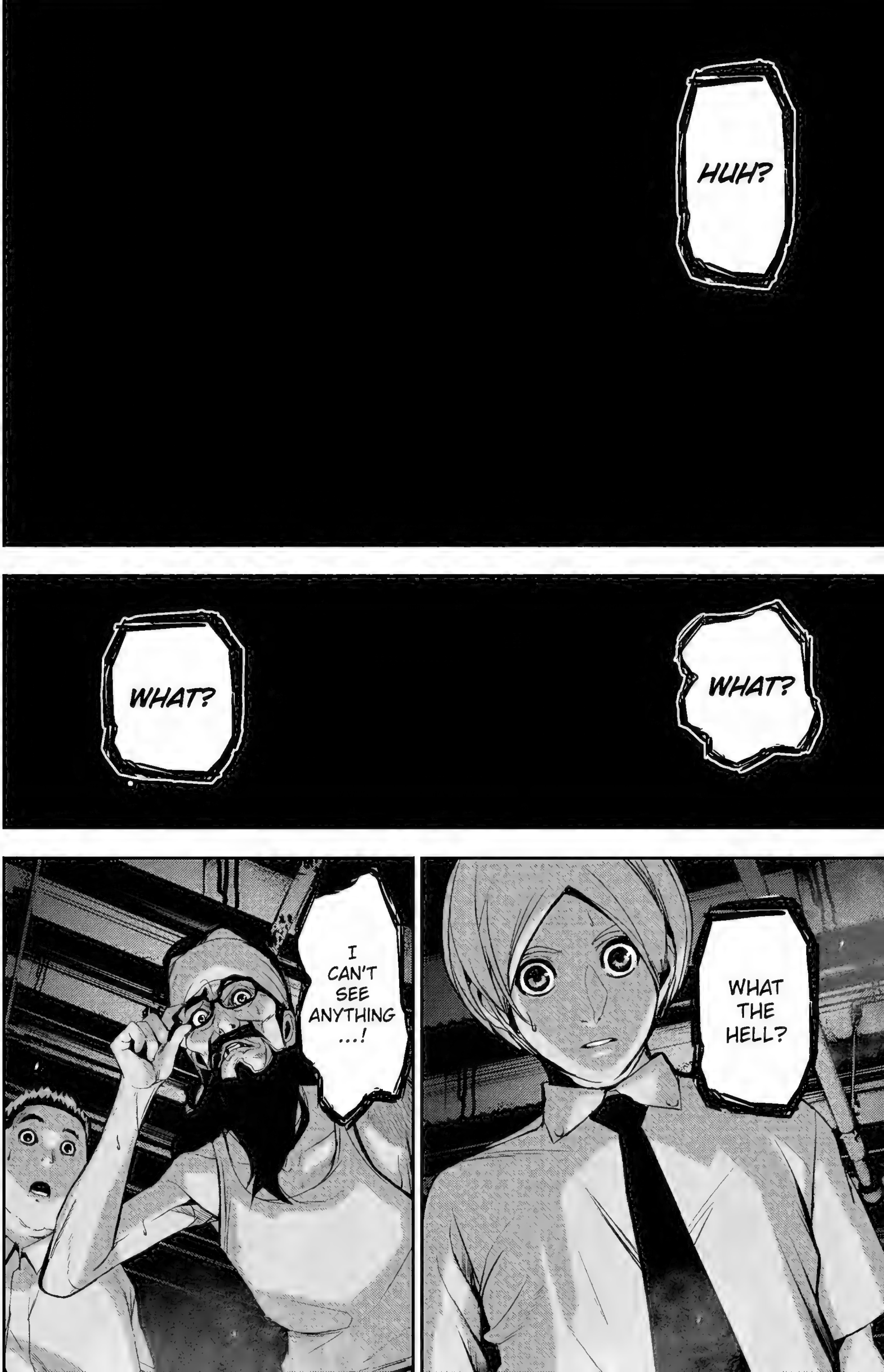

FWHOO
SHHHH
FWMP
PING
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

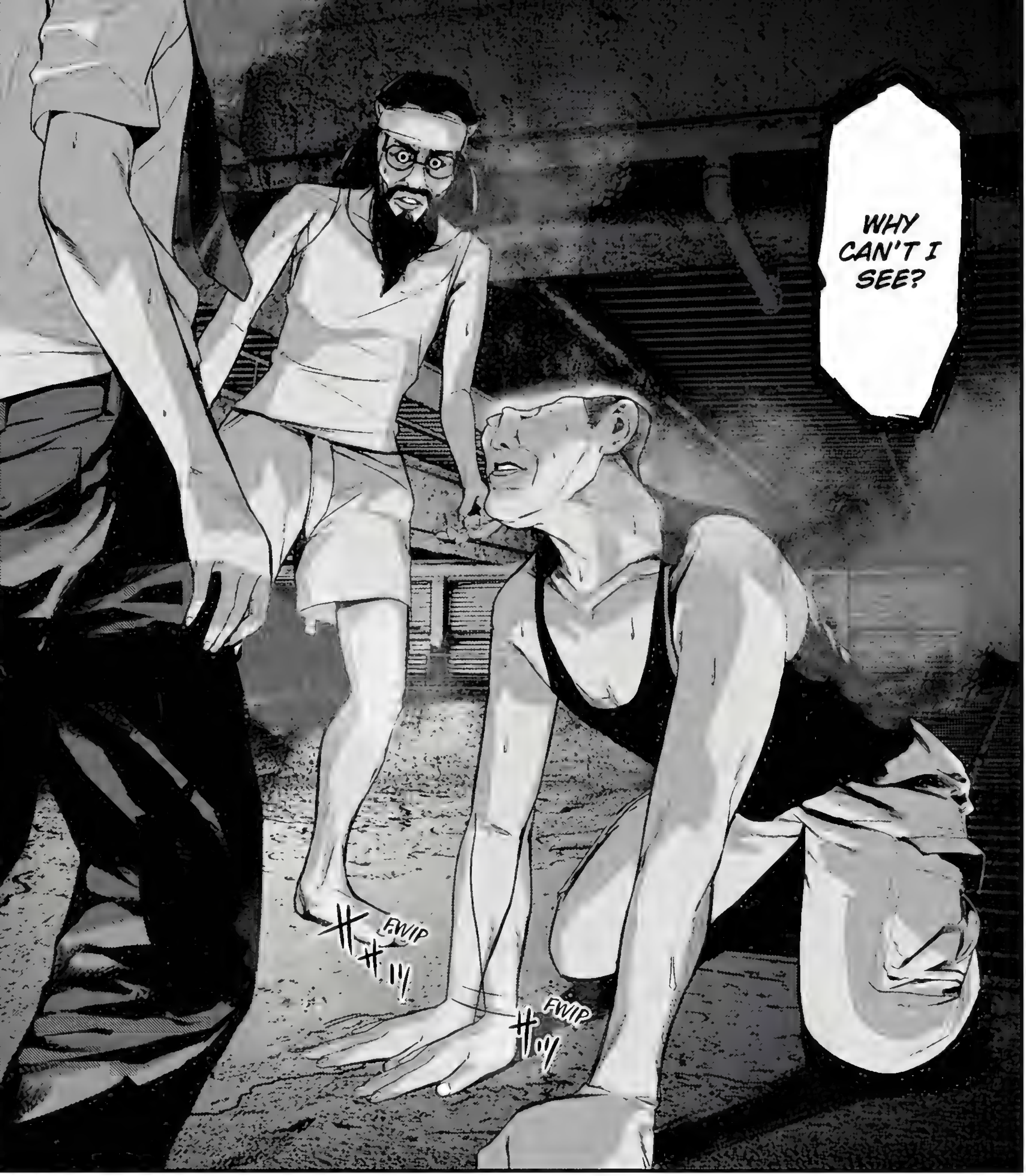

GOOSHK

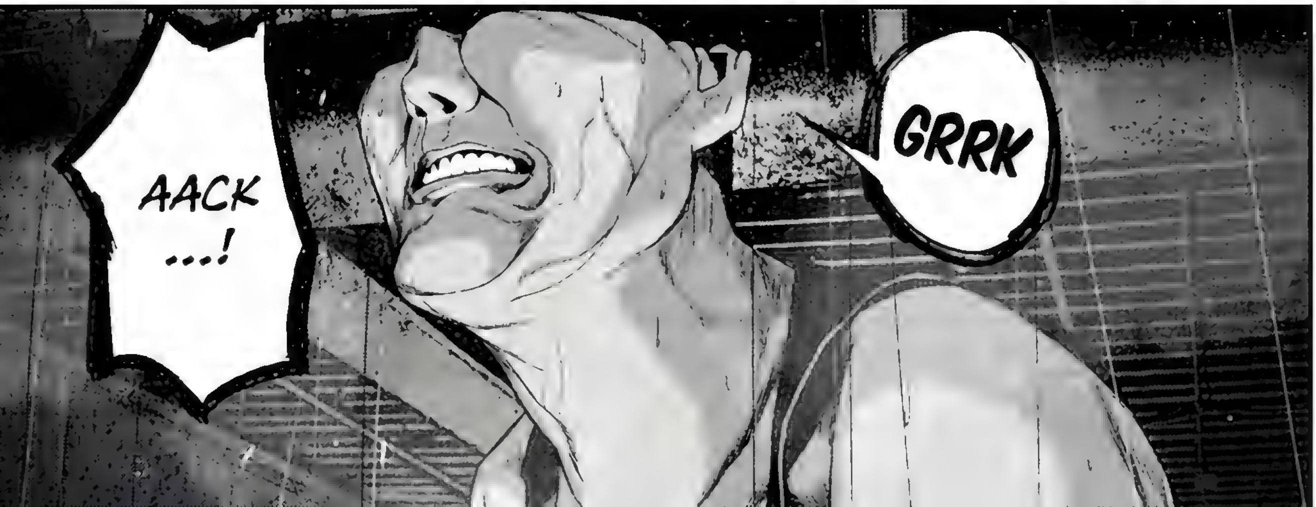

HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
WHOA... WHAT IS THAT...?
G...G... GOOD THING I SET THIS TRAP...
AH... AAAGH!

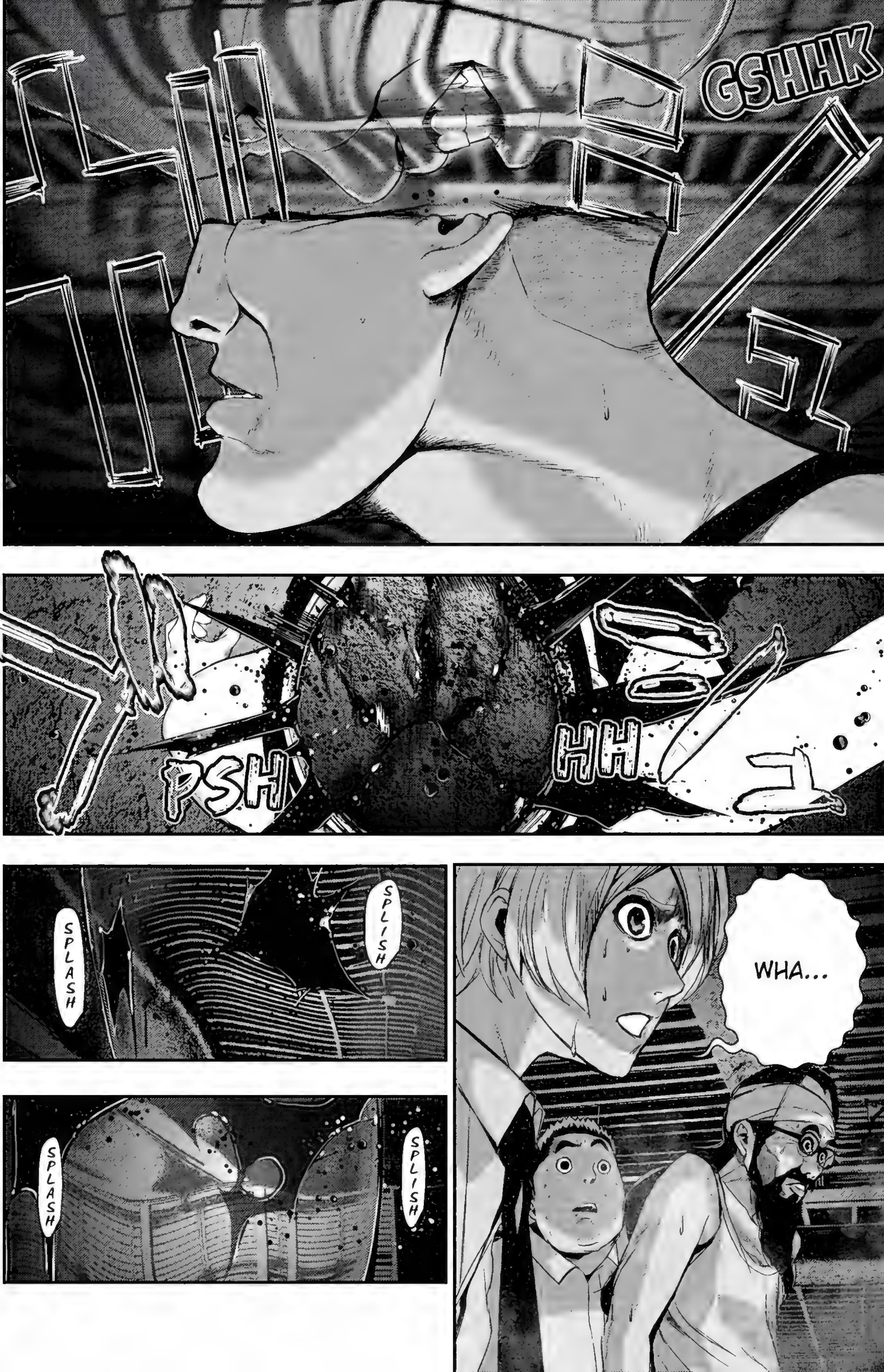

AAAUGH! THIS IS IT...
I'M... GONNA DIE...!!
THERE'S... NO MISTAKE. HE'S FROM THE HALCYON GROUP.
IT'S ALL OVER...
UMM ...
WHAT *IS* THE HALCYON GROUP?
WAS THAT MAN WITH THEM?
YANK

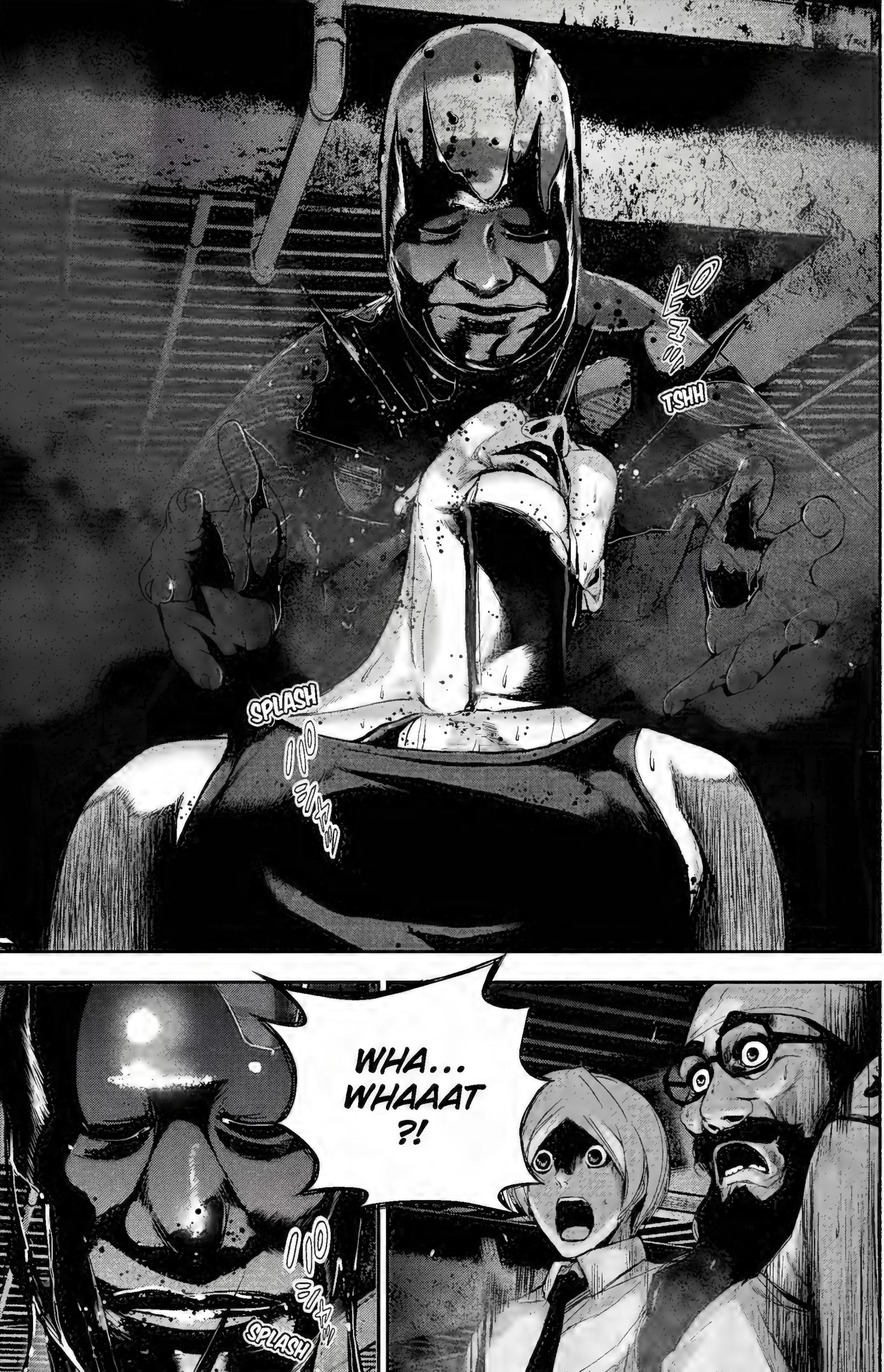

WE'RE ALL DEAD, KID!!
GUH HUH HUH HUH!!
W...
WAIT...
PLEASE, SIR, CALM DOWN...
HUFF
PUFF
WHAT EXACTLY IS...
...THE HALCYON GROUP?
YOU JUST SAW WITH YOUR OWN TWO EYES, KID!!

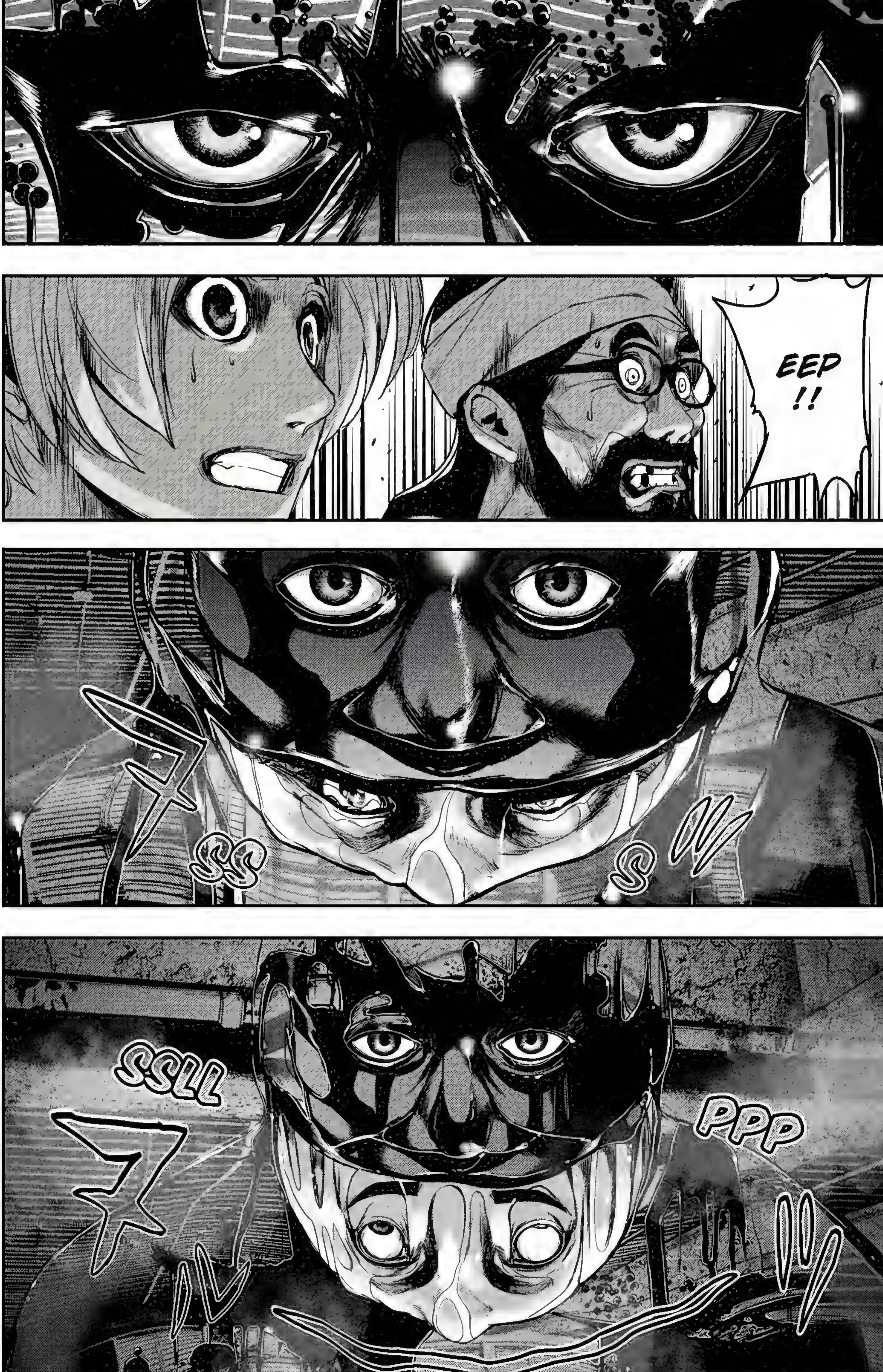

HUH?
WHAT?
WHAT?
WHAT THE HELL?
I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING ...!

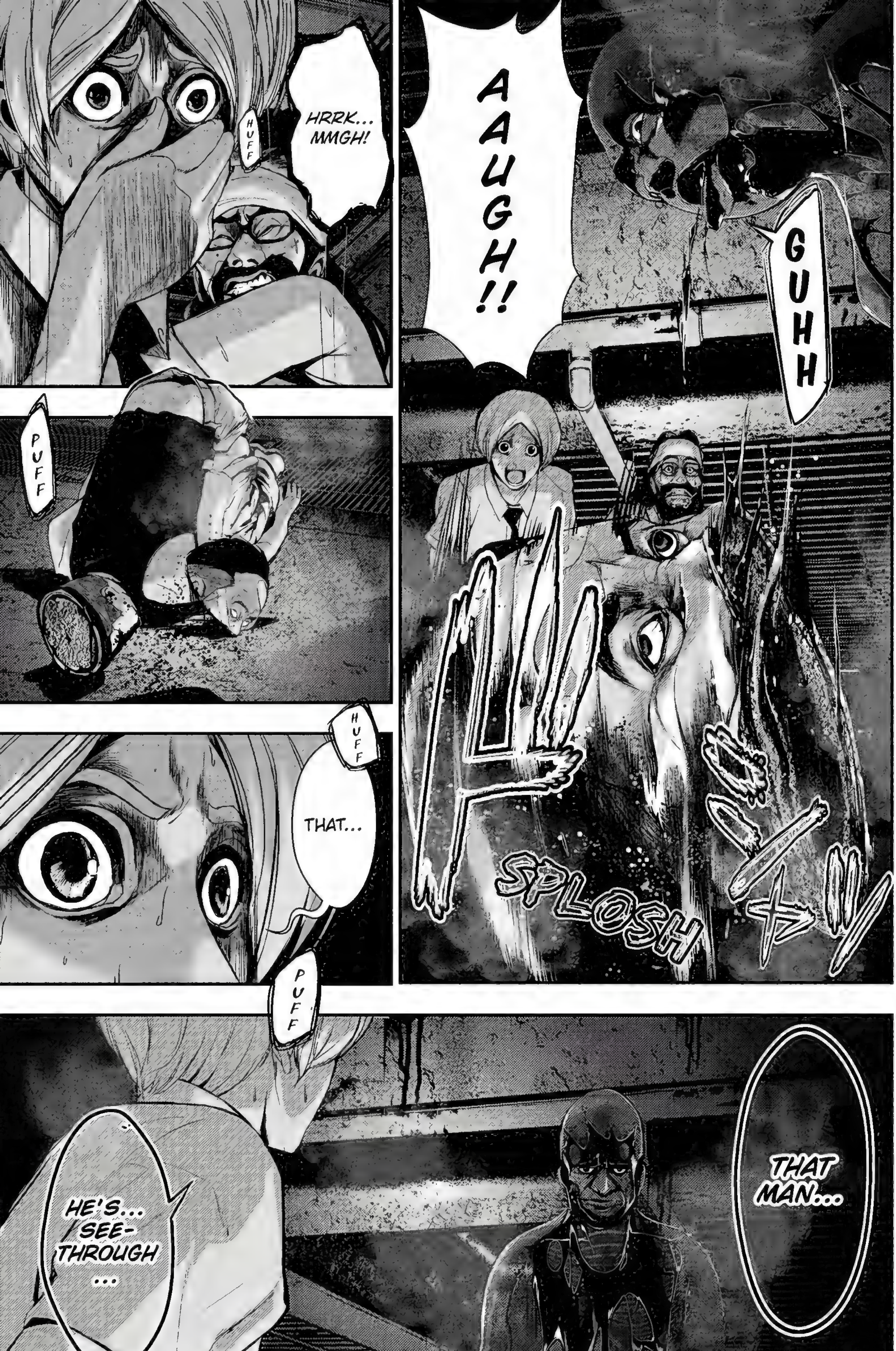

WHY CAN'T I SEE?
FWIP
FWIP

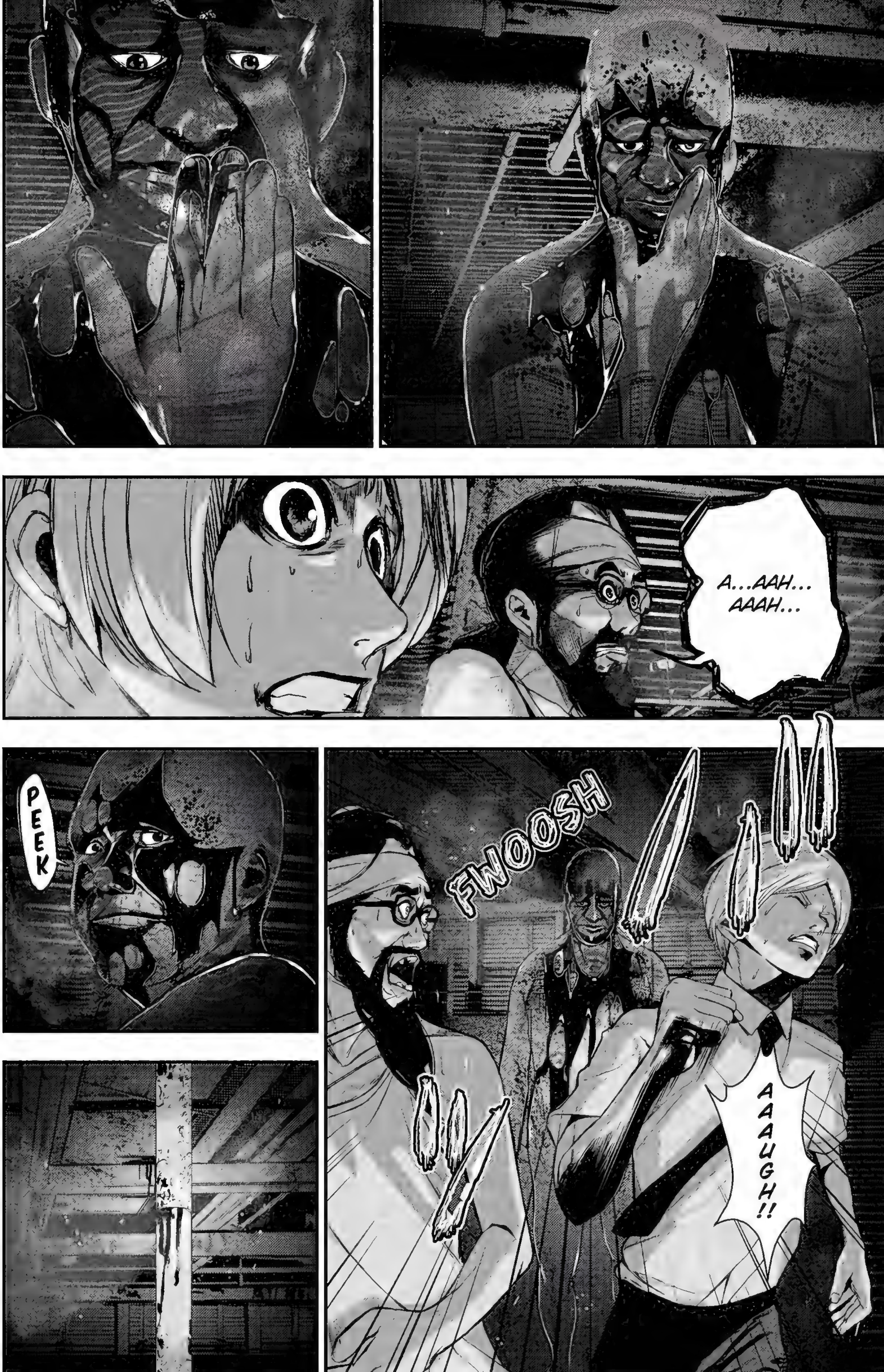

GRRK
AACK ...!

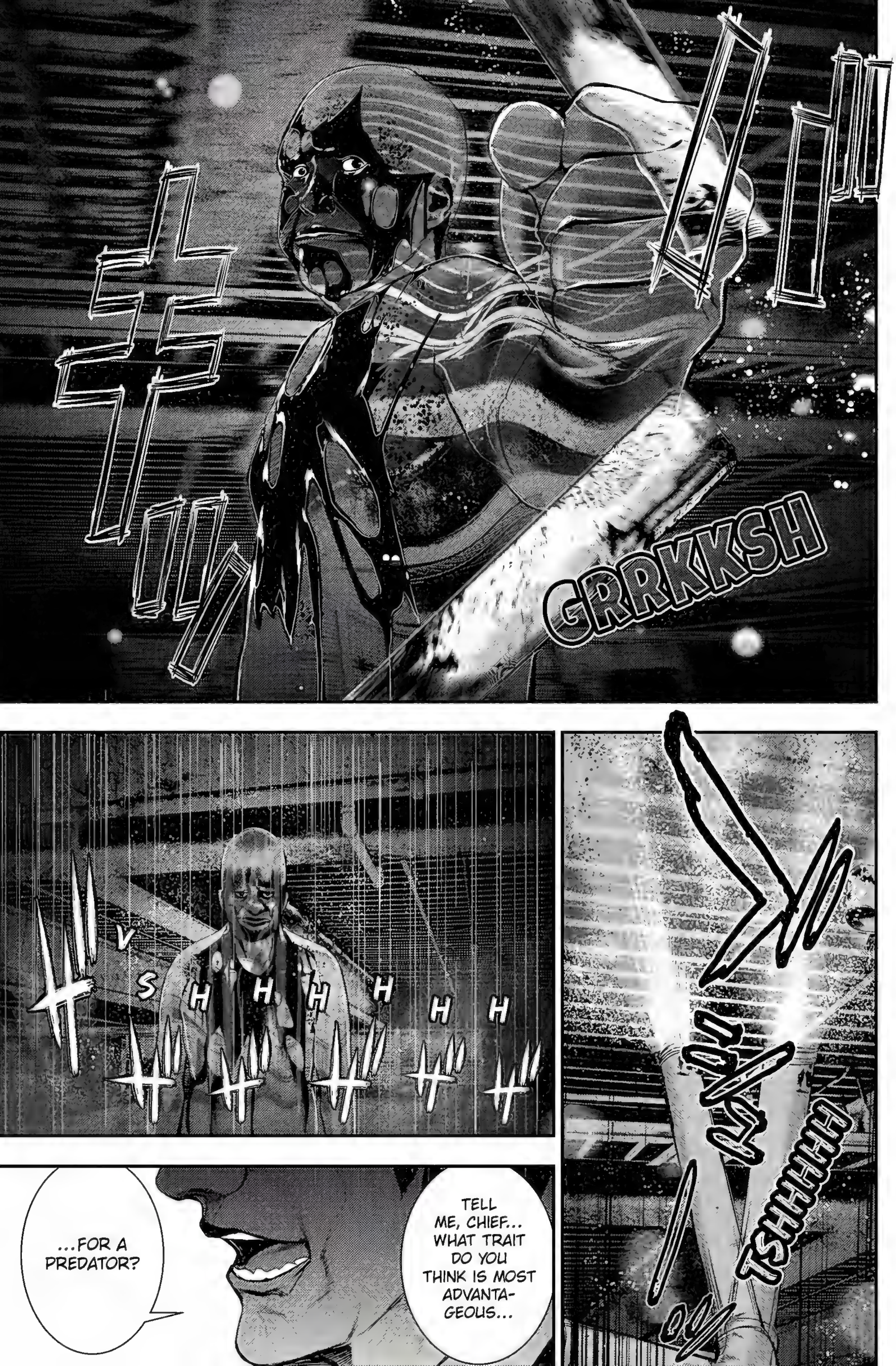

GSHHK
PSHHH
SPLISH
SPLASH
SPLISH
SPLASH
WHA...

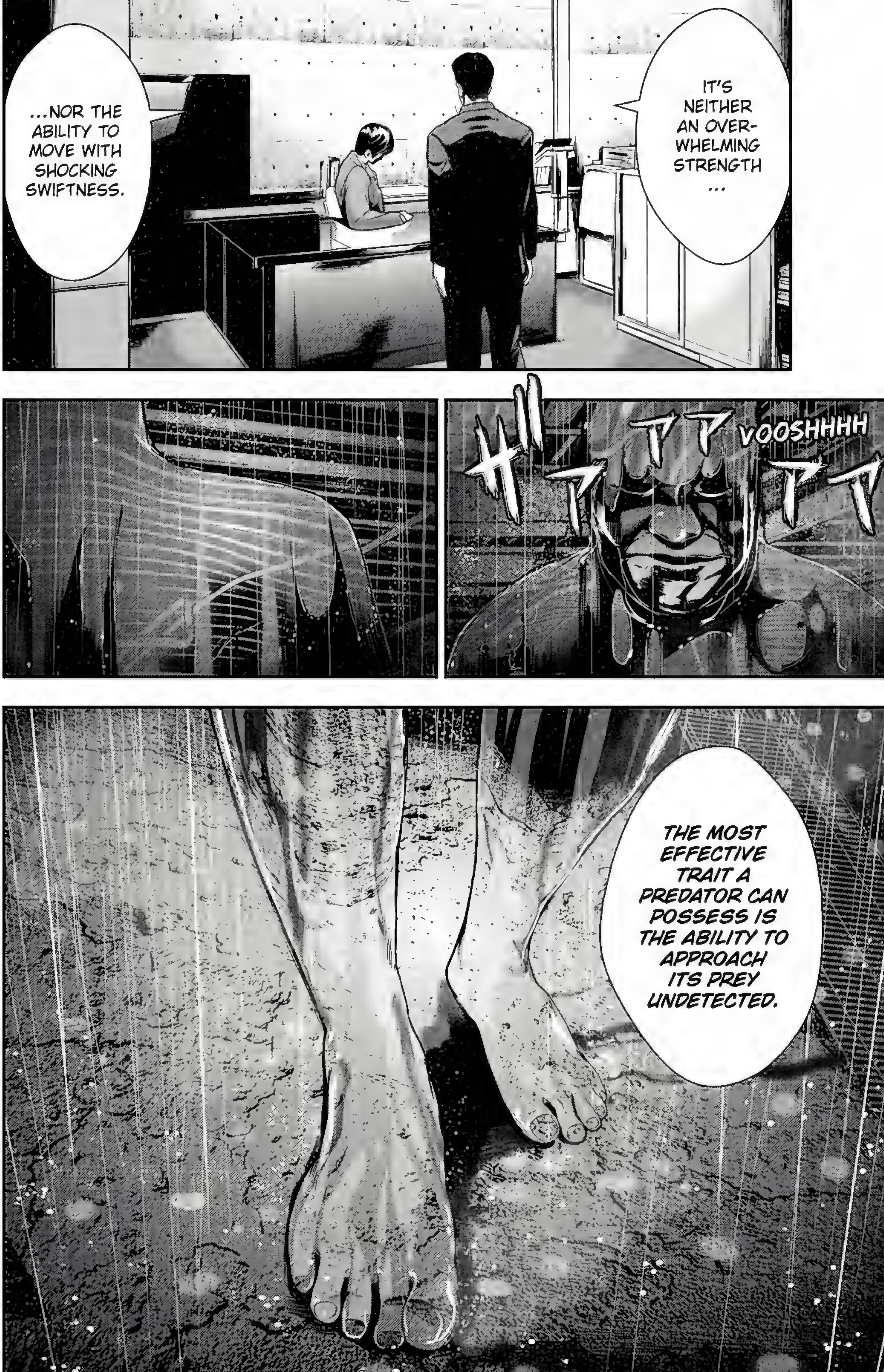

TSHH
SPLASH
WHA... WHAAAT ?!
SPLASH

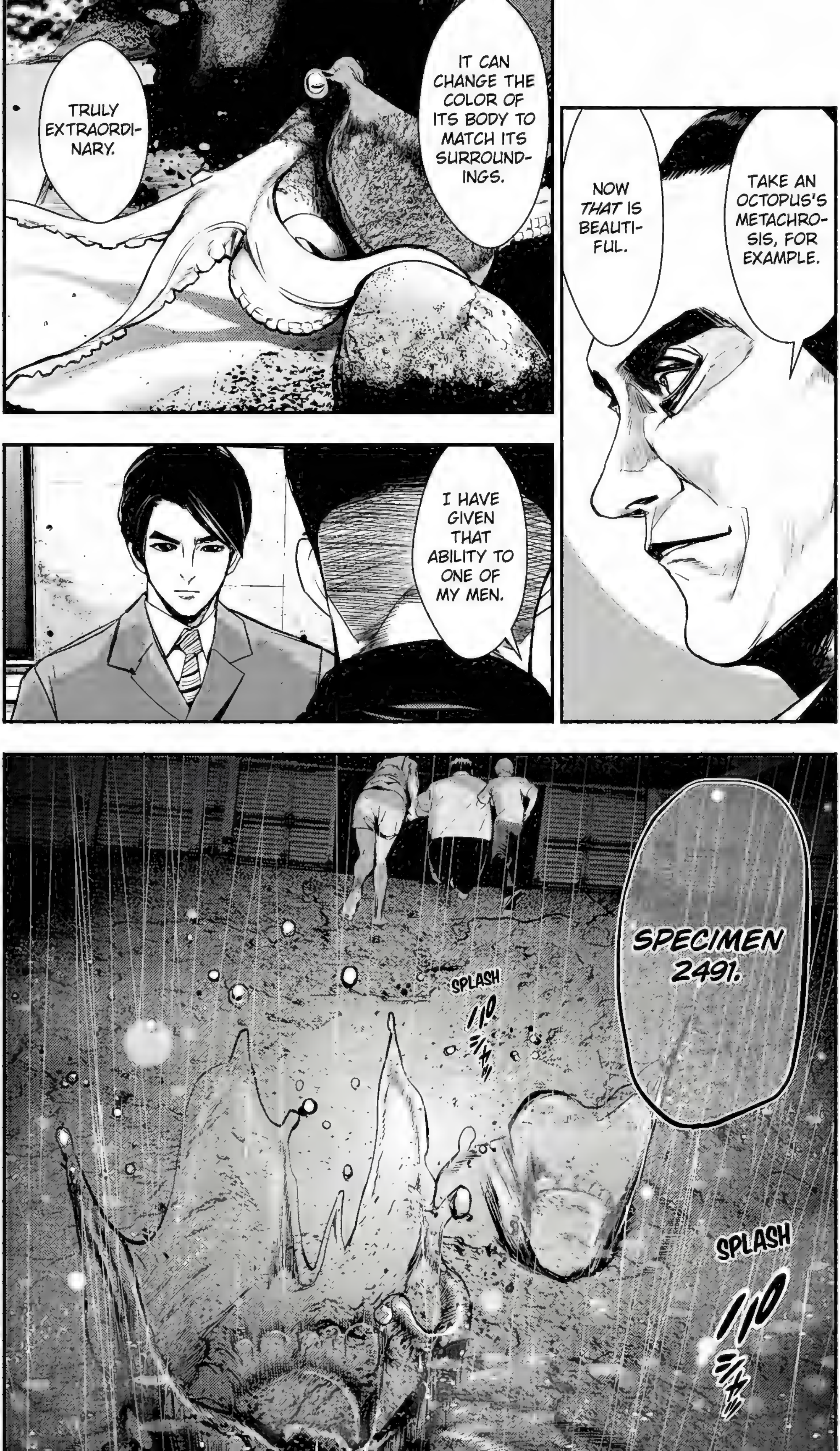

EEP !!
SS
S
SSLL
PPP

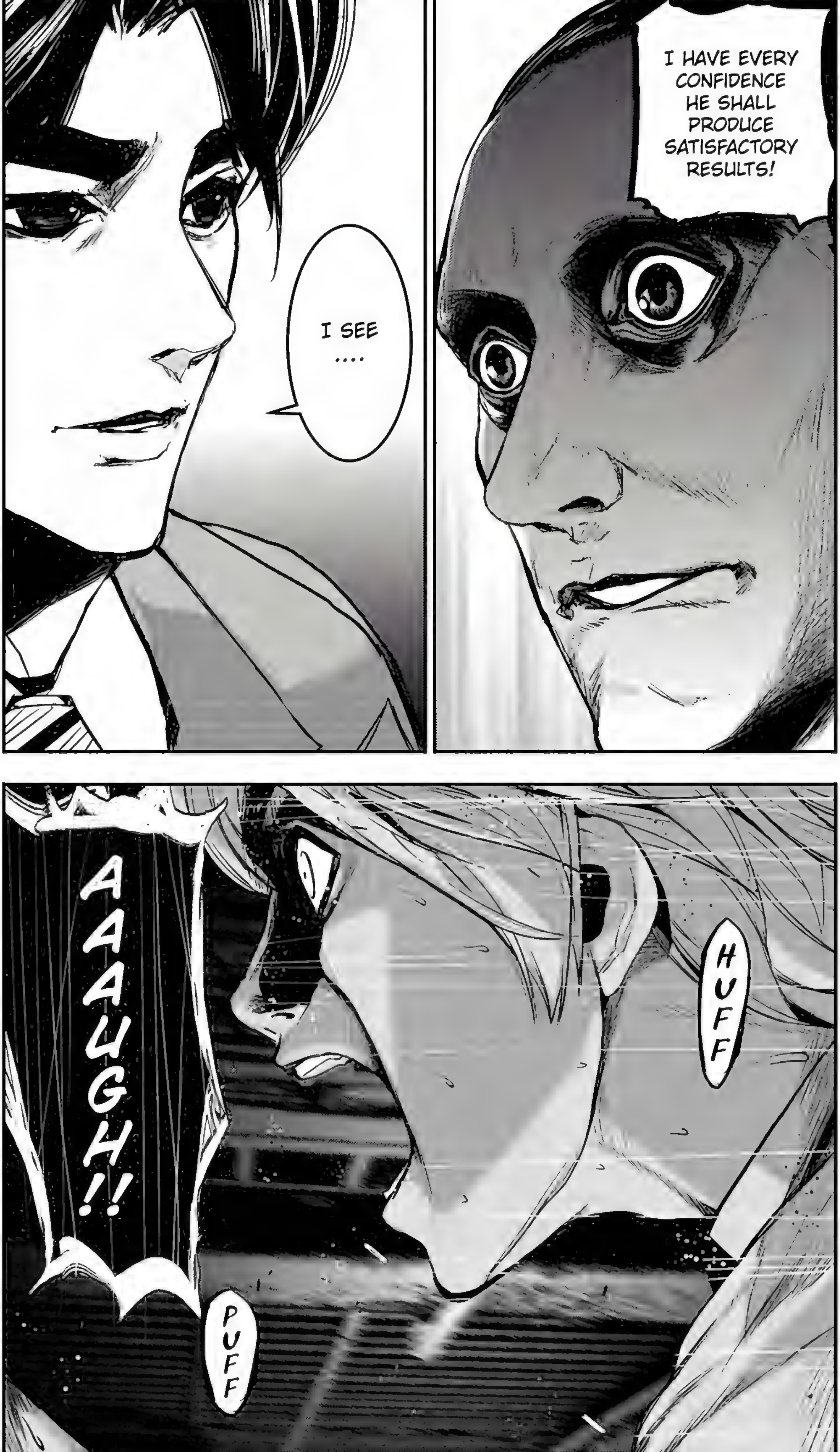

AAUGH!!
GUHH
SPLOSH
HRRK... MMGH!
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
THAT...
PUFF
THAT MAN...
HE'S... SEE-THROUGH...


A...AAH... AAAH...
FWOOSH
AAAUGH!!
PEEK

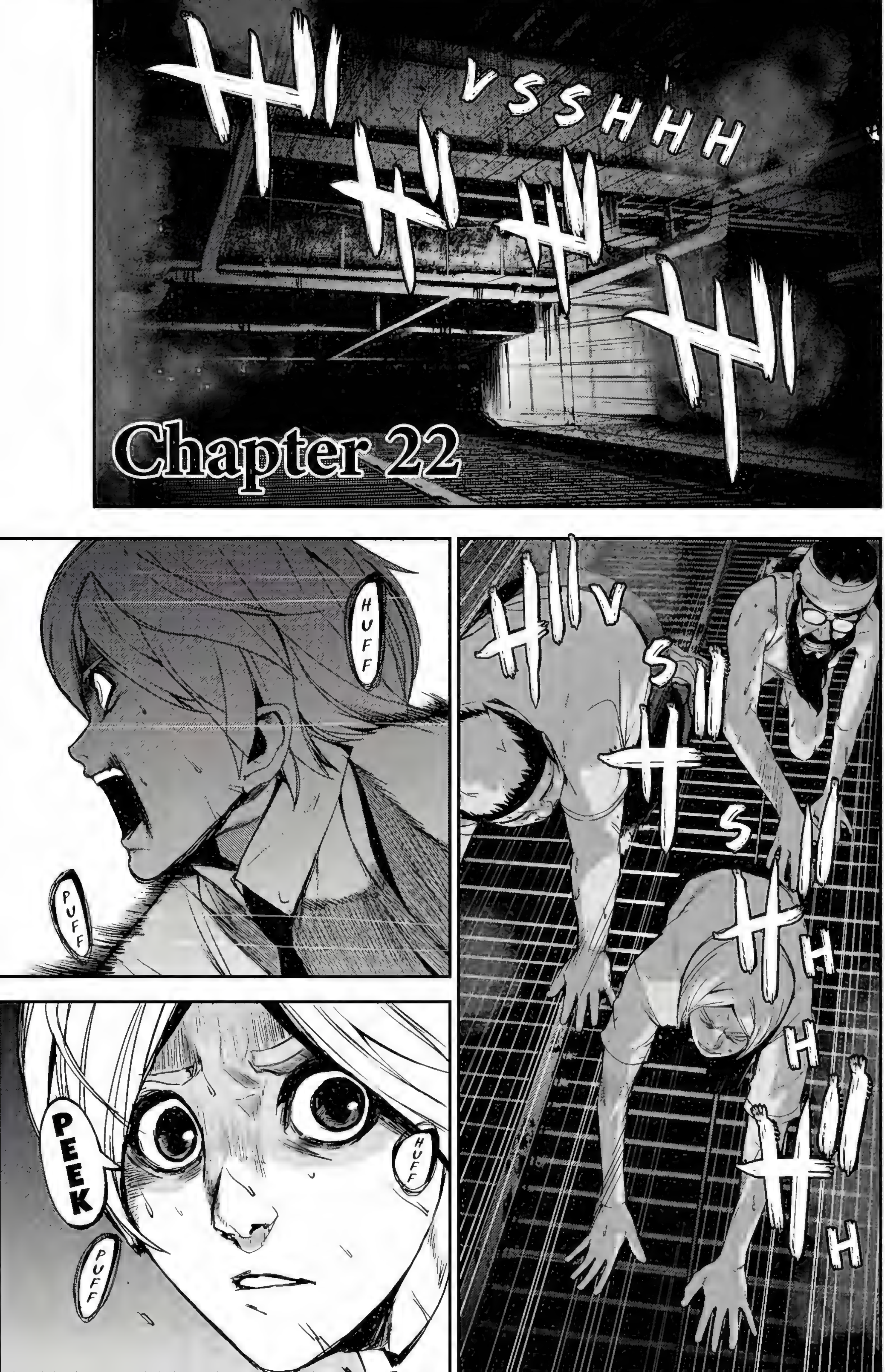

GRRKKSH
TSHHHHST
VSHHHHHH
TELL ME, CHIEF... WHAT TRAIT DO YOU THINK IS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS...
...FOR A PREDATOR?

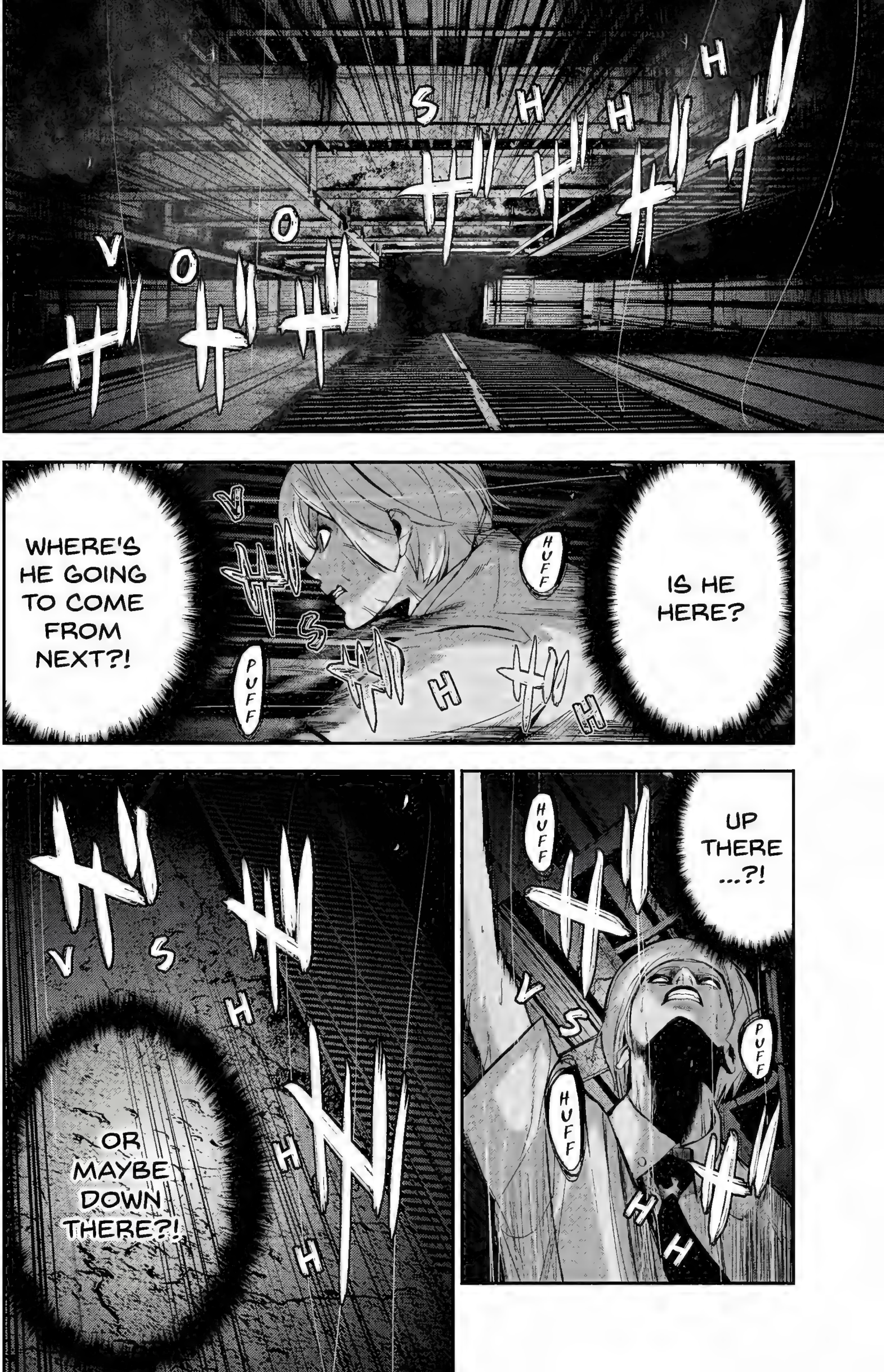

IT'S NEITHER AN OVERWHELMING STRENGTH...
...NOR THE ABILITY TO MOVE WITH SHOCKING SWIFTNESS.
ザアアアアア
VOOSHHHH
THE MOST EFFECTIVE TRAIT A PREDATOR CAN POSSESS IS THE ABILITY TO APPROACH ITS PREY UNDETECTED.

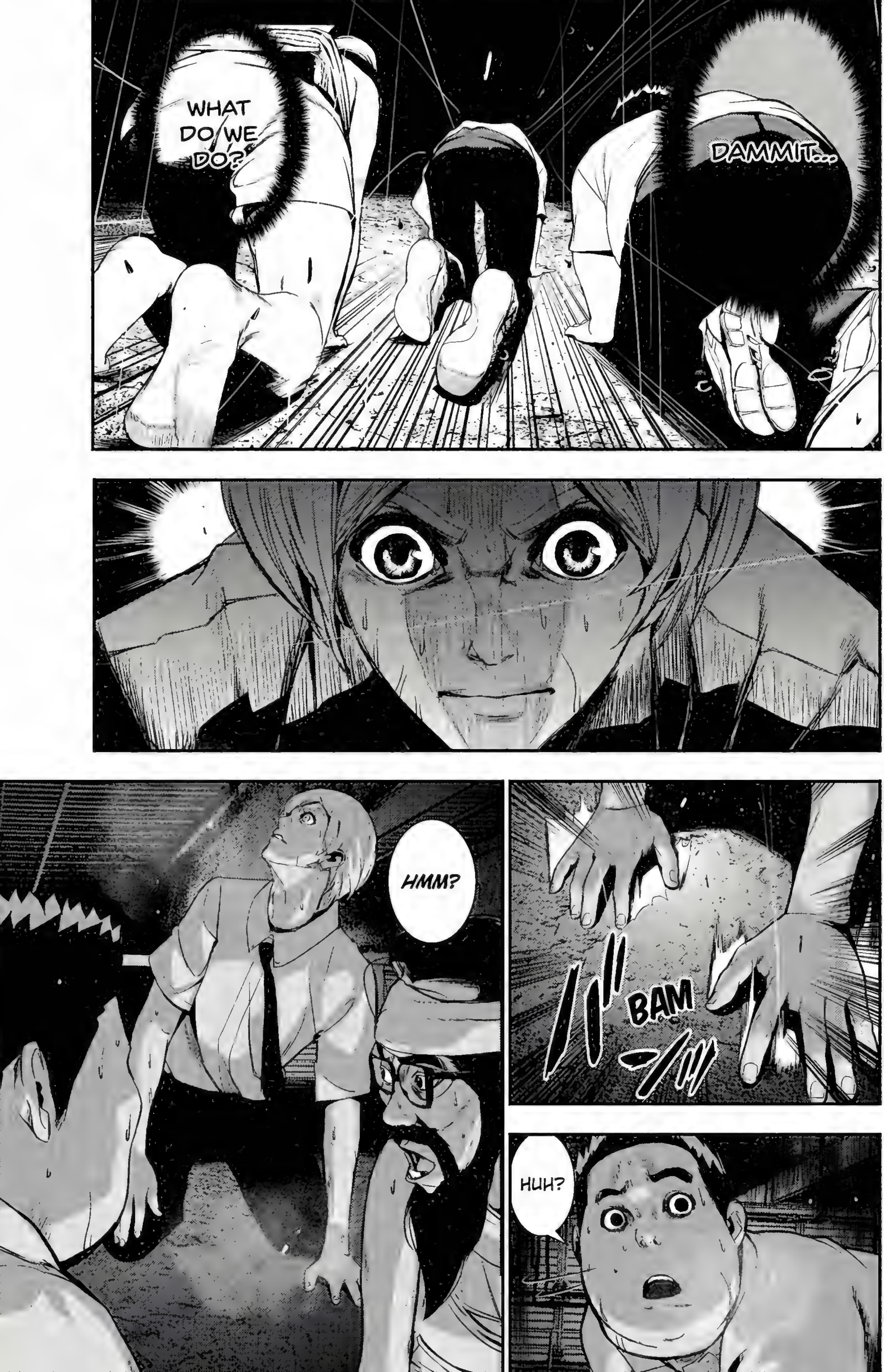

TAKE AN OCTOPUS'S METACHROSIS, FOR EXAMPLE.
NOW *THAT* IS BEAUTIFUL.
IT CAN CHANGE THE COLOR OF ITS BODY TO MATCH ITS SURROUNDINGS.
TRULY EXTRAORDINARY.
I HAVE GIVEN THAT ABILITY TO ONE OF MY MEN.
SPECIMEN 2491.
SPLASH
SPLASH

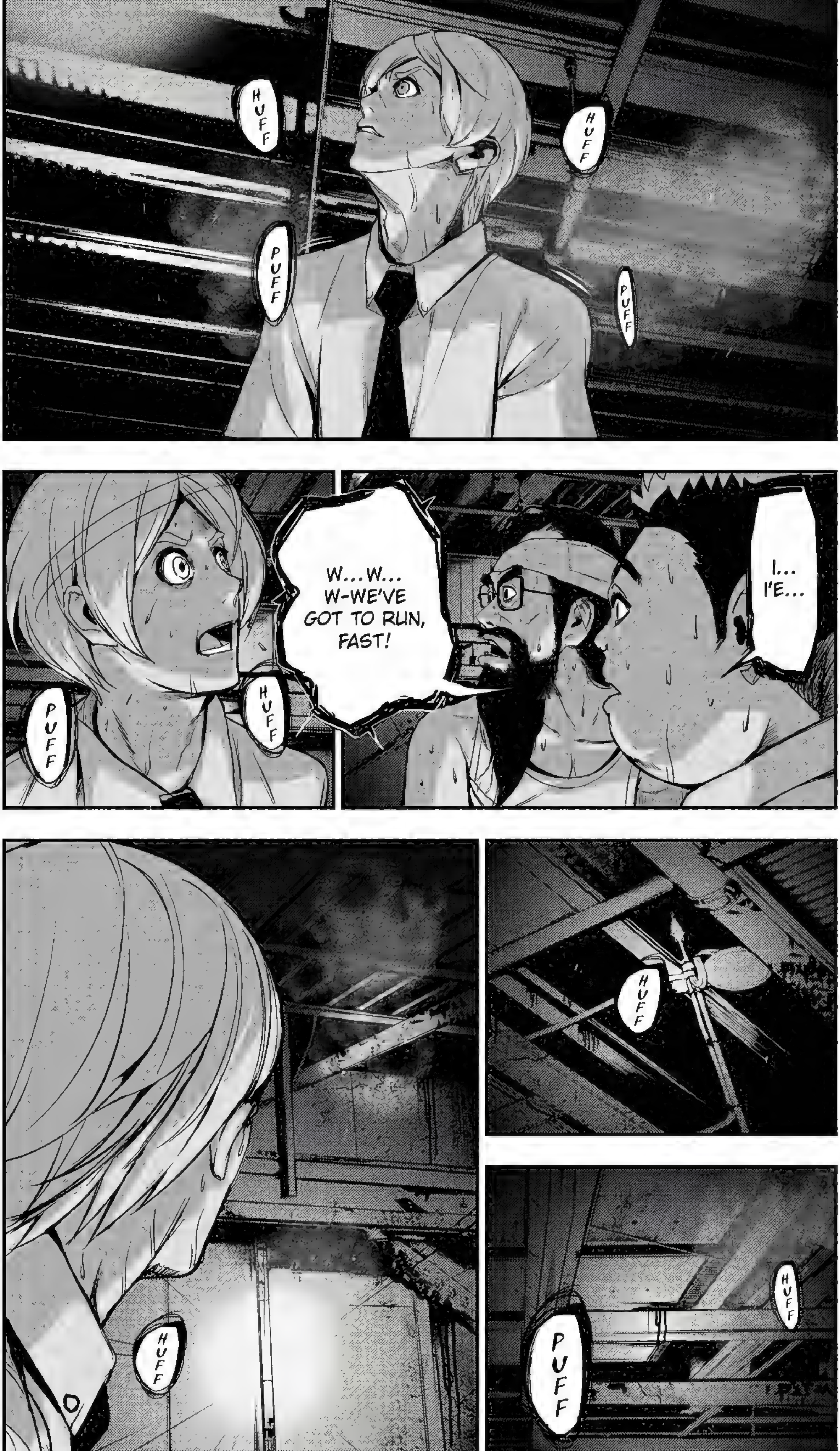

I HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE HE SHALL PRODUCE SATISFACTORY RESULTS!
I SEE ....
HUFF
AAAUGH!!
PUFF

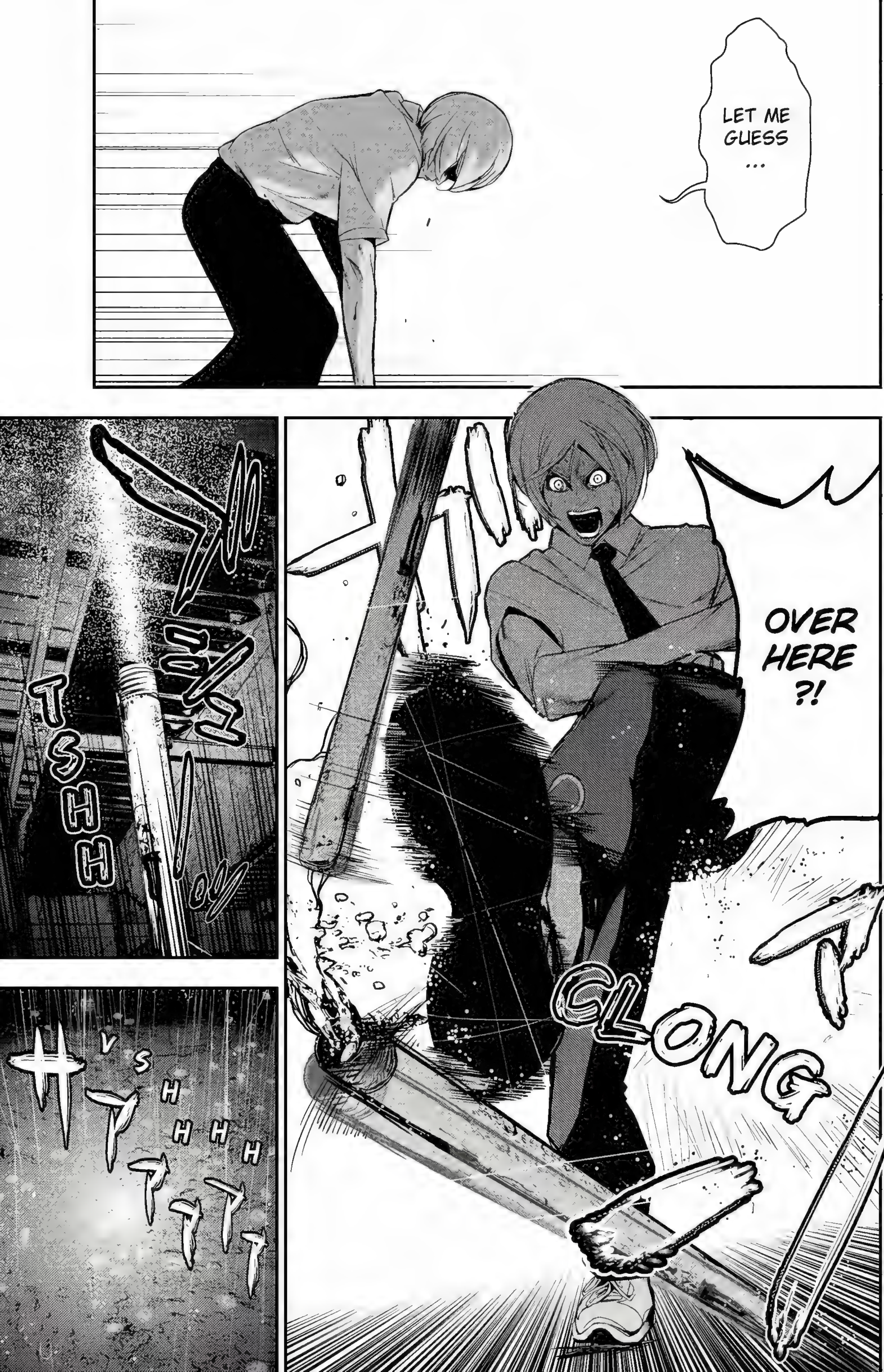
Chapter 22

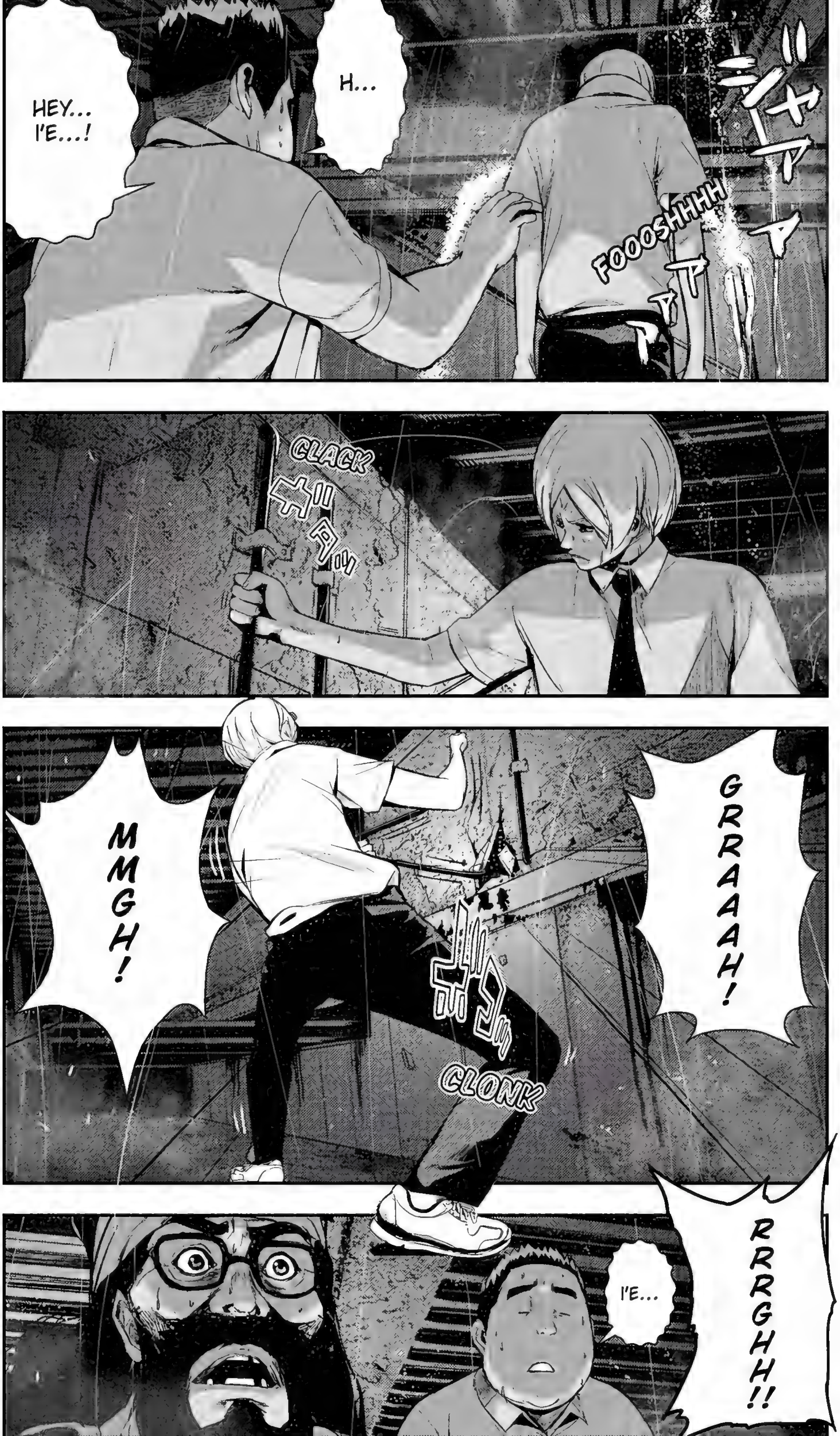

HHHHHH
VSSHHH
HVSSHHHHH
HUFF
PUFF
PEEK
HUFF
PUFF

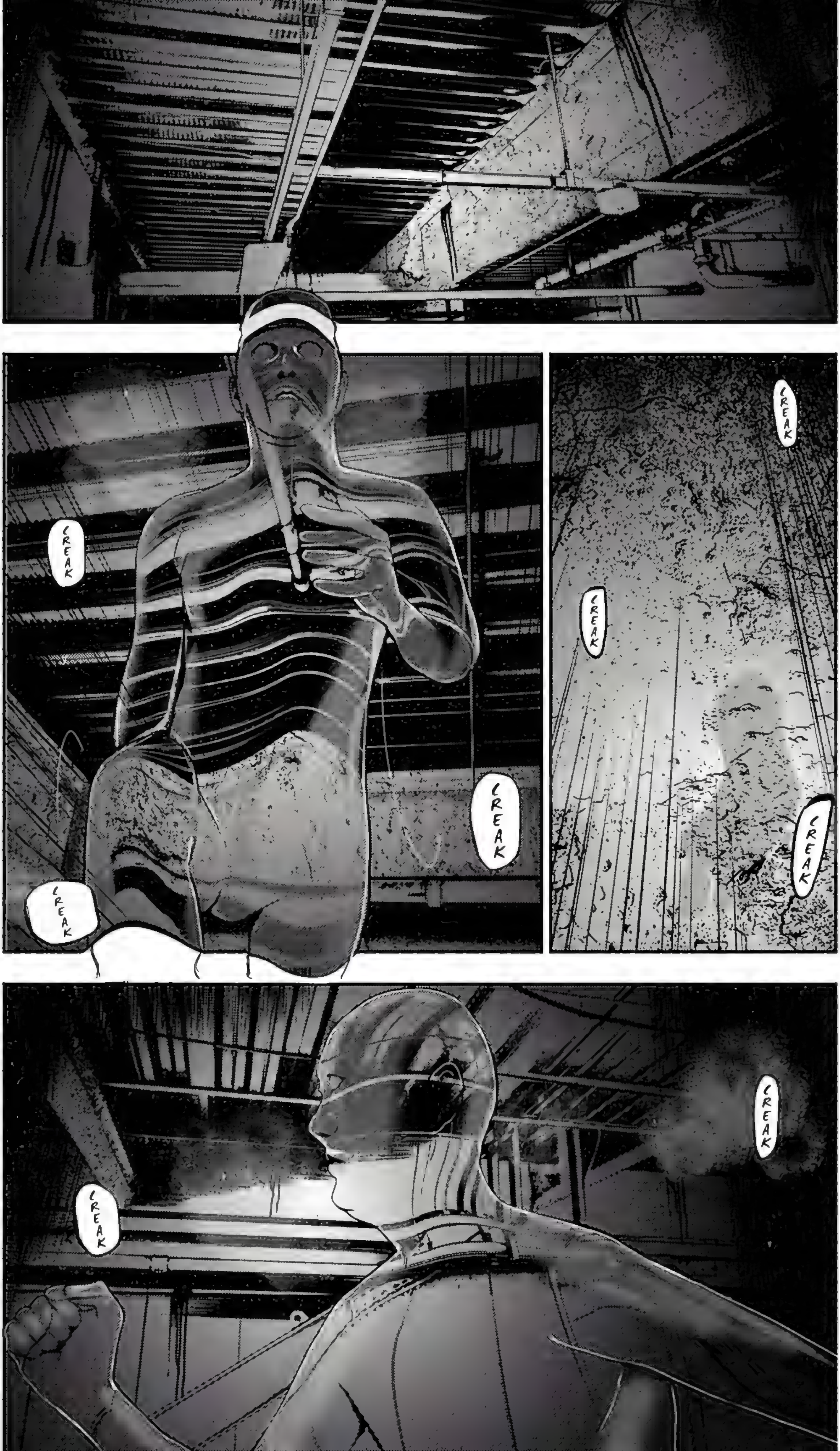

VOOSHHHHHH
IS HE HERE?
HUFF
PUFF
WHERE'S HE GOING TO COME FROM NEXT?!
VSHHH
UP THERE ...?!
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
VSHH
OR MAYBE DOWN THERE?!
VSHHH

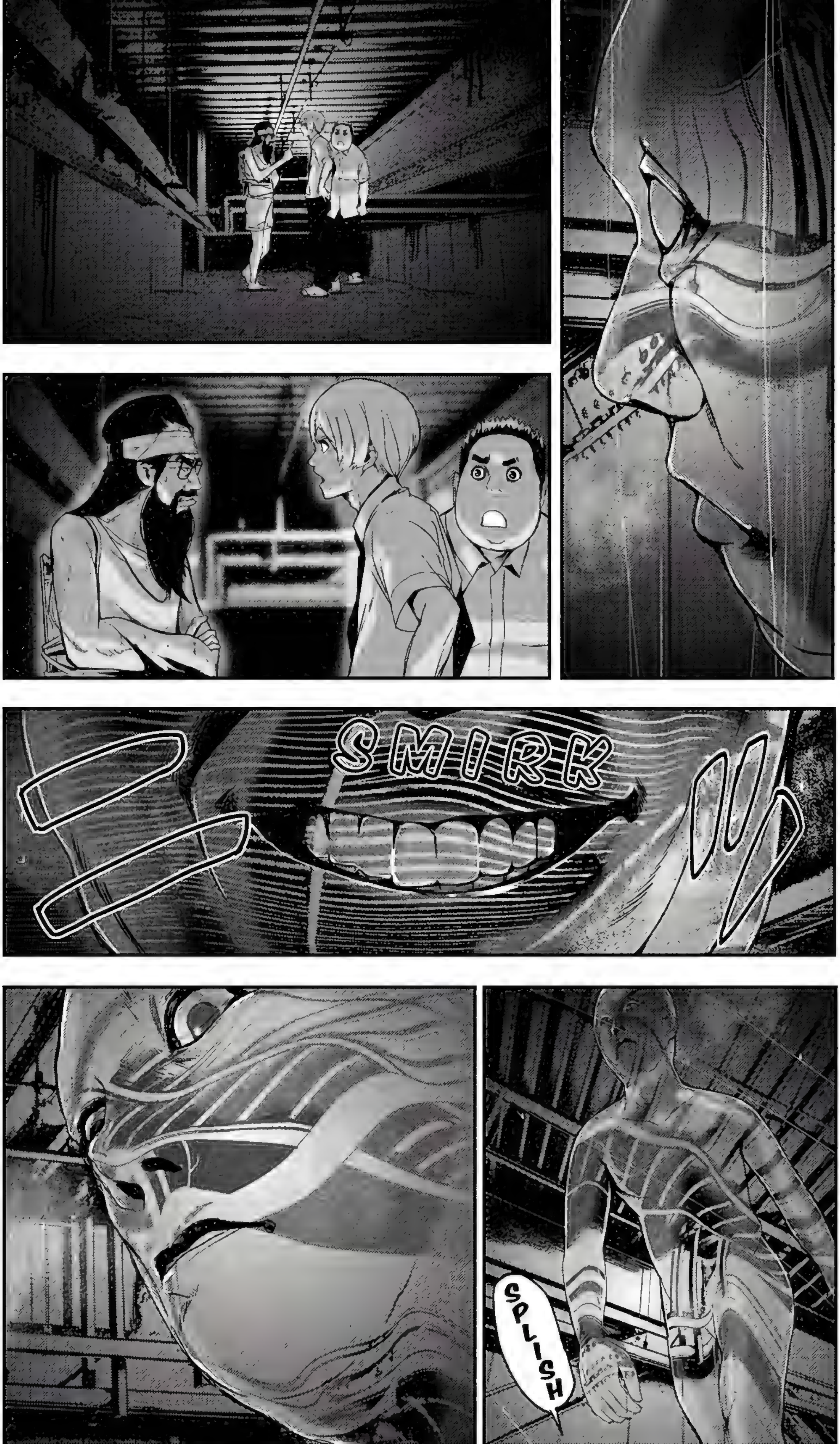

DAMMIT...
WHAT DO WE DO?
HMM?
BAM
HUH?

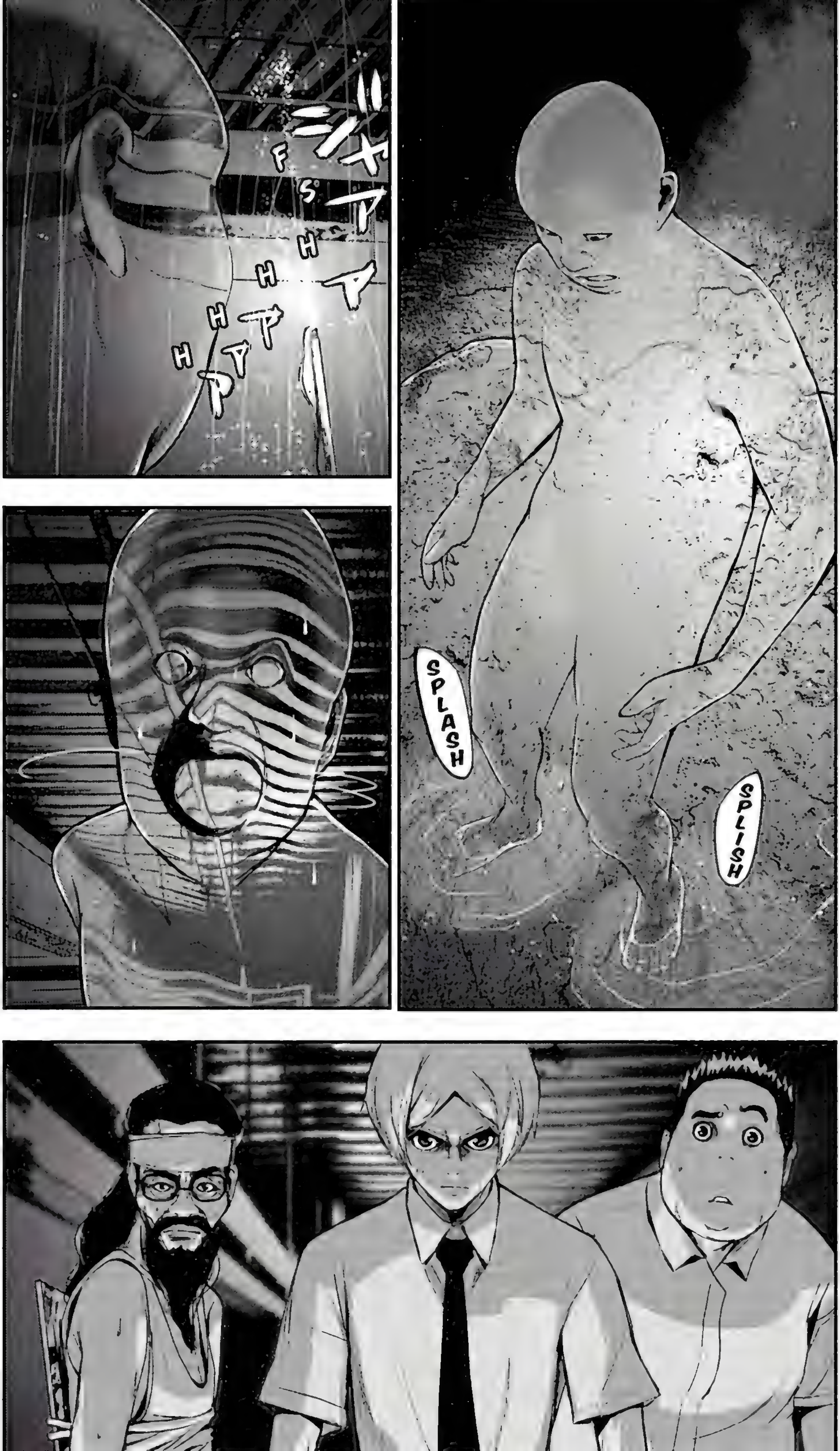

HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
PUFF
I… I'E…
W…W… W-WE'VE GOT TO RUN, FAST!
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF

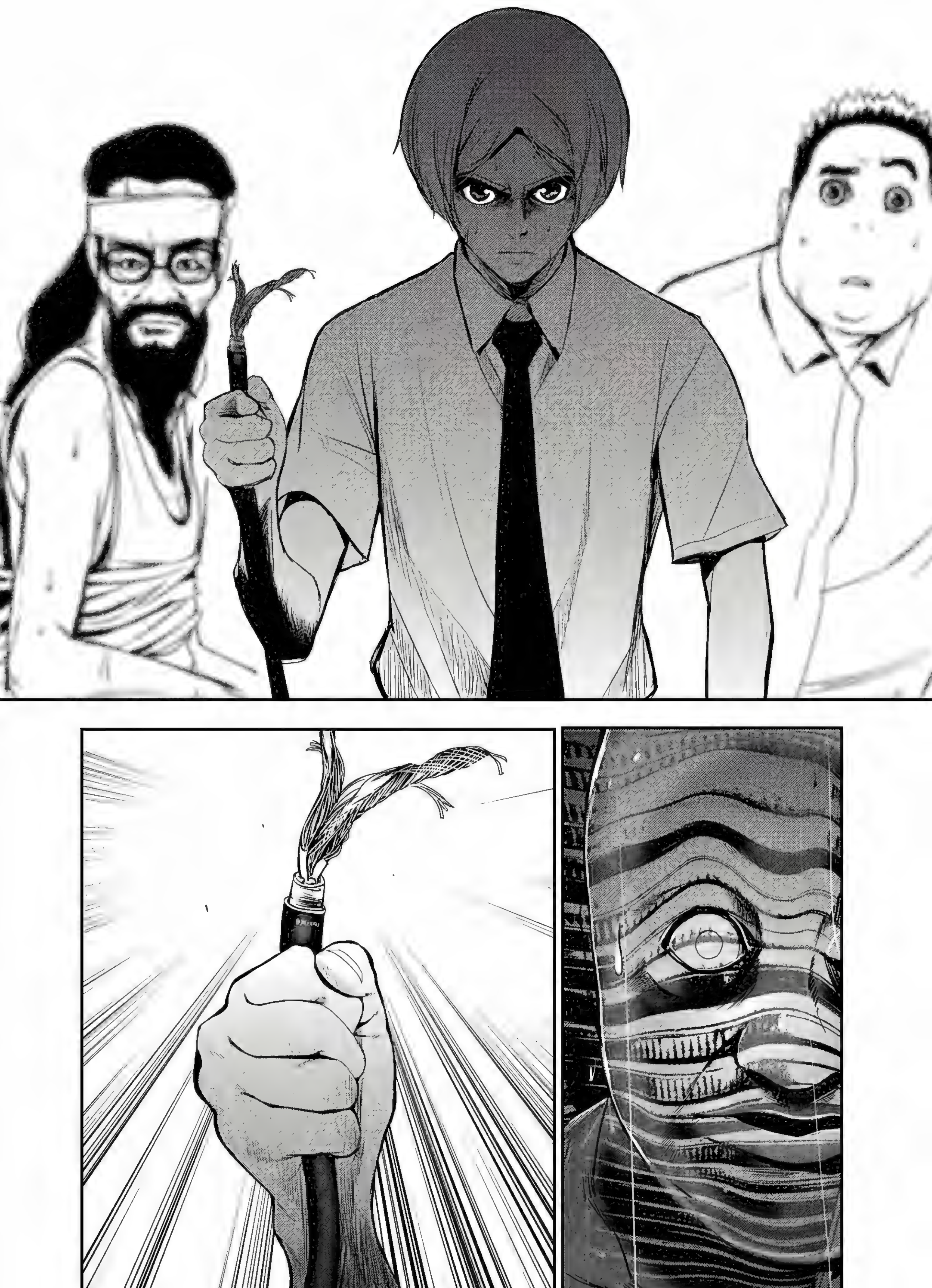

LET ME GUESS ...
OVER HERE ?!
CLONG
TSHH
VSHHHH

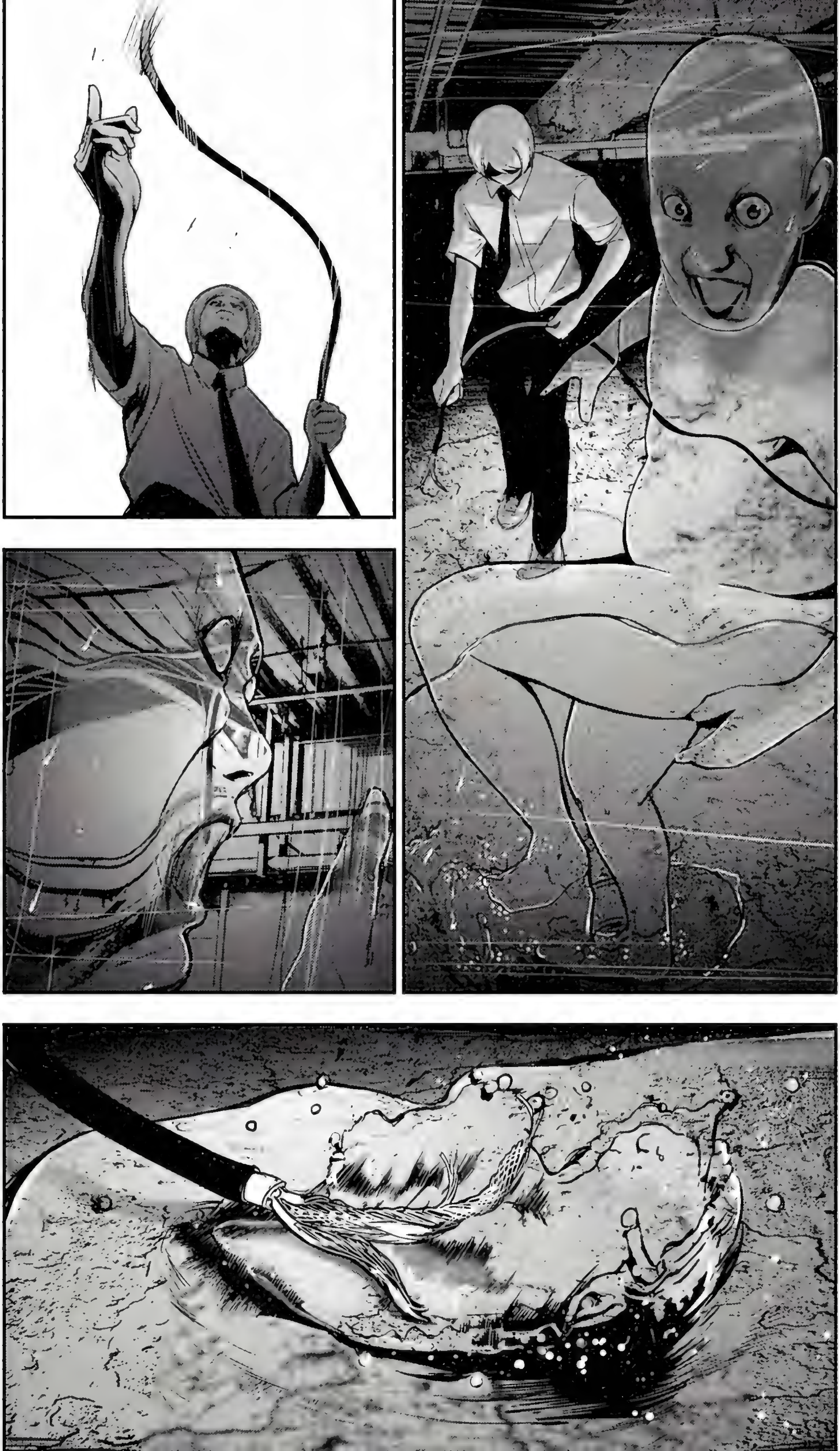

H…
HEY… I'E…!
FOOOSHHHH
CLACK
GRRAAAH!
MMGH!
CLONK
RRRGHH!!
I'E…

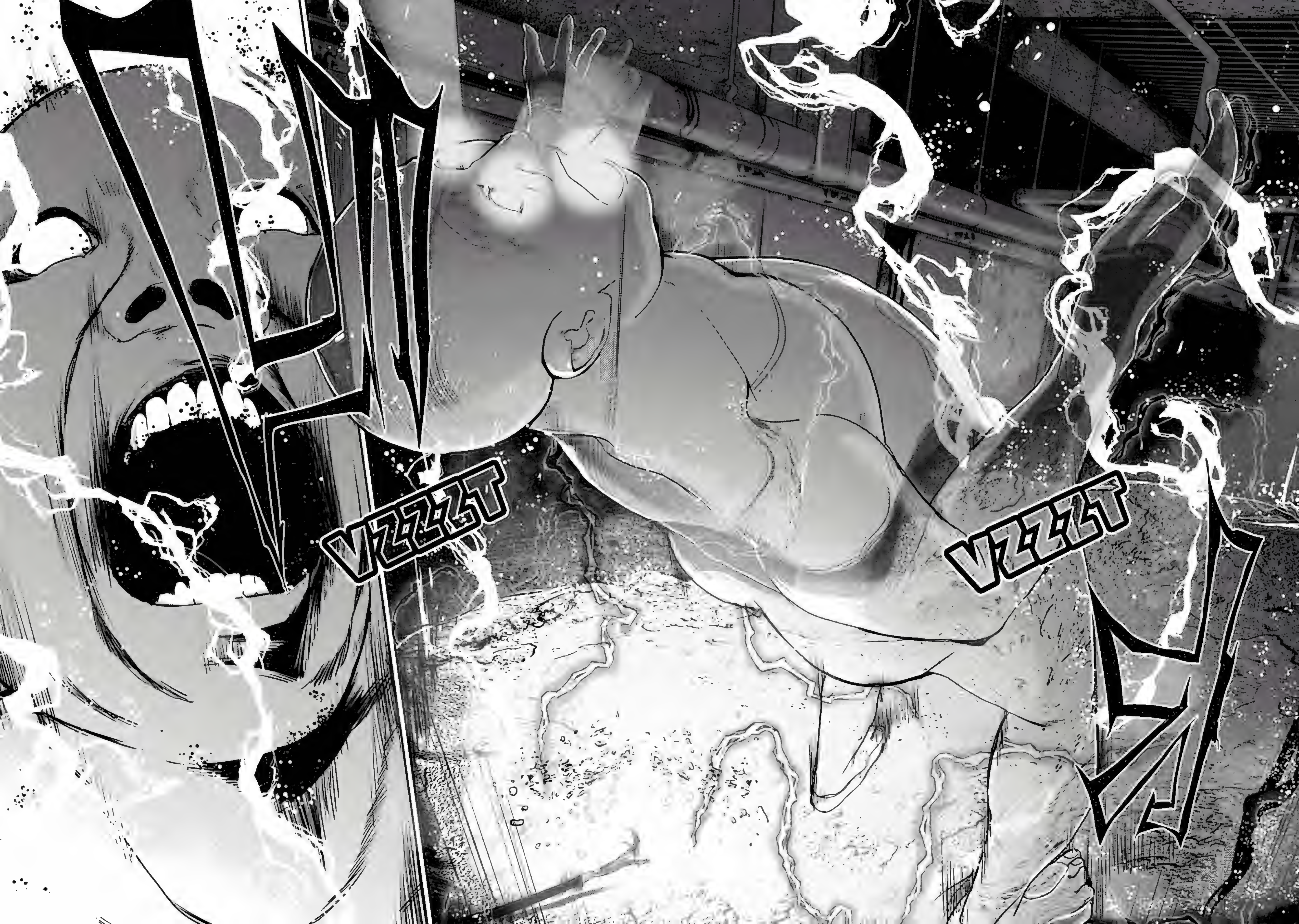

CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK

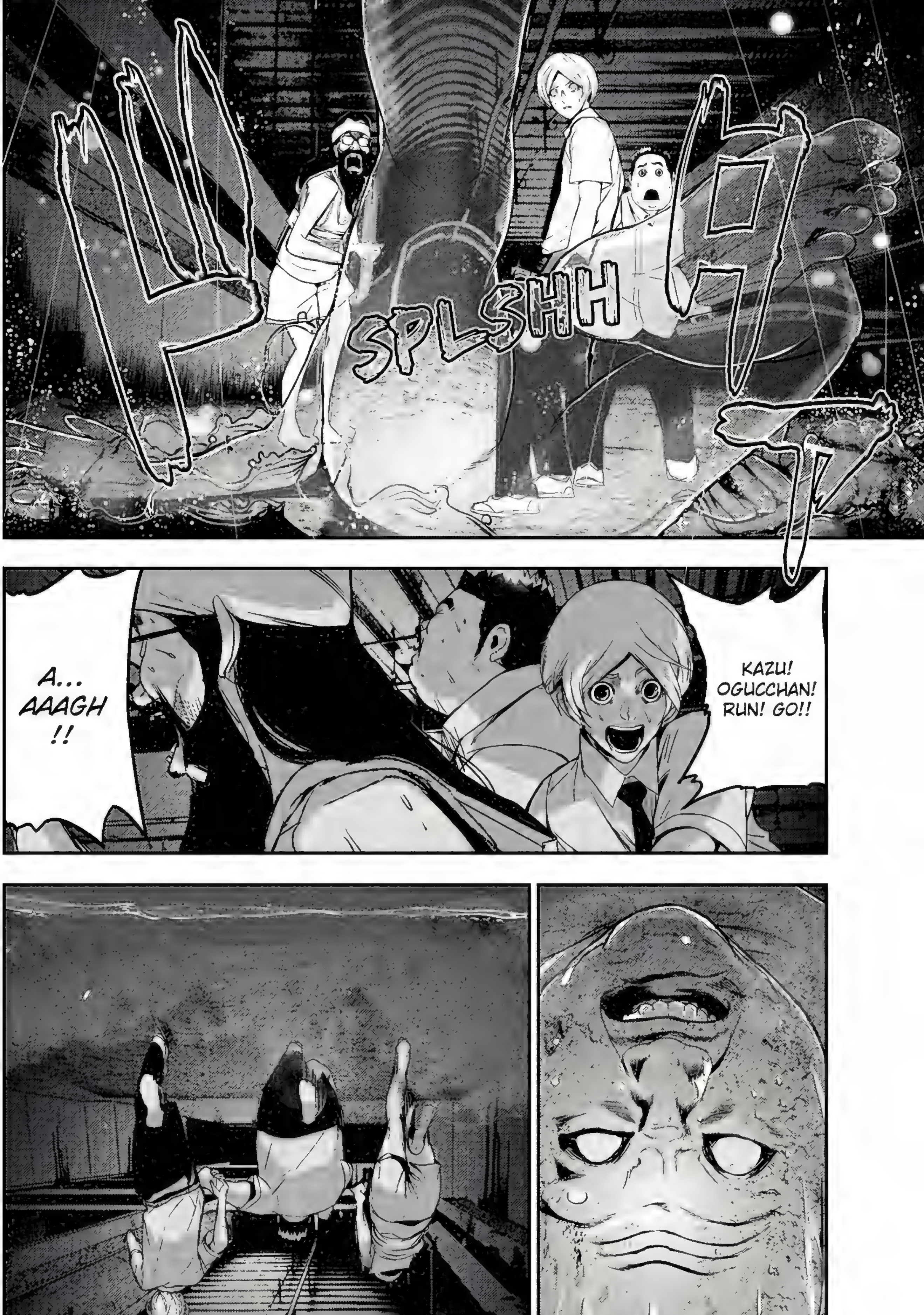

SMIRK
SPLISH

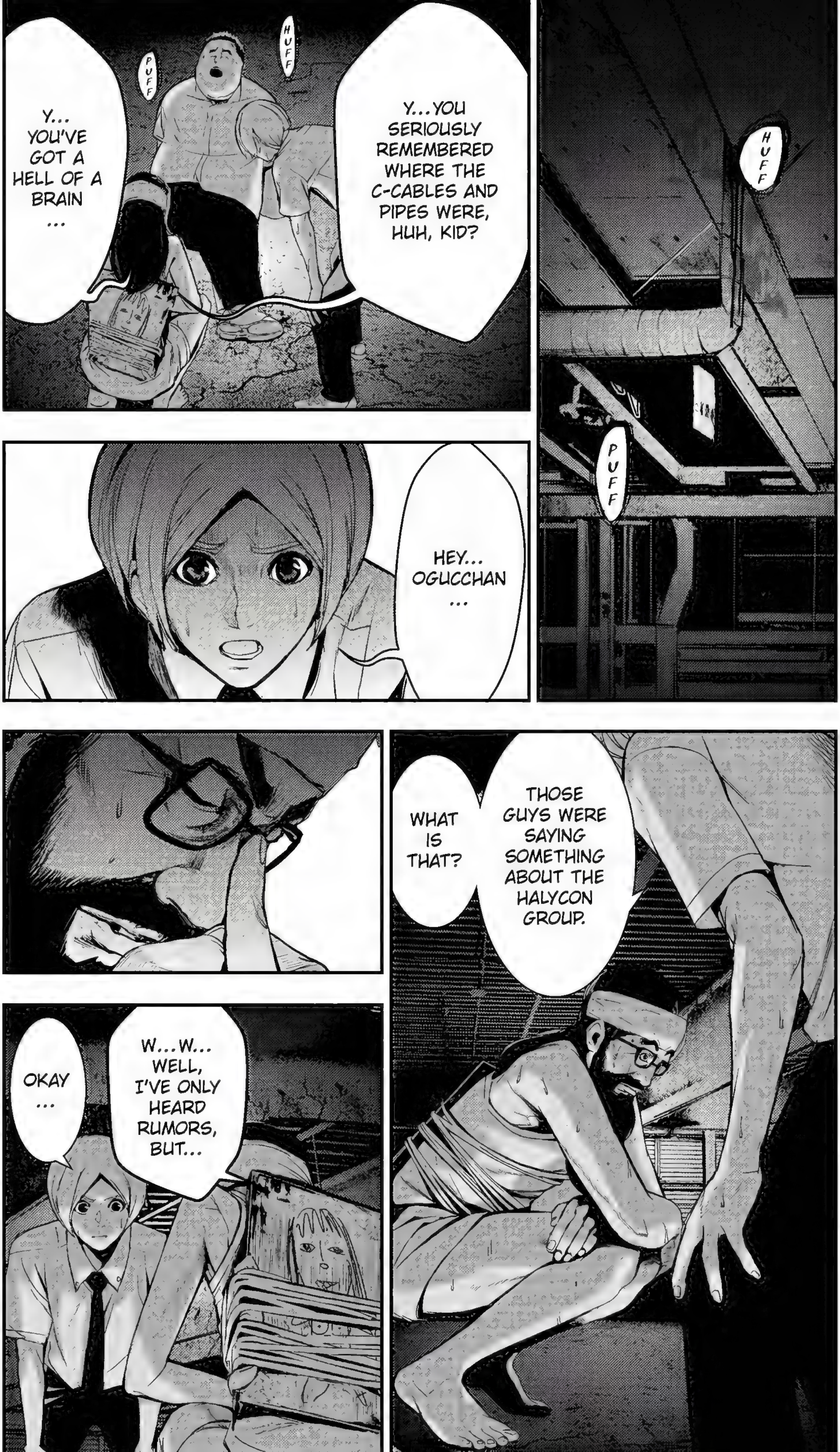

SPLASH
SPLISH
ジャアアアアア
FSHHHH

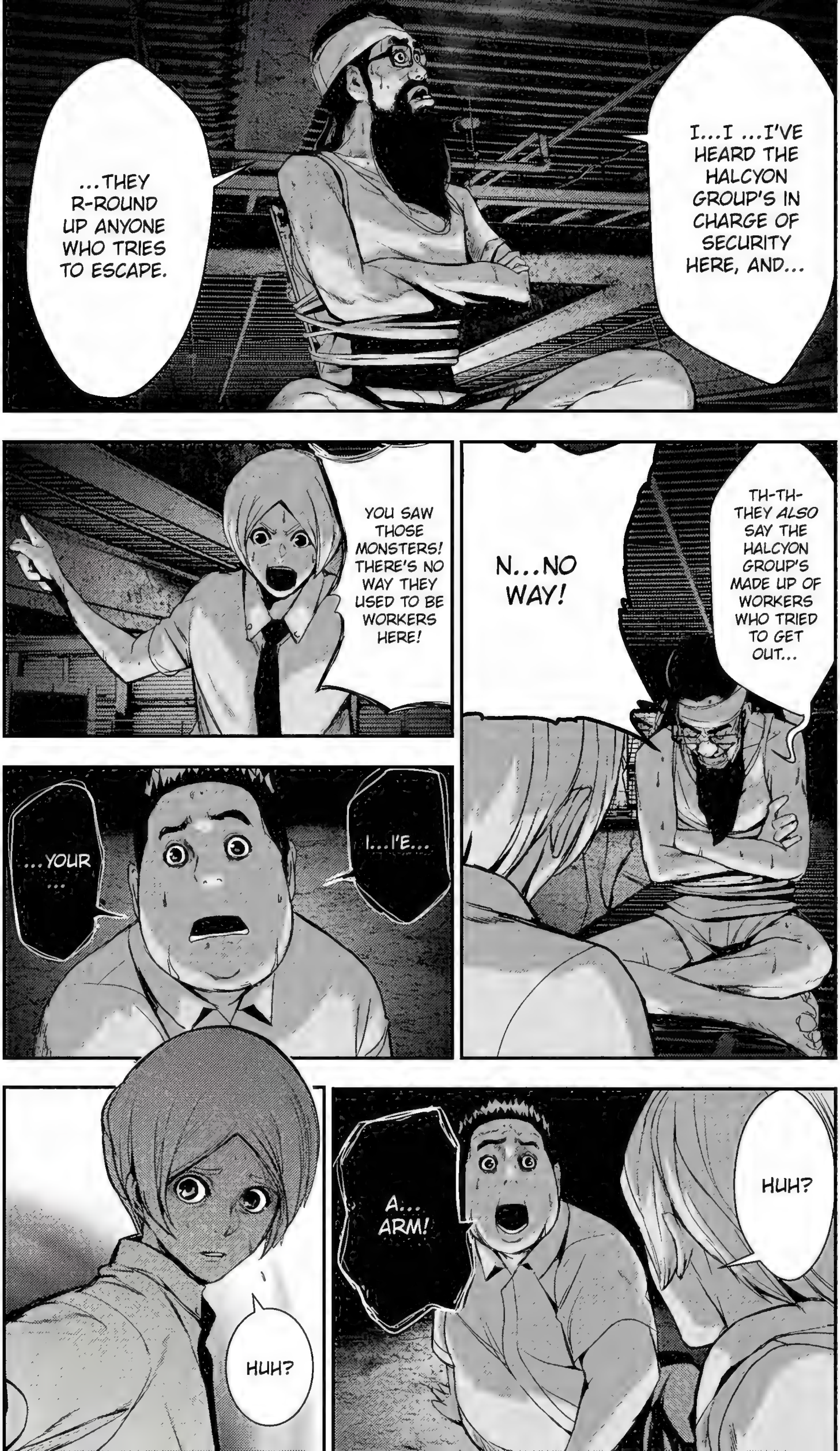


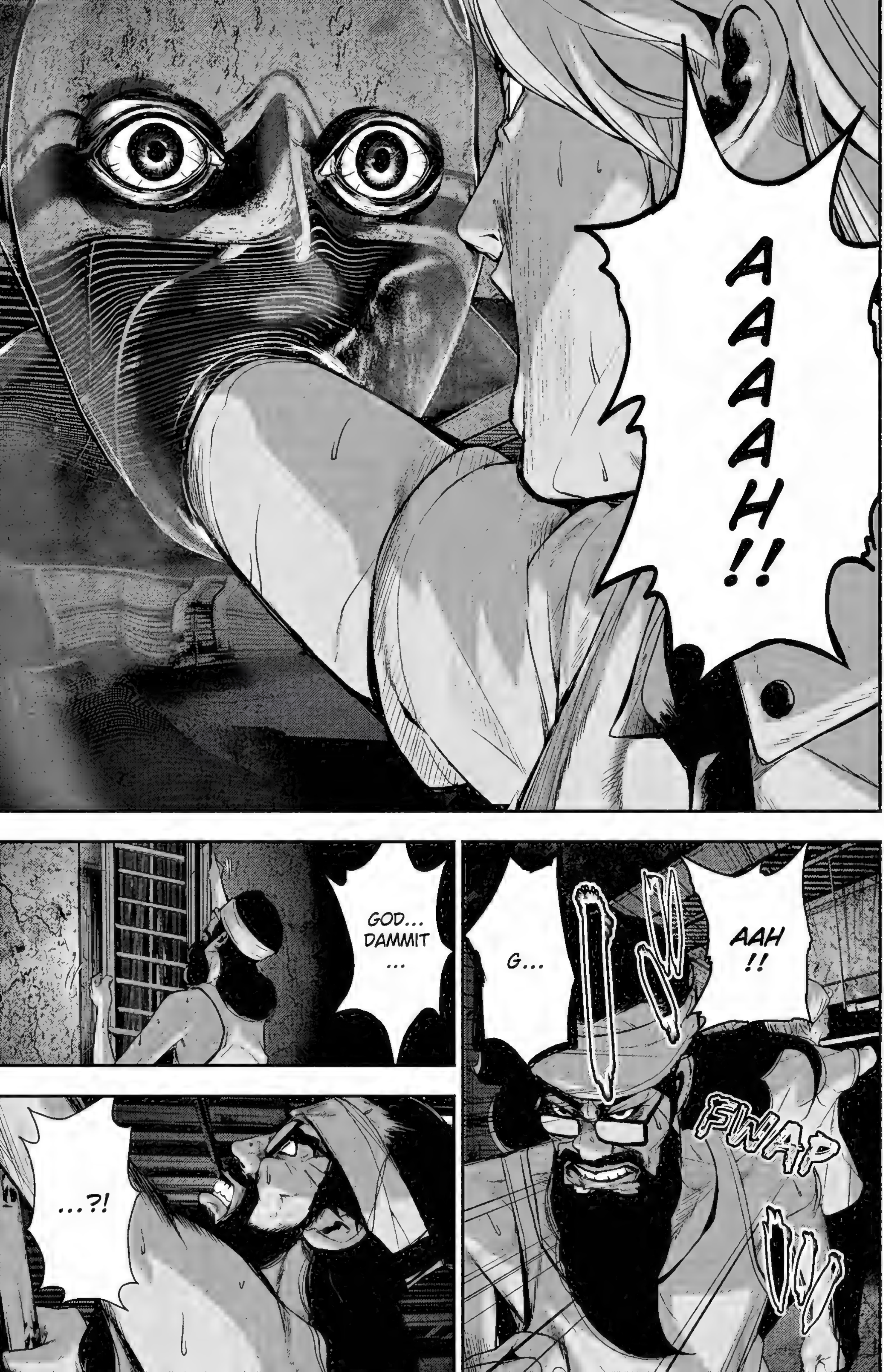


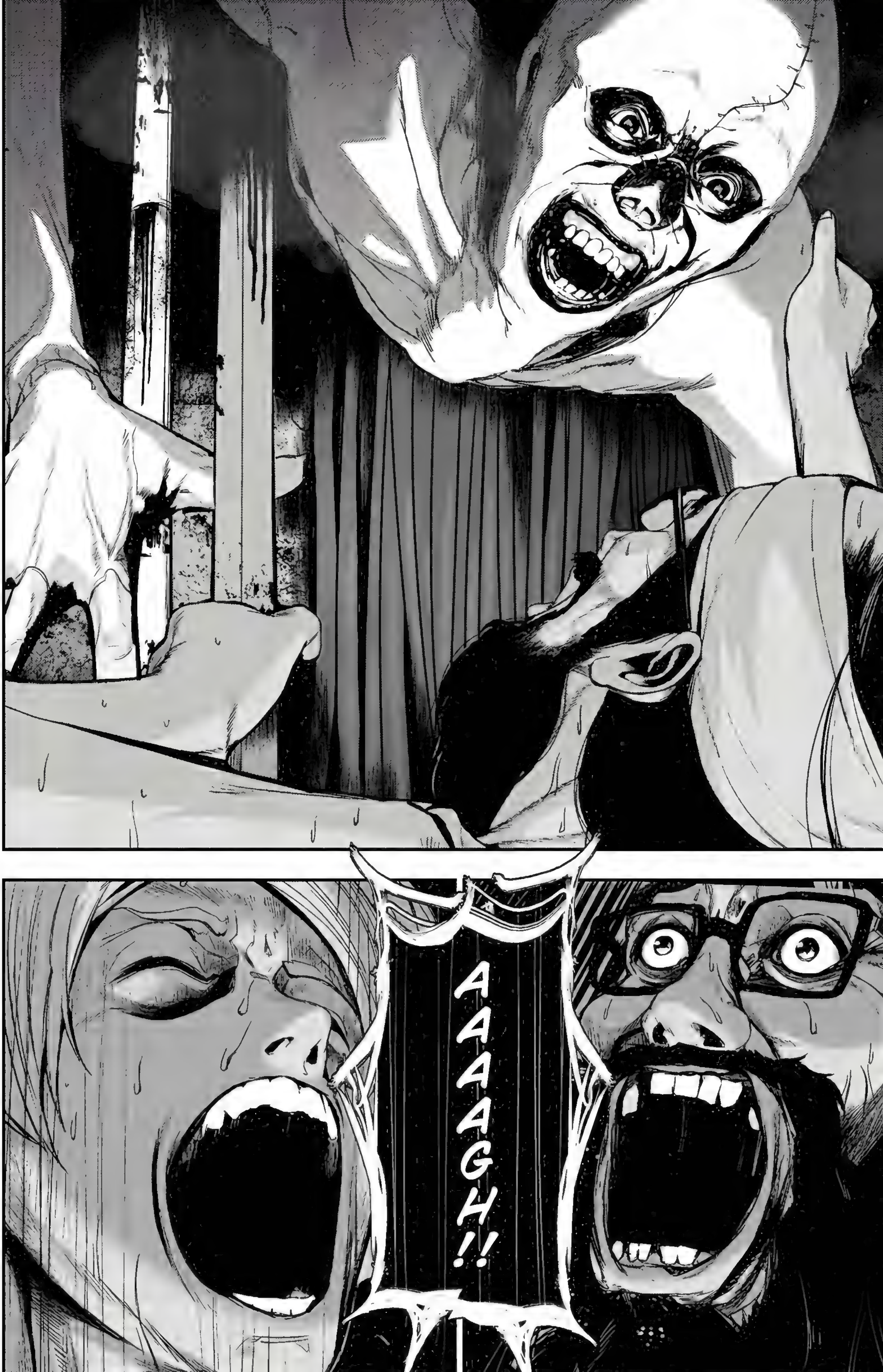

VZZZT
VZZZT


SPLSHH
KAZU! OGUCCHAN! RUN! GO!!
A... AAAGH!!

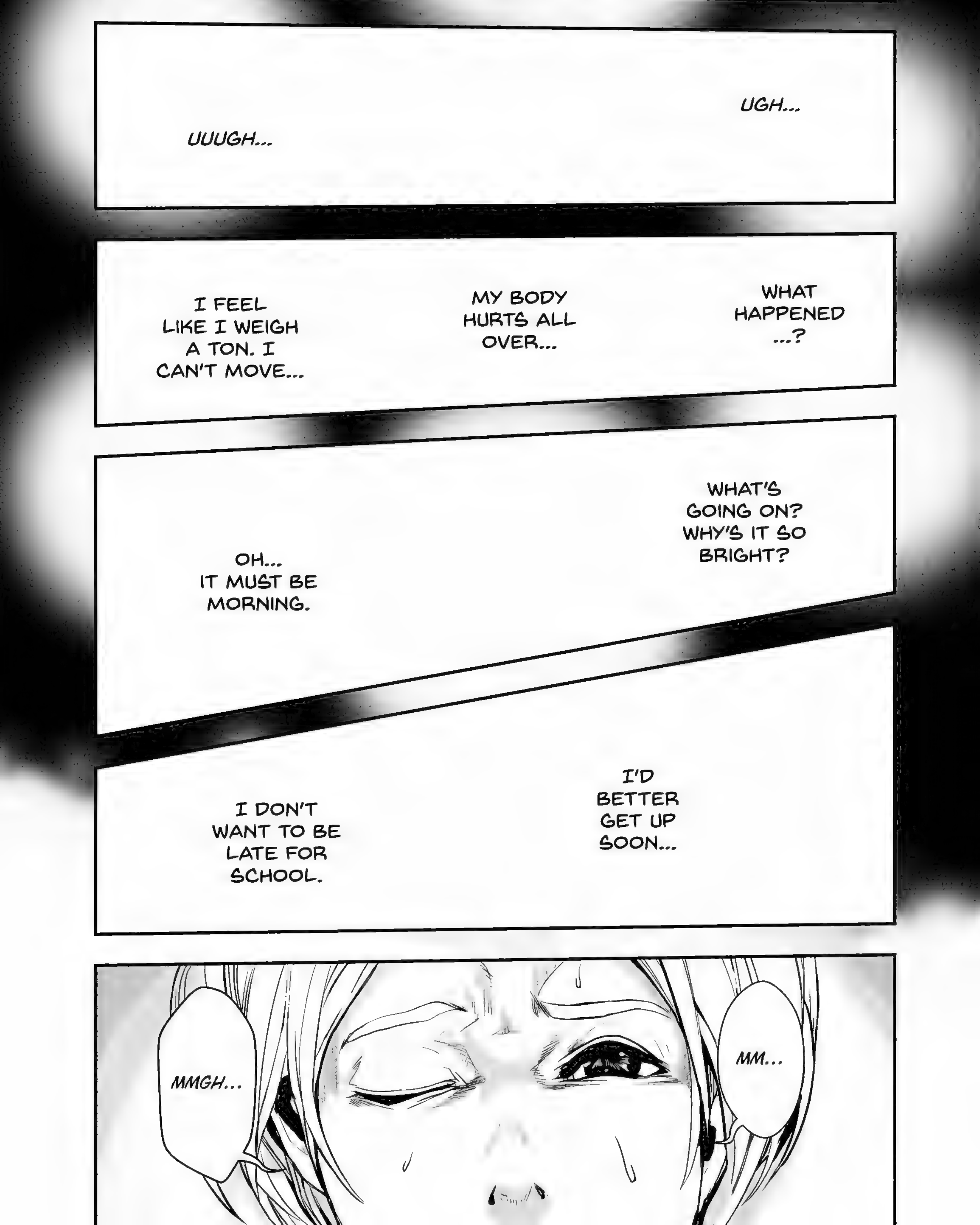

HUFF
PUFF
Y...YOU SERIOUSLY REMEMBERED WHERE THE C-CABLES AND PIPES WERE, HUH, KID?
HUFF
PUFF
Y... YOU'VE GOT A HELL OF A BRAIN ...
HEY... OGUCCHAN ...
THOSE GUYS WERE SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT THE HALYCON GROUP.
WHAT IS THAT?
W...W... WELL, I'VE ONLY HEARD RUMORS, BUT...
OKAY ...


I...I ...I'VE HEARD THE HALCYON GROUP'S IN CHARGE OF SECURITY HERE, AND...
...THEY R-ROUND UP ANYONE WHO TRIES TO ESCAPE.
TH-TH-THEY *ALSO* SAY THE HALCYON GROUP'S MADE UP OF WORKERS WHO TRIED TO GET OUT...
N...NO WAY!
YOU SAW THOSE MONSTERS! THERE'S NO WAY THEY USED TO BE WORKERS HERE!
I...I'E...
...YOUR...
HUH?
A... ARM!
HUH?

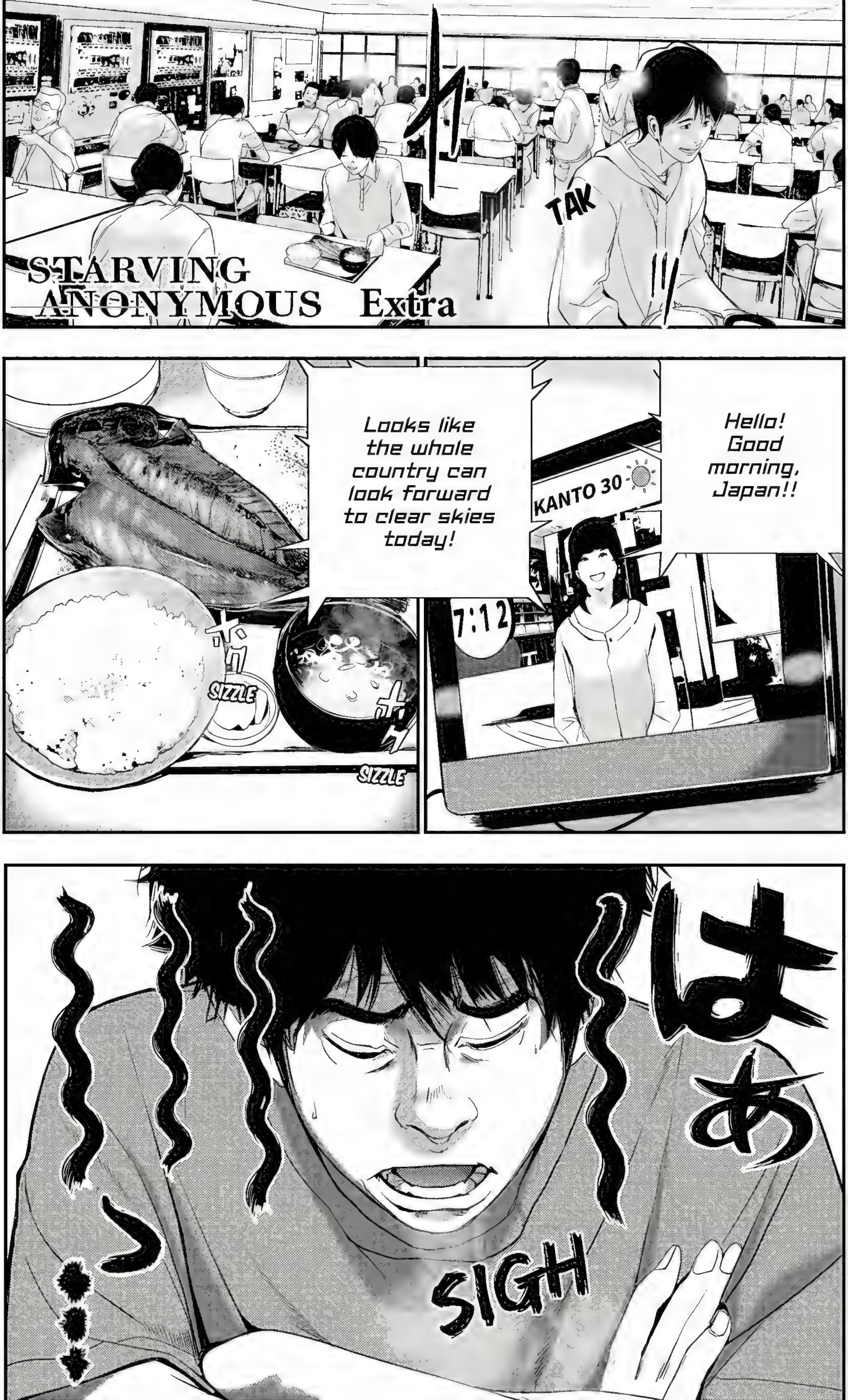

AAAAAH!!
G...
AAH!!
FWAP
GOD... DAMMIT ...
...?!

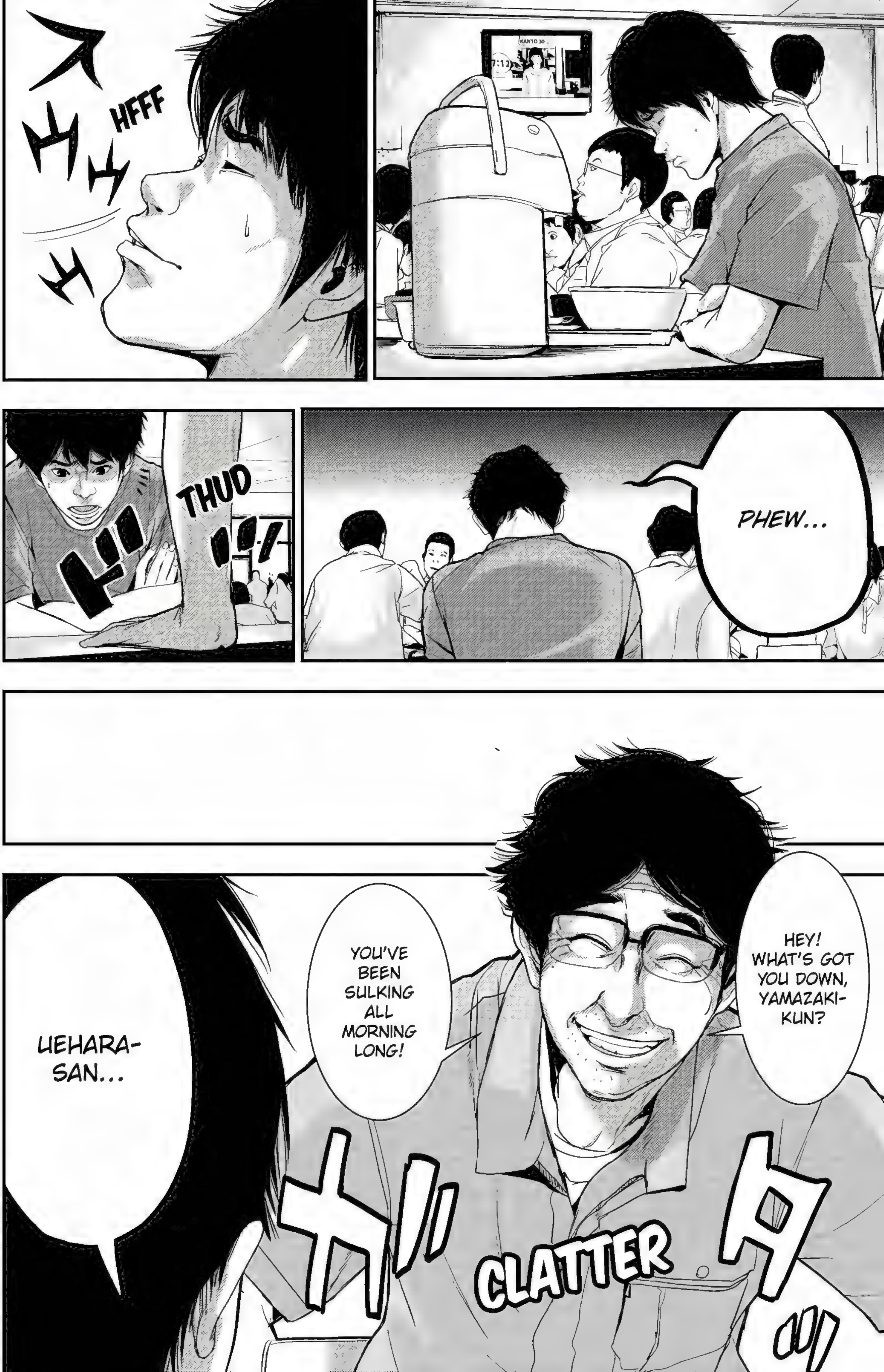

AAAAGH!!

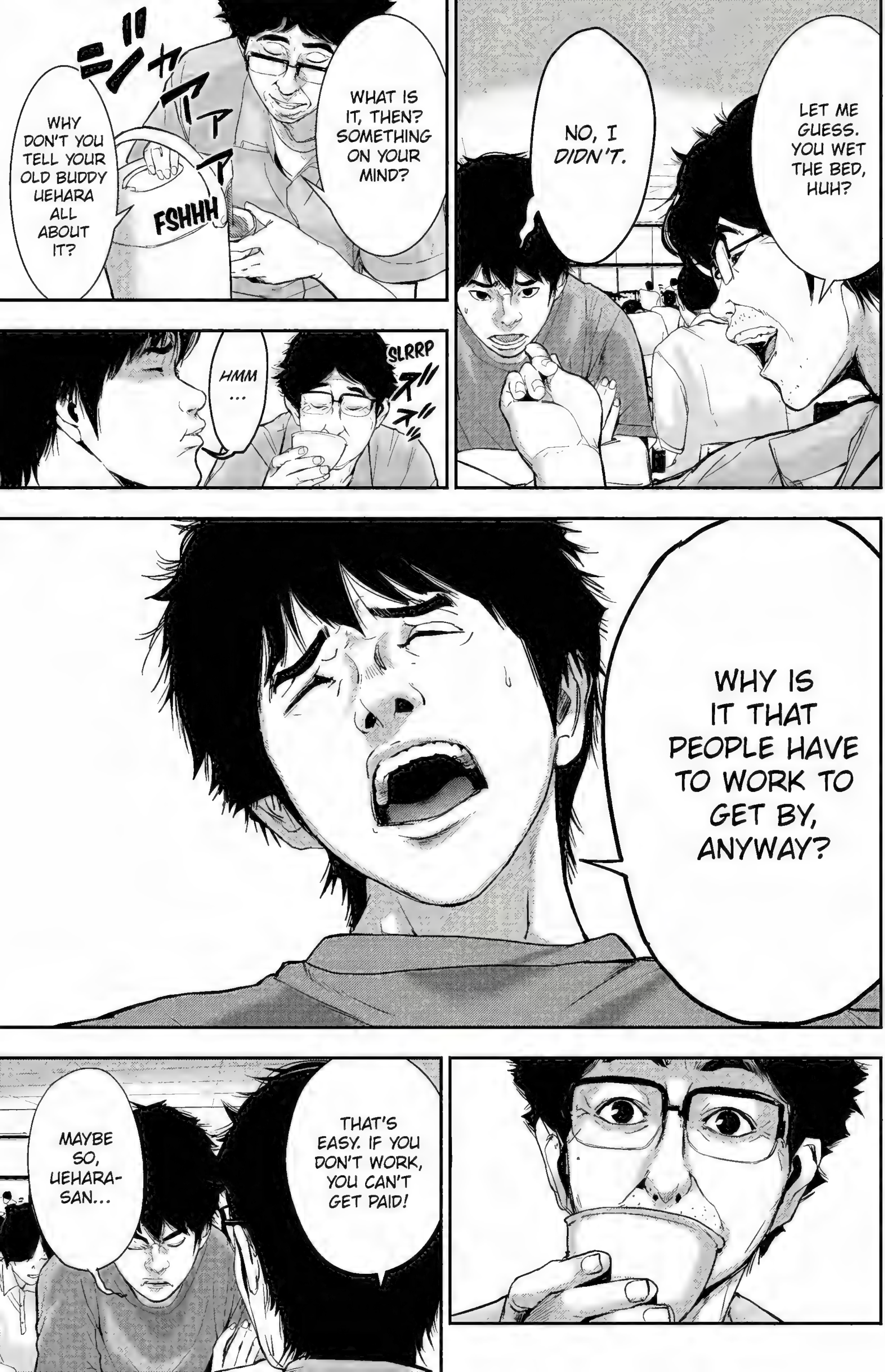
Chapter 23

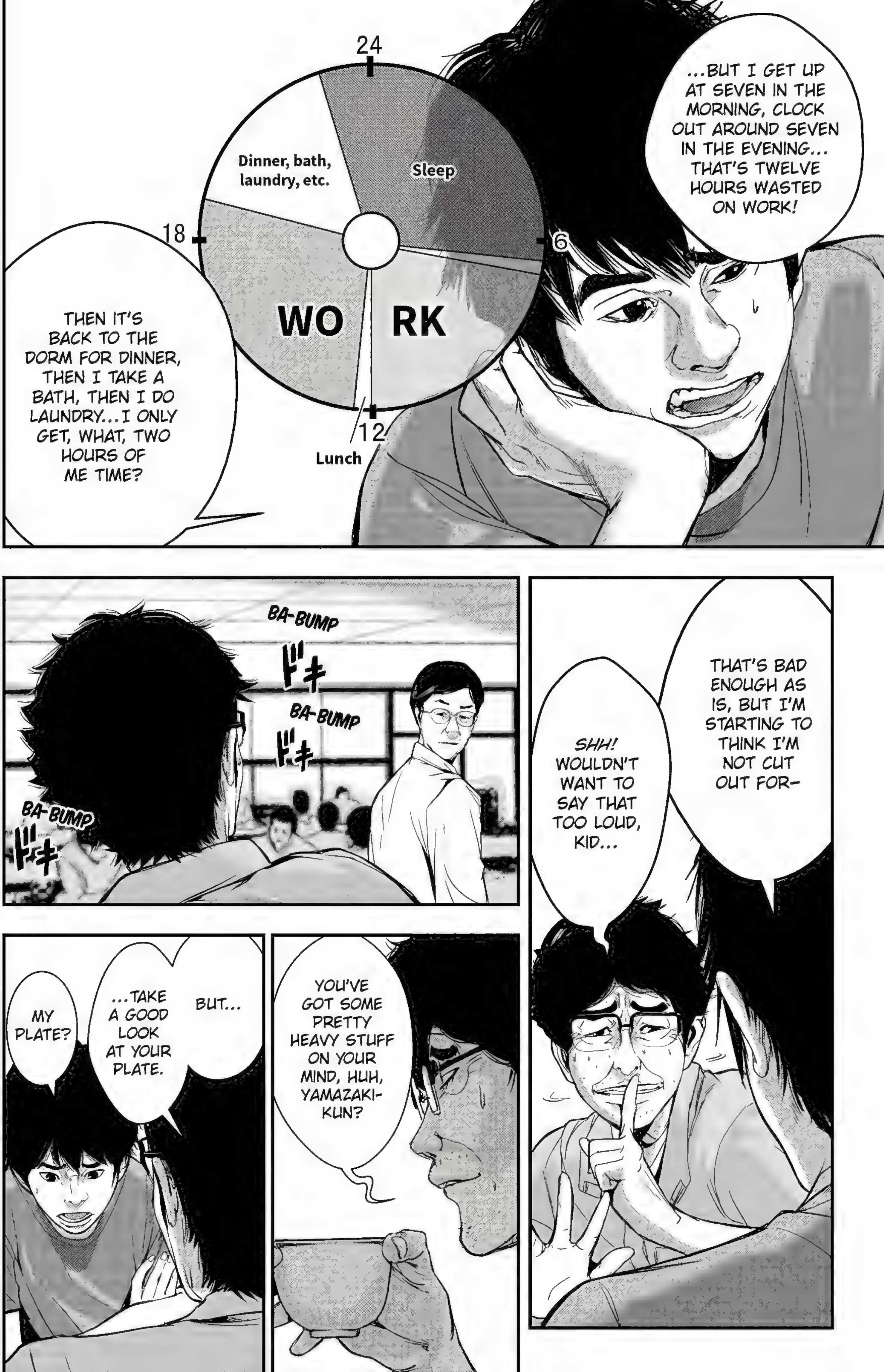

UGH...
UUUGH...
WHAT HAPPENED ...?
MY BODY HURTS ALL OVER...
I FEEL LIKE I WEIGH A TON. I CAN'T MOVE...
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY'S IT SO BRIGHT?
OH... IT MUST BE MORNING.
I'D BETTER GET UP SOON...
I DON'T WANT TO BE LATE FOR SCHOOL.
MM...
MMGH...

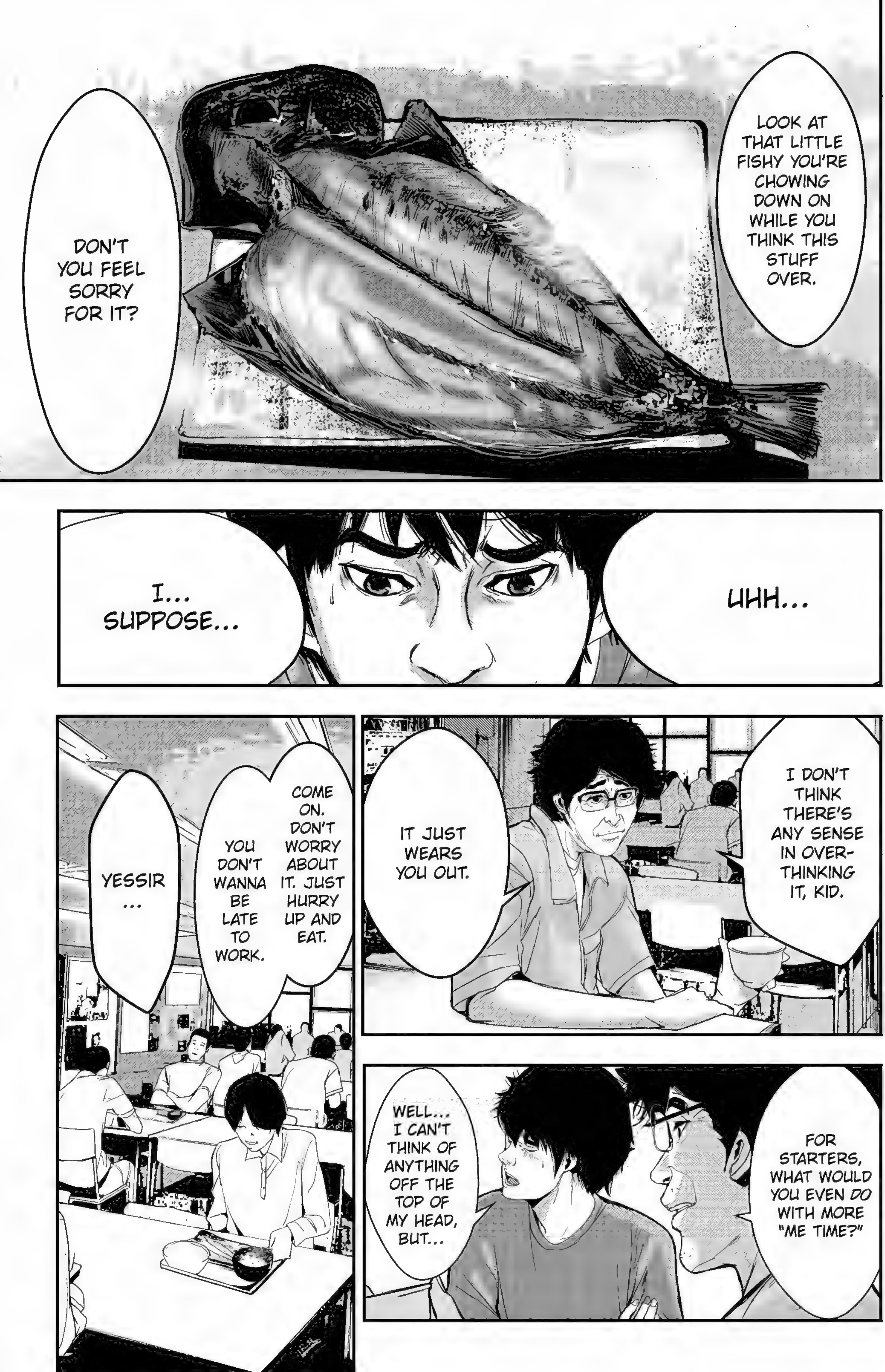
STARVING ANONYMOUS Extra

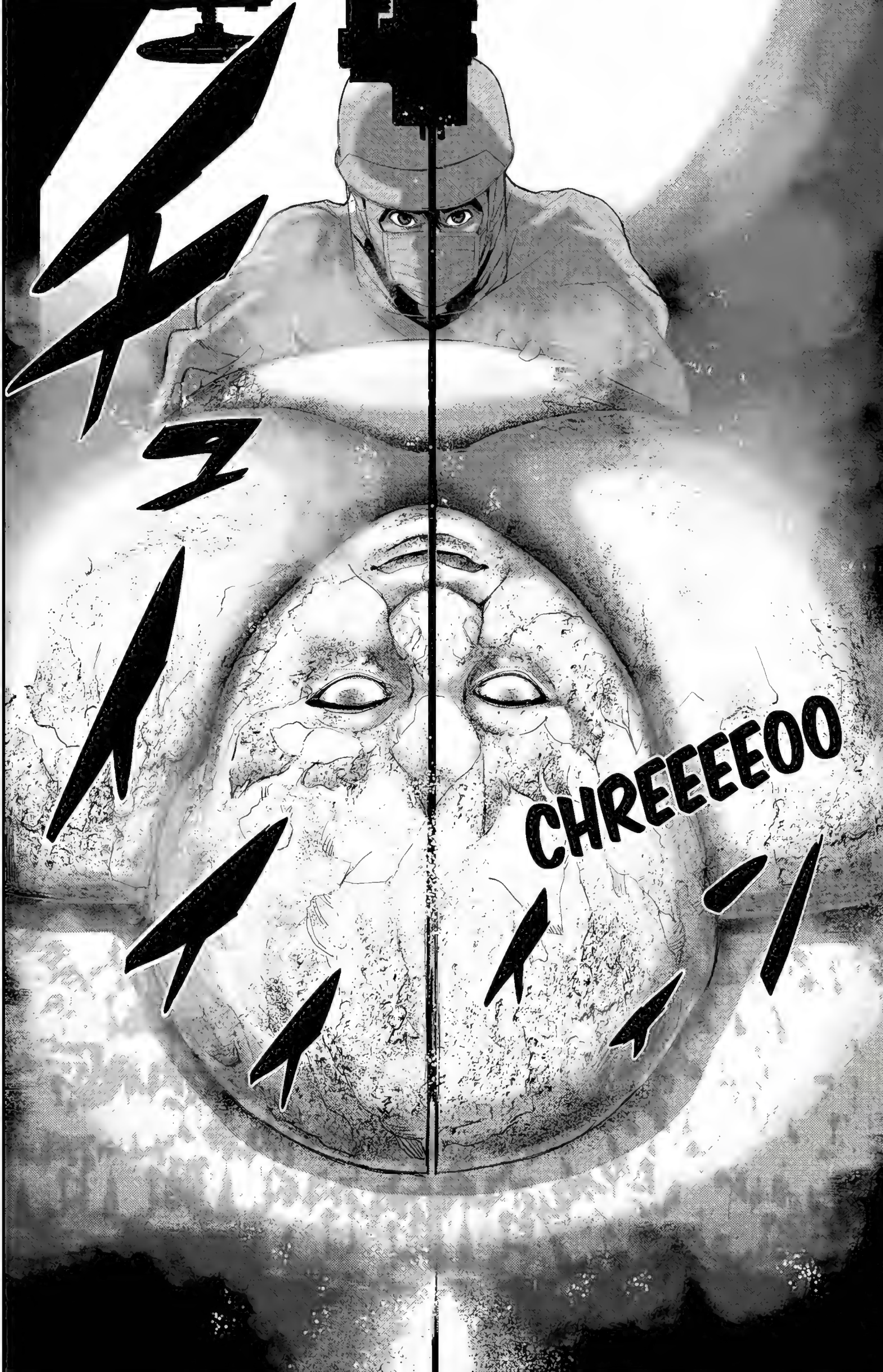

TAK
Hello! Good morning, Japan!!
KANTO 30
7:12
Looks like the whole country can look forward to clear skies today!
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
はあ～っ…
SIGH

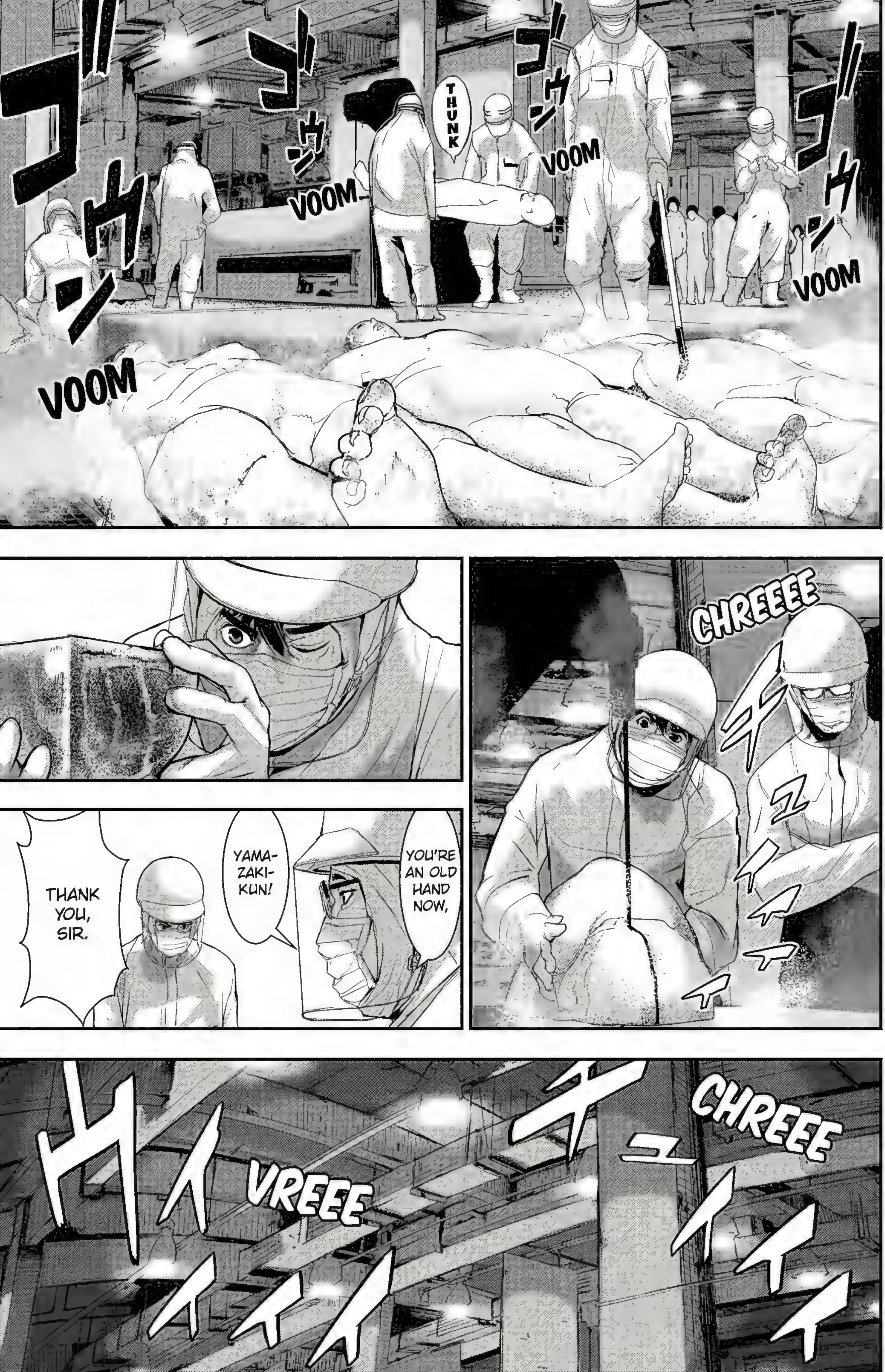

HFFF
PHEW...
THUD
HEY! WHAT'S GOT YOU DOWN, YAMAZAKI-KUN?
YOU'VE BEEN SULKING ALL MORNING LONG!
CLATTER
UEHARA-SAN...

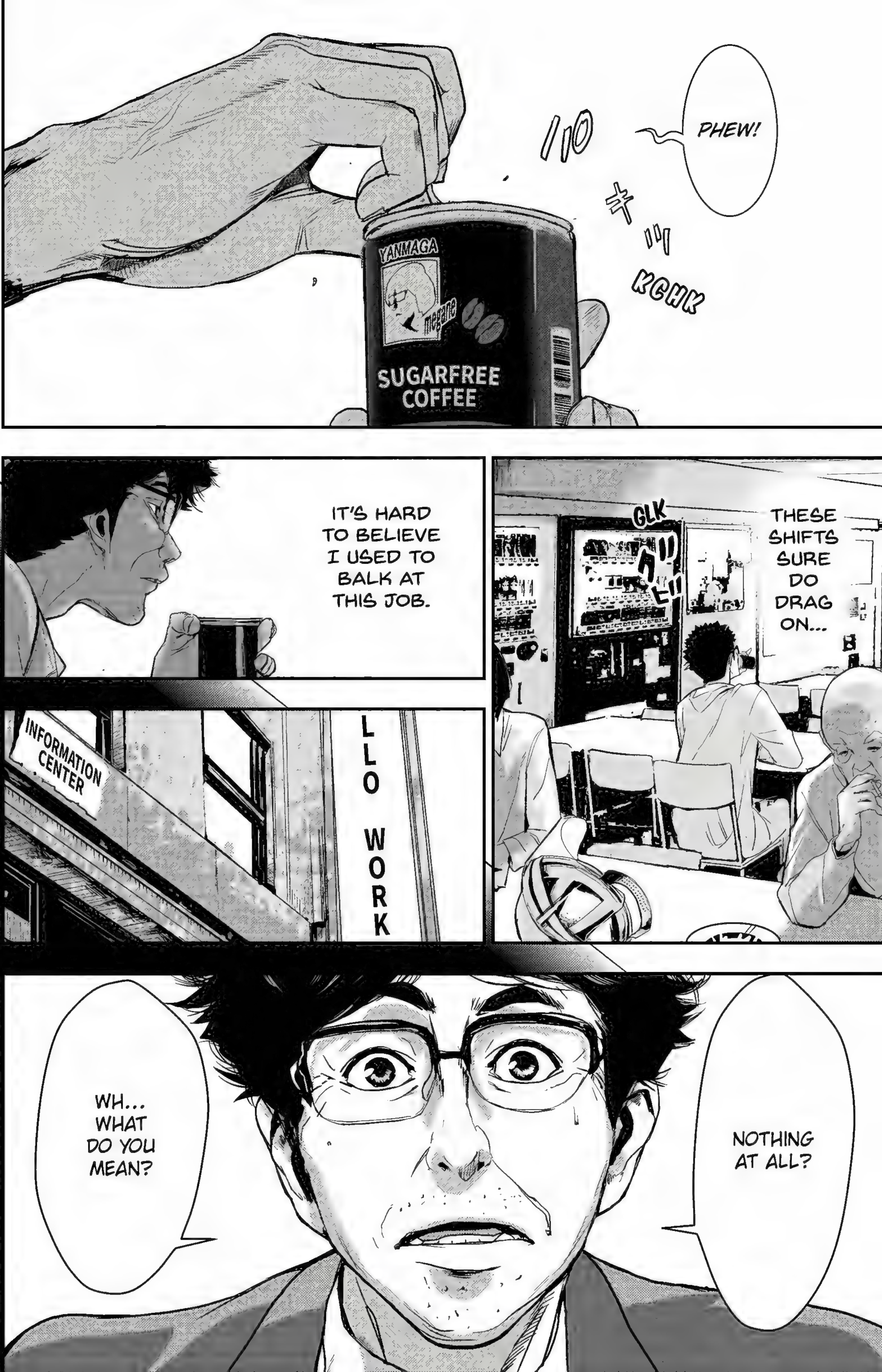

LET ME GUESS. YOU WET THE BED, HUH?
NO, I DIDN'T.
WHAT IS IT, THEN? SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?
ジャアアア
FSHHH
WHY DON'T YOU TELL YOUR OLD BUDDY UEHARA ALL ABOUT IT?
SLRRP
ズズ
HMM...
WHY IS IT THAT PEOPLE HAVE TO WORK TO GET BY, ANYWAY?
THAT'S EASY. IF YOU DON'T WORK, YOU CAN'T GET PAID!
MAYBE SO, UEHARA-SAN...

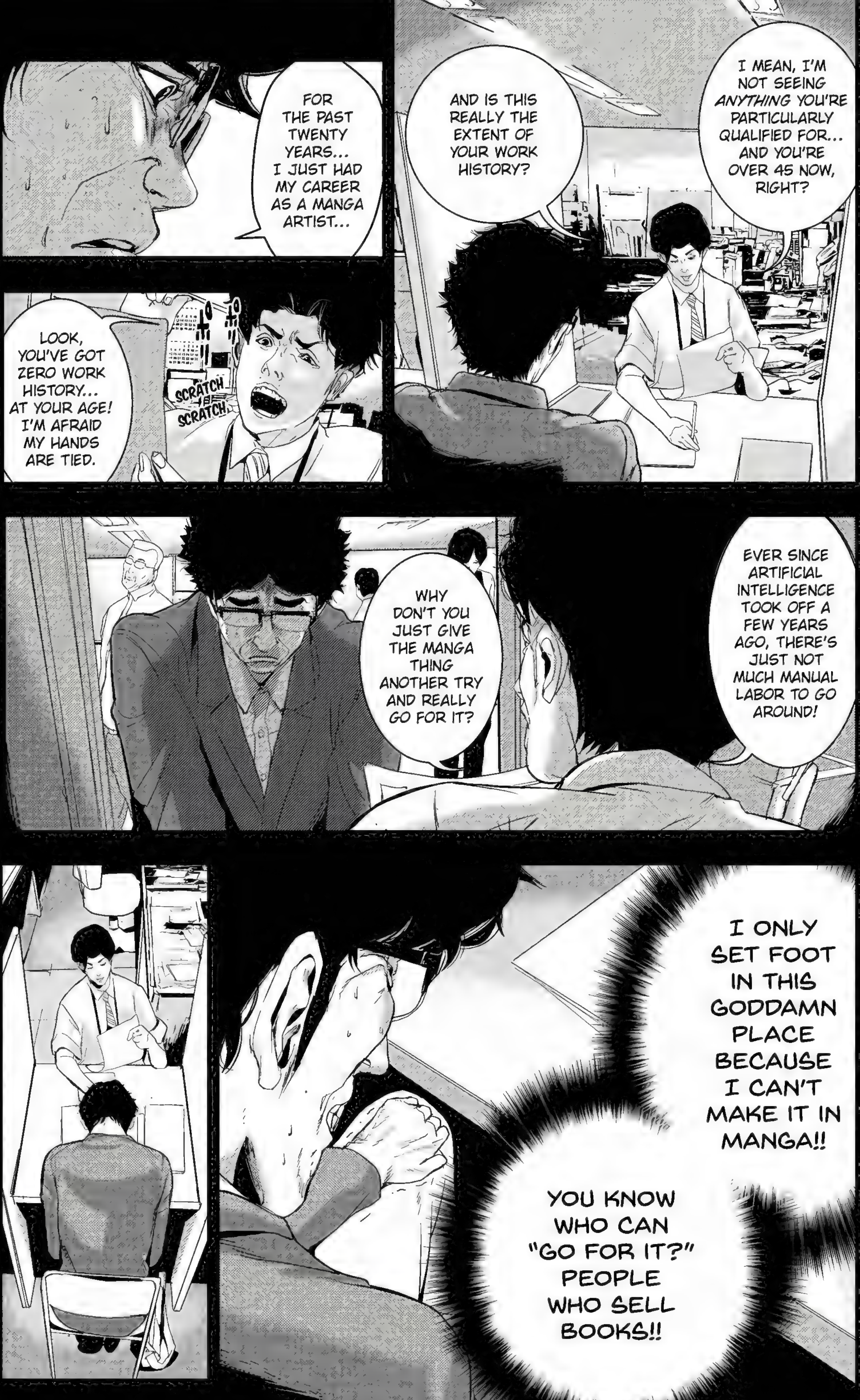

...BUT I GET UP AT SEVEN IN THE MORNING, CLOCK OUT AROUND SEVEN IN THE EVENING... THAT'S TWELVE HOURS WASTED ON WORK!
24
6
12
18
Sleep
Dinner, bath, laundry, etc.
WO RK
Lunch
THEN IT'S BACK TO THE DORM FOR DINNER, THEN I TAKE A BATH, THEN I DO LAUNDRY...I ONLY GET, WHAT, TWO HOURS OF ME TIME?
THAT'S BAD ENOUGH AS IS, BUT I'M STARTING TO THINK I'M NOT CUT OUT FOR-
SHH! WOULDN'T WANT TO SAY THAT TOO LOUD, KID...
BA-BUMP
ドキ
BA-BUMP
ドキ
BA-BUMP
ドキ
YOU'VE GOT SOME PRETTY HEAVY STUFF ON YOUR MIND, HUH, YAMAZAKI-KUN?
BUT...
...TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT YOUR PLATE.
MY PLATE?

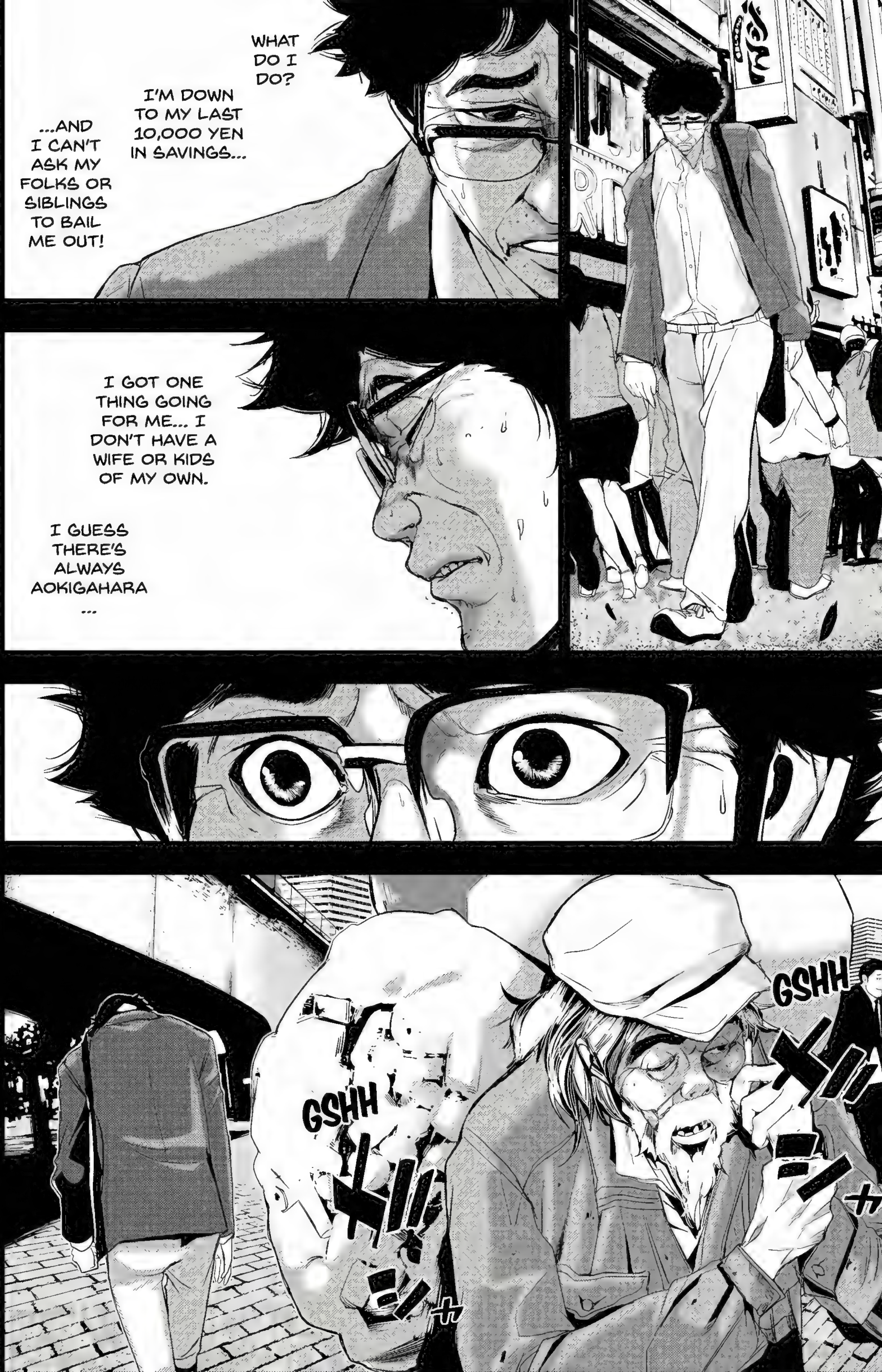

LOOK AT THAT LITTLE FISHY YOU'RE CHOWING DOWN ON WHILE YOU THINK THIS STUFF OVER.
DON'T YOU FEEL SORRY FOR IT?
UHH...
I... SUPPOSE...
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY SENSE IN OVER-THINKING IT, KID.
IT JUST WEARS YOU OUT.
FOR STARTERS, WHAT WOULD YOU EVEN *DO* WITH MORE "ME TIME?"
WELL... I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD, BUT...
COME ON. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. JUST HURRY UP AND EAT.
YOU DON'T WANNA BE LATE TO WORK.
YESSIR...

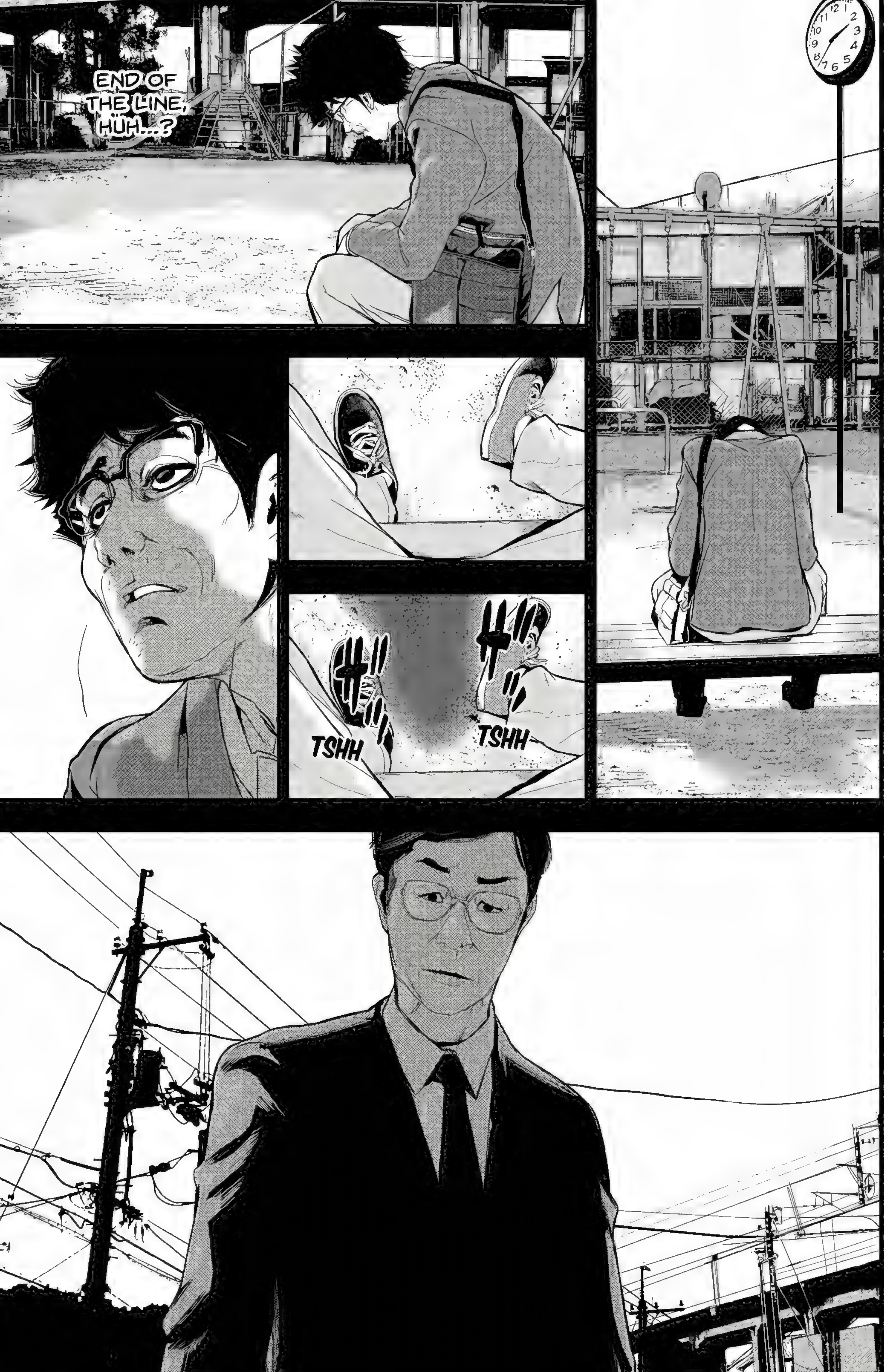

CHREEEEOO

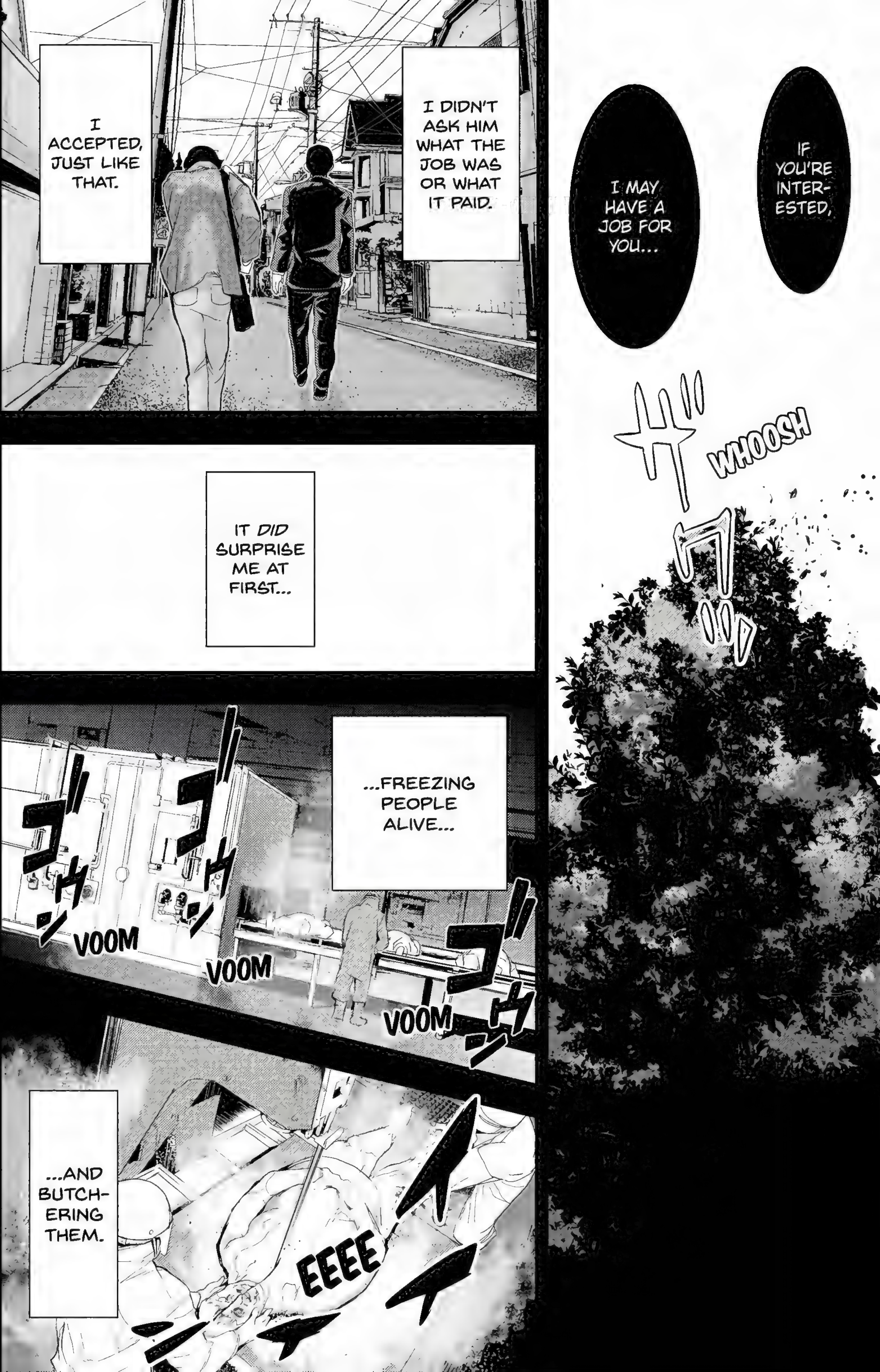

ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
THUNK
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
チュイイイイ
CHREEEE
YOU'RE AN OLD HAND NOW,
YAMAZAKI-KUN!
THANK YOU, SIR.
チュイイイ
CHREEE
ウイイイイ
VREEE

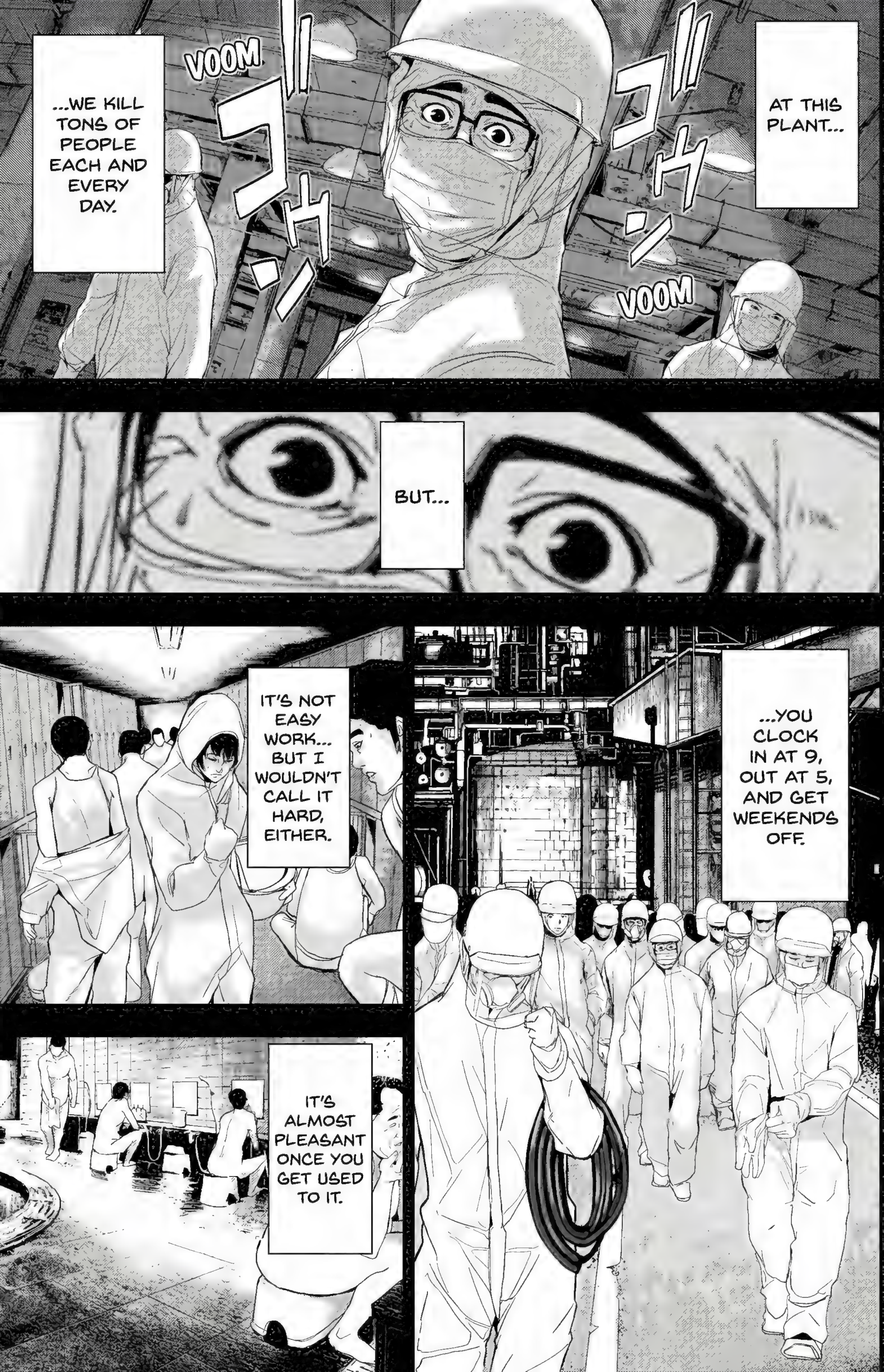

PHEW!
キッ
KCHK
YANMAGA
megane
SUGARFREE COFFEE
THESE SHIFTS SURE DO DRAG ON...
GLK
グビ
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE I USED TO BALK AT THIS JOB.
INFORMATION CENTER
LLO WORK
NOTHING AT ALL?
WH... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

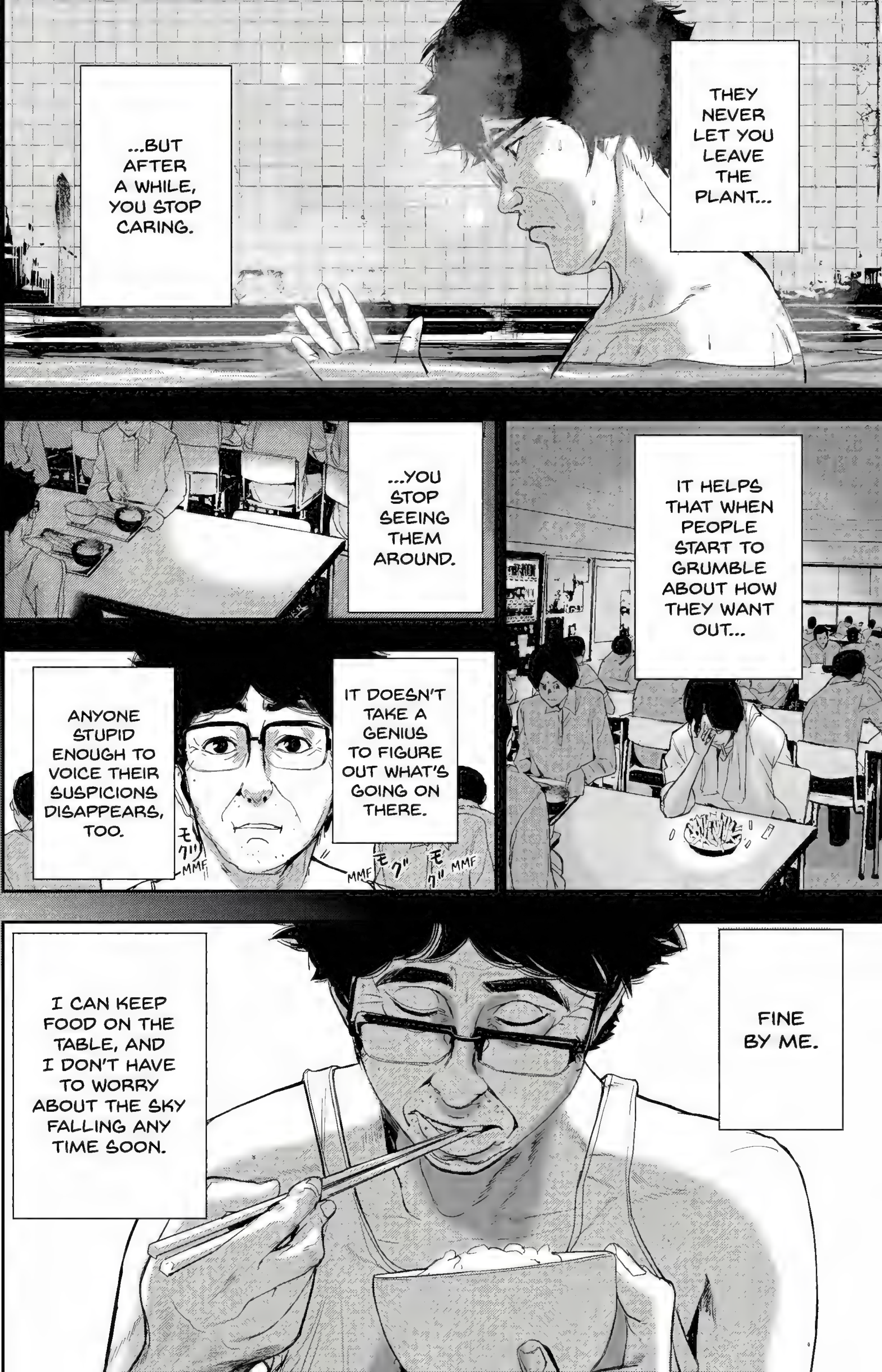

AND IS THIS REALLY THE EXTENT OF YOUR WORK HISTORY?
I MEAN, I'M NOT SEEING *ANYTHING* YOU'RE PARTICULARLY QUALIFIED FOR… AND YOU'RE OVER 45 NOW, RIGHT?
FOR THE PAST TWENTY YEARS… I JUST HAD MY CAREER AS A MANGA ARTIST…
SCRATCH SCRATCH
LOOK, YOU'VE GOT ZERO WORK HISTORY… AT YOUR AGE! I'M AFRAID MY HANDS ARE TIED.
EVER SINCE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOK OFF A FEW YEARS AGO, THERE'S JUST NOT MUCH MANUAL LABOR TO GO AROUND!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GIVE THE MANGA THING ANOTHER TRY AND REALLY GO FOR IT?
I ONLY SET FOOT IN THIS GODDAMN PLACE BECAUSE I CAN'T MAKE IT IN MANGA!!
YOU KNOW WHO CAN "GO FOR IT?" PEOPLE WHO SELL BOOKS!!

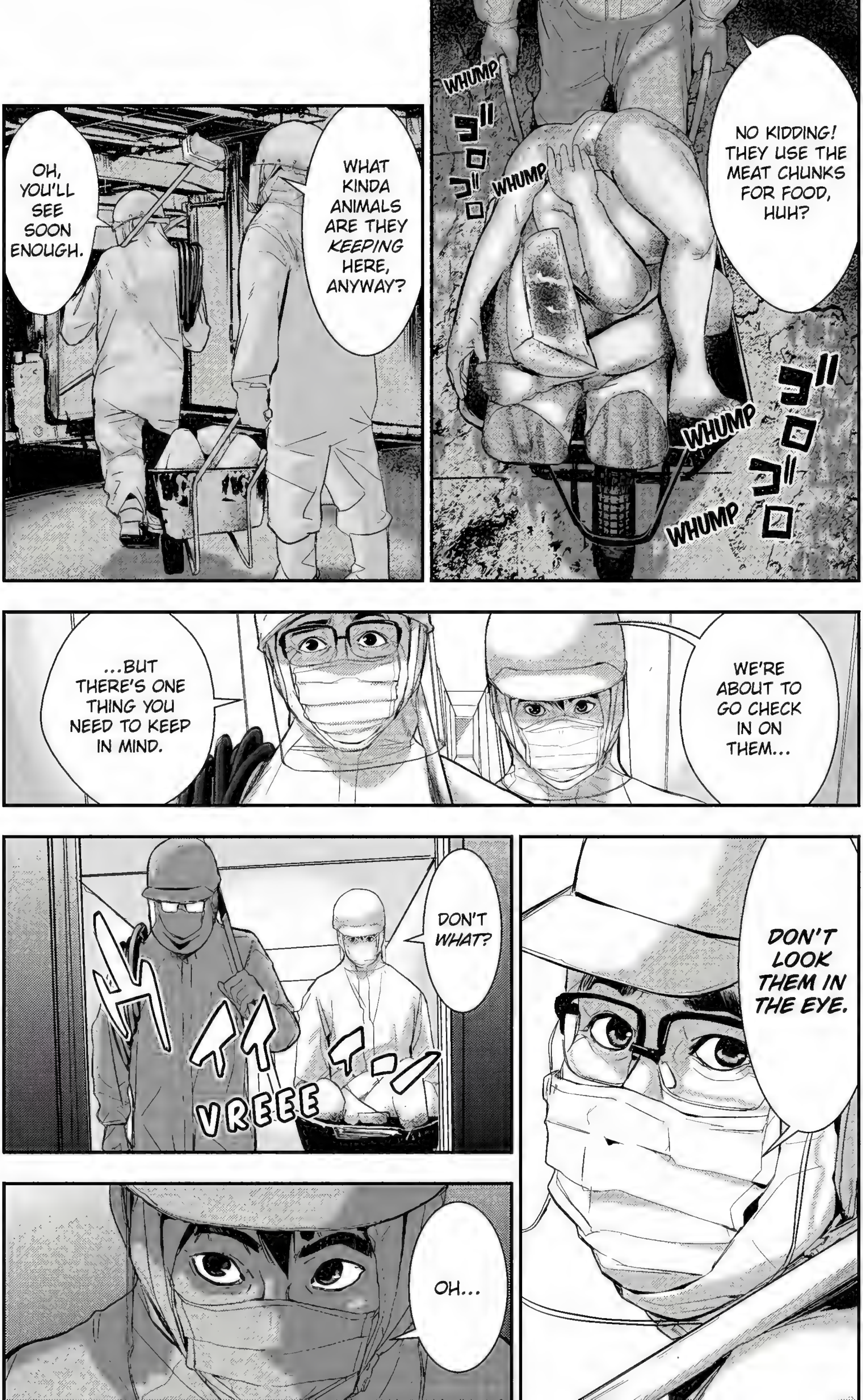

WHAT DO I DO?
I'M DOWN TO MY LAST 10,000 YEN IN SAVINGS...
...AND I CAN'T ASK MY FOLKS OR SIBLINGS TO BAIL ME OUT!
I GOT ONE THING GOING FOR ME... I DON'T HAVE A WIFE OR KIDS OF MY OWN.
I GUESS THERE'S ALWAYS AOKIGAHARA ...
GSHH
GSHH

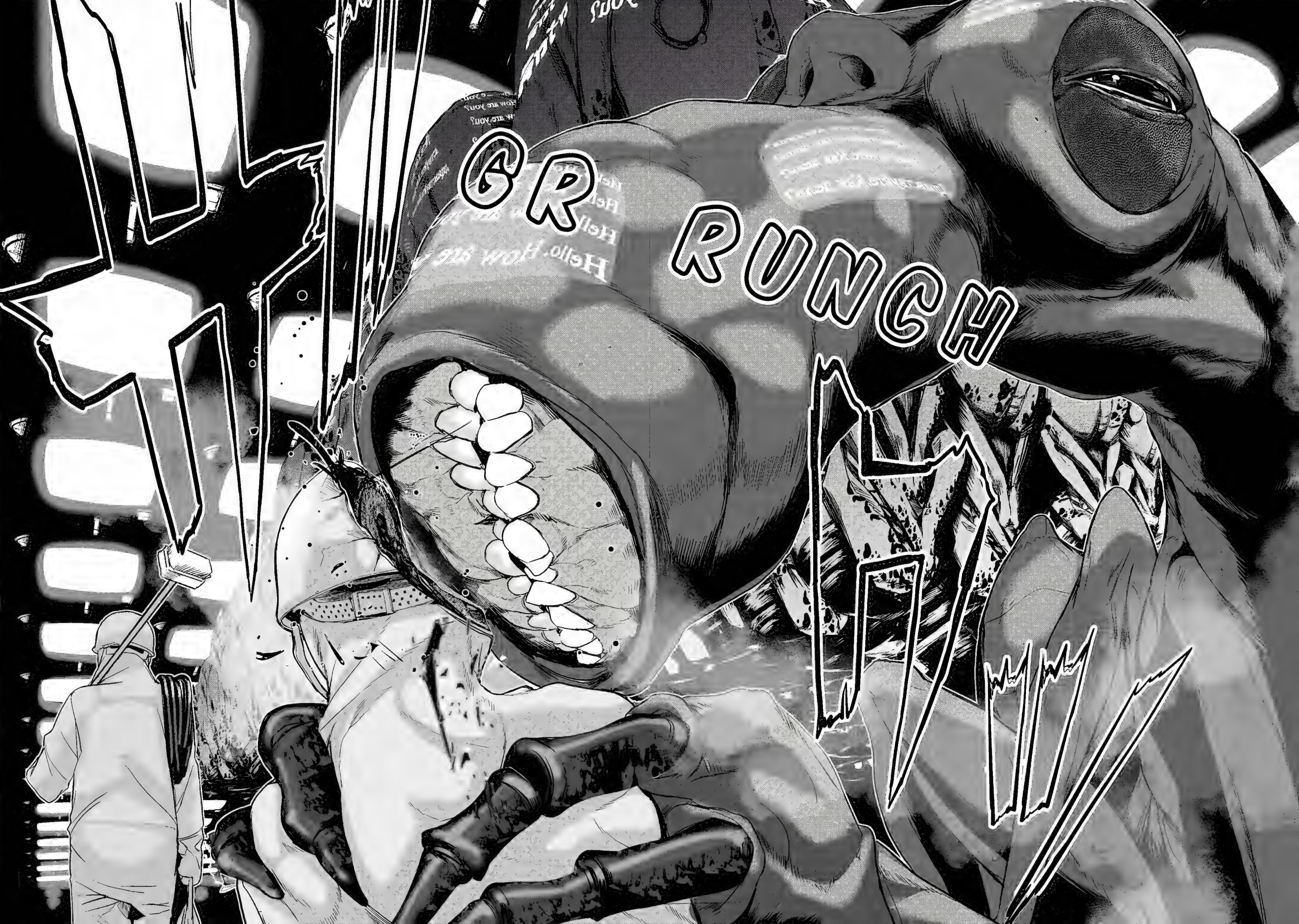

END OF THE LINE, HUH...?
TSHH
TSHH

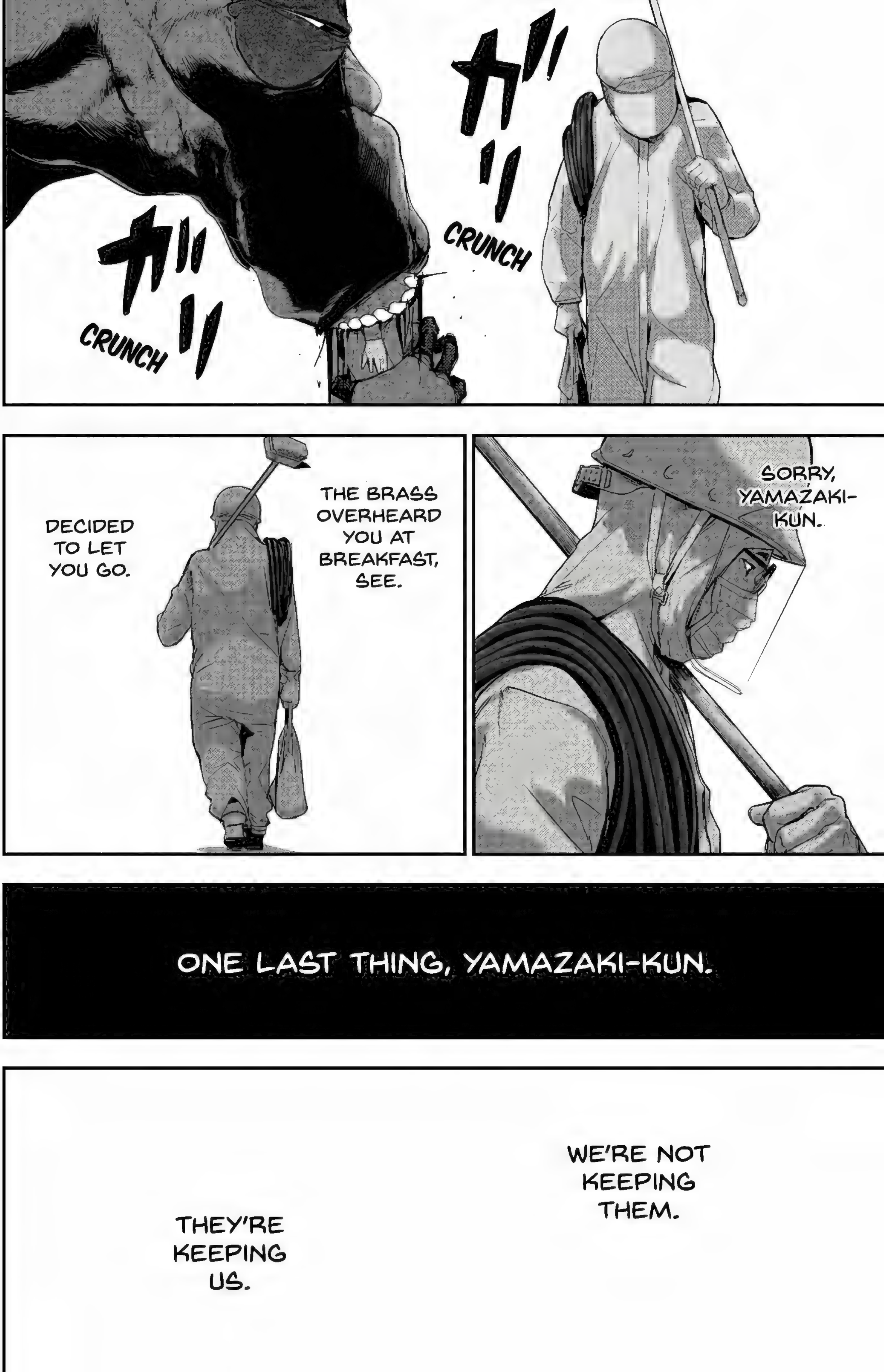

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED,
I MAY HAVE A JOB FOR YOU...
WHOOSH
I DIDN'T ASK HIM WHAT THE JOB WAS OR WHAT IT PAID.
I ACCEPTED, JUST LIKE THAT.
IT *DID* SURPRISE ME AT FIRST...
...FREEZING PEOPLE ALIVE...
VOOM
VOOM
VOOM
...AND BUTCHERING THEM.
EEEE


AT THIS PLANT...
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
...WE KILL TONS OF PEOPLE EACH AND EVERY DAY.
BUT...
...YOU CLOCK IN AT 9, OUT AT 5, AND GET WEEKENDS OFF.
IT'S NOT EASY WORK... BUT I WOULDN'T CALL IT HARD, EITHER.
IT'S ALMOST PLEASANT ONCE YOU GET USED TO IT.

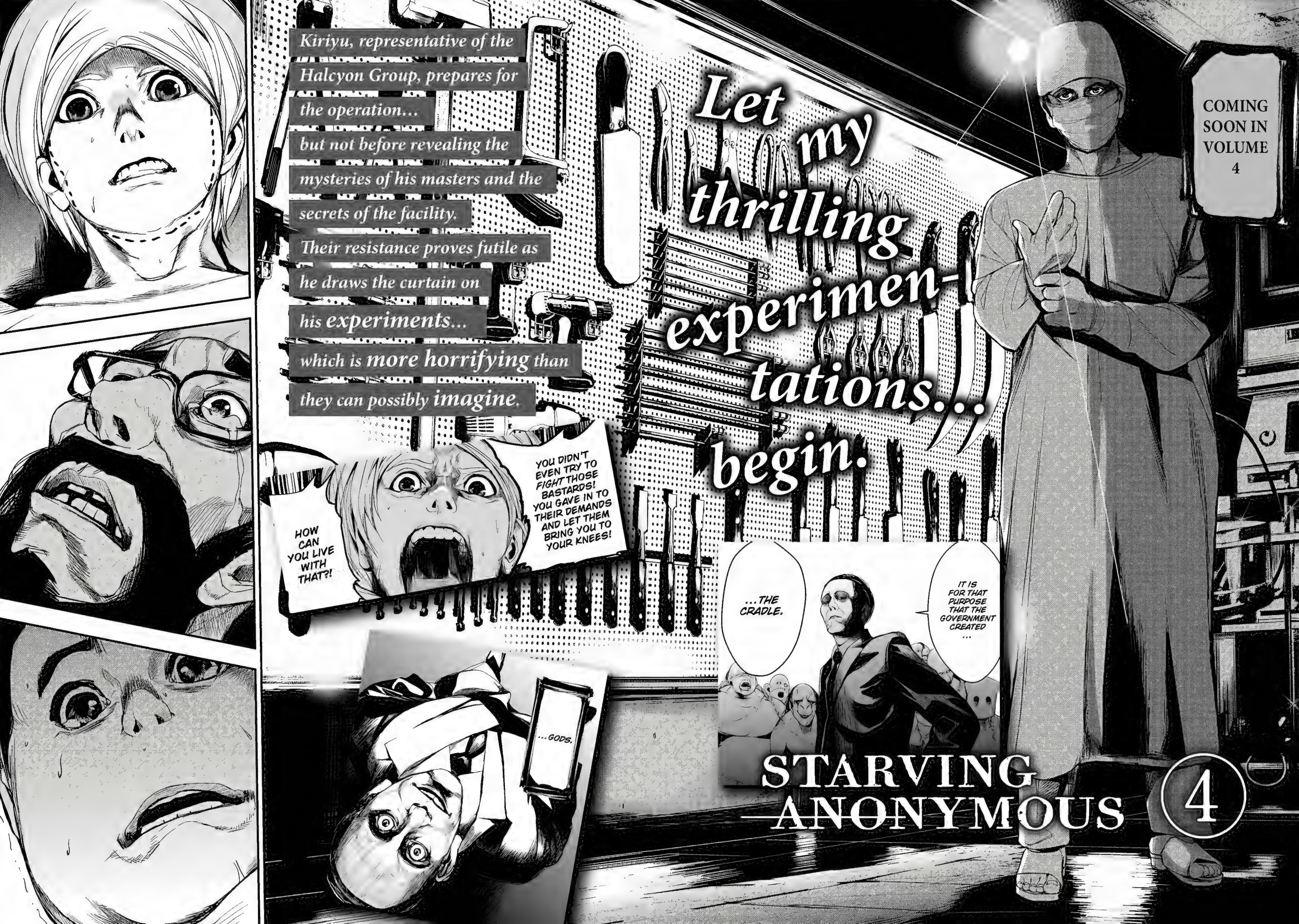

THEY NEVER LET YOU LEAVE THE PLANT...
...BUT AFTER A WHILE, YOU STOP CARING.
IT HELPS THAT WHEN PEOPLE START TO GRUMBLE ABOUT HOW THEY WANT OUT...
...YOU STOP SEEING THEM AROUND.
IT DOESN'T TAKE A GENIUS TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON THERE.
モグ MMF
モグ MMF
ANYONE STUPID ENOUGH TO VOICE THEIR SUSPICIONS DISAPPEARS, TOO.
モグ MMF
FINE BY ME.
I CAN KEEP FOOD ON THE TABLE, AND I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE SKY FALLING ANY TIME SOON.


NO KIDDING! THEY USE THE MEAT CHUNKS FOR FOOD, HUH?
WHUMP
ゴロゴロ
WHUMP
WHUMP
ゴロゴロ
WHUMP
WHAT KINDA ANIMALS ARE THEY *KEEPING* HERE, ANYWAY?
OH, YOU'LL SEE SOON ENOUGH.
WE'RE ABOUT TO GO CHECK IN ON THEM...
...BUT THERE'S ONE THING YOU NEED TO KEEP IN MIND.
DON'T LOOK THEM IN THE EYE.
DON'T *WHAT?*
VREEE
OH...


GR RUNCH
Hello. How are
How are you?


ガリ
CRUNCH
ガリ
CRUNCH
SORRY, YAMAZAKI-KUN.
THE BRASS OVERHEARD YOU AT BREAKFAST, SEE.
DECIDED TO LET YOU GO.
ONE LAST THING, YAMAZAKI-KUN.
WE'RE NOT KEEPING THEM.
THEY'RE KEEPING US.

STARVING
ANONYMOUS
3
END



Kiriyu, representative of the Halcyon Group, prepares for the operation... but not before revealing the mysteries of his masters and the secrets of the facility. Their resistance proves futile as he draws the curtain on his experiments... which is more horrifying than they can possibly imagine.

Let my thrilling experimentations... begin.

COMING SOON IN VOLUME 4

STARVING ANONYMOUS ④

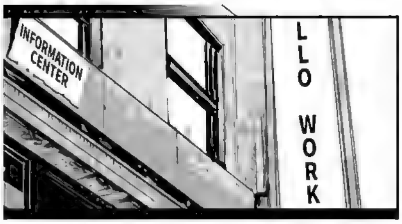
YOU DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO FIGHT THOSE BASTARDS! YOU GAVE IN TO THEIR DEMANDS AND LET THEM BRING YOU TO YOUR KNEES!
HOW CAN YOU LIVE WITH THAT?!
IT IS FOR THAT PURPOSE THAT THE GOVERNMENT CREATED ...
...THE CRADLE.
...GODS.

Translation Notes

The work placement agency, page 194

[194.4]

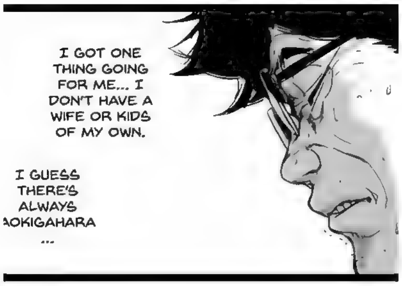
The work placement agency where Uehara seeks help is a government facility designed to find jobs for Japanese citizens going through tough times—although the artist cleverly composes the scene to avoid stating it outright by obscuring a few key letters of the sign. This underscores just how desperate Uehara is: he ends up being rejected by a public agency ostensibly committed to the welfare of people just like him.


INFORMATION CENTER
LLO WORK

Aokigahara, page 196

[196.3]

Some readers may already know what Uehara is implying here—namely, that he's down on his luck and thinking of taking a trip to Aokigahara, Japan's famous "suicide forest" where countless people have ended their lives.


I GOT ONE THING GOING FOR ME... I DON'T HAVE A WIFE OR KIDS OF MY OWN.
I GUESS THERE'S ALWAYS AOKIGAHARA ...

The reference was just slightly less overt in Japanese, although every Japanese reader would have known what he meant. Instead of referring to Aokigahara by name, he called it *jukai*, or "sea of trees." The Aokigahara area recieved this nickname because of its dense tree cover, which makes it such an attractive location for people who wish to disappear.

Starving Anonymous 3

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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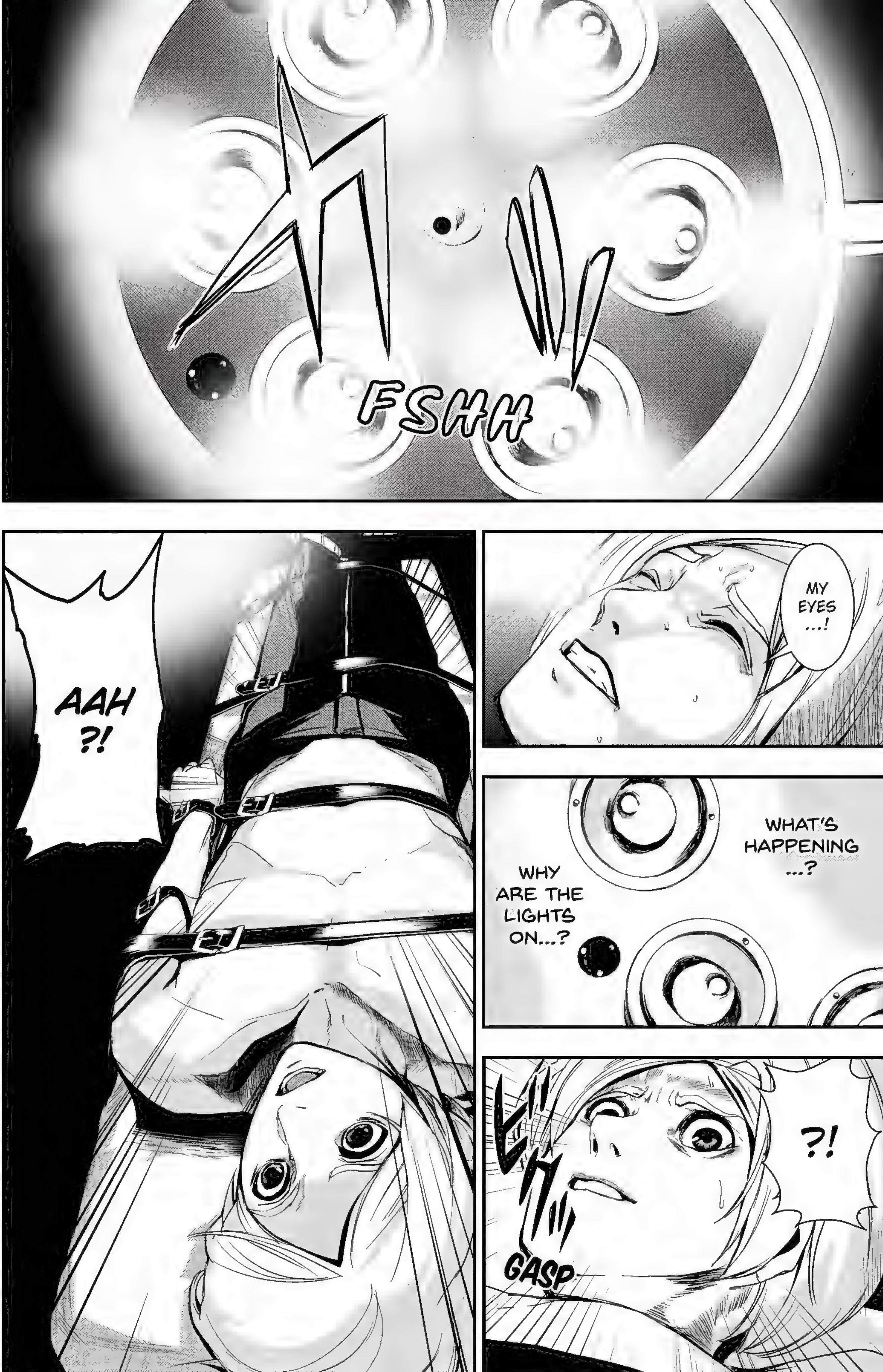
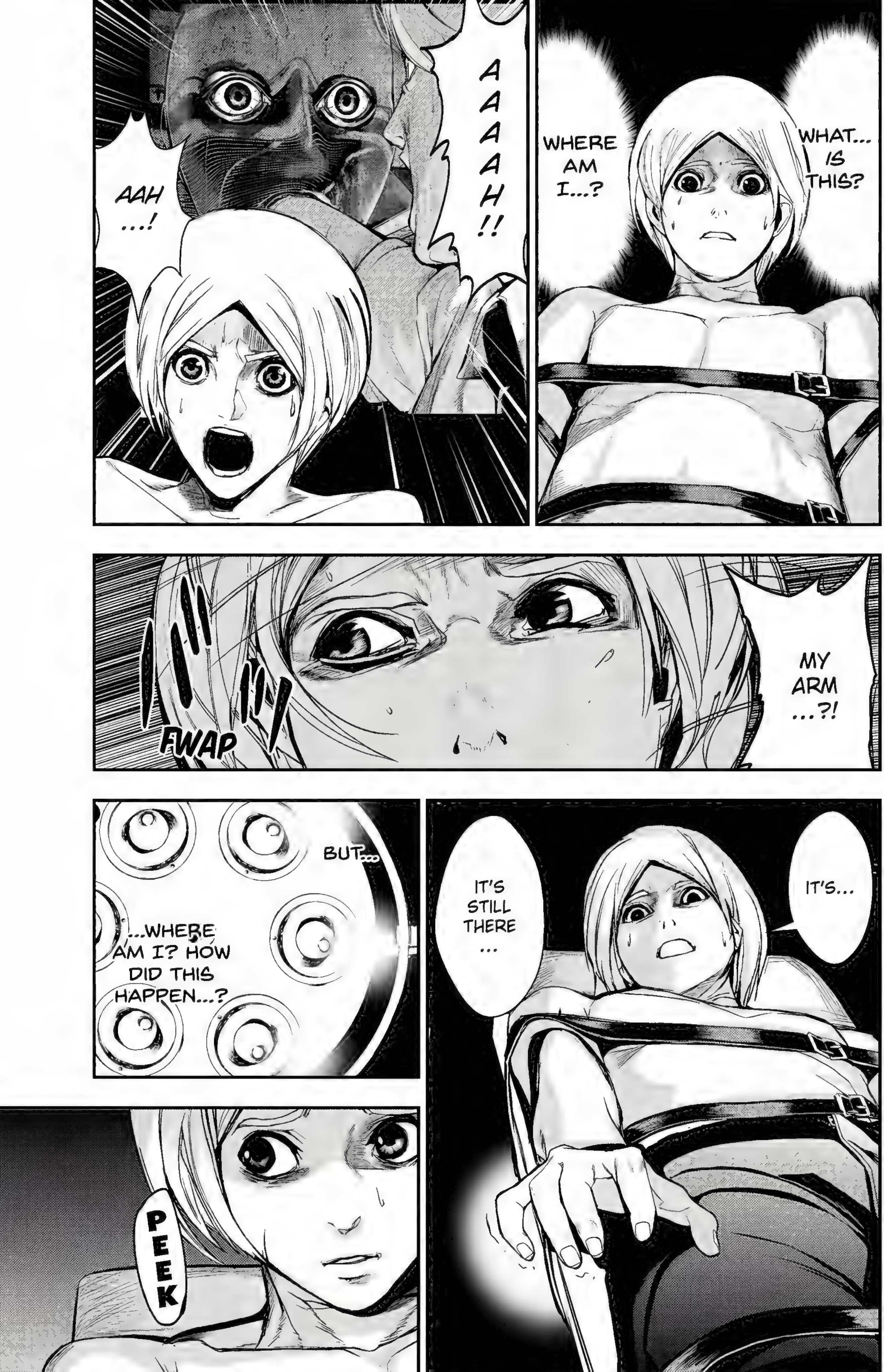
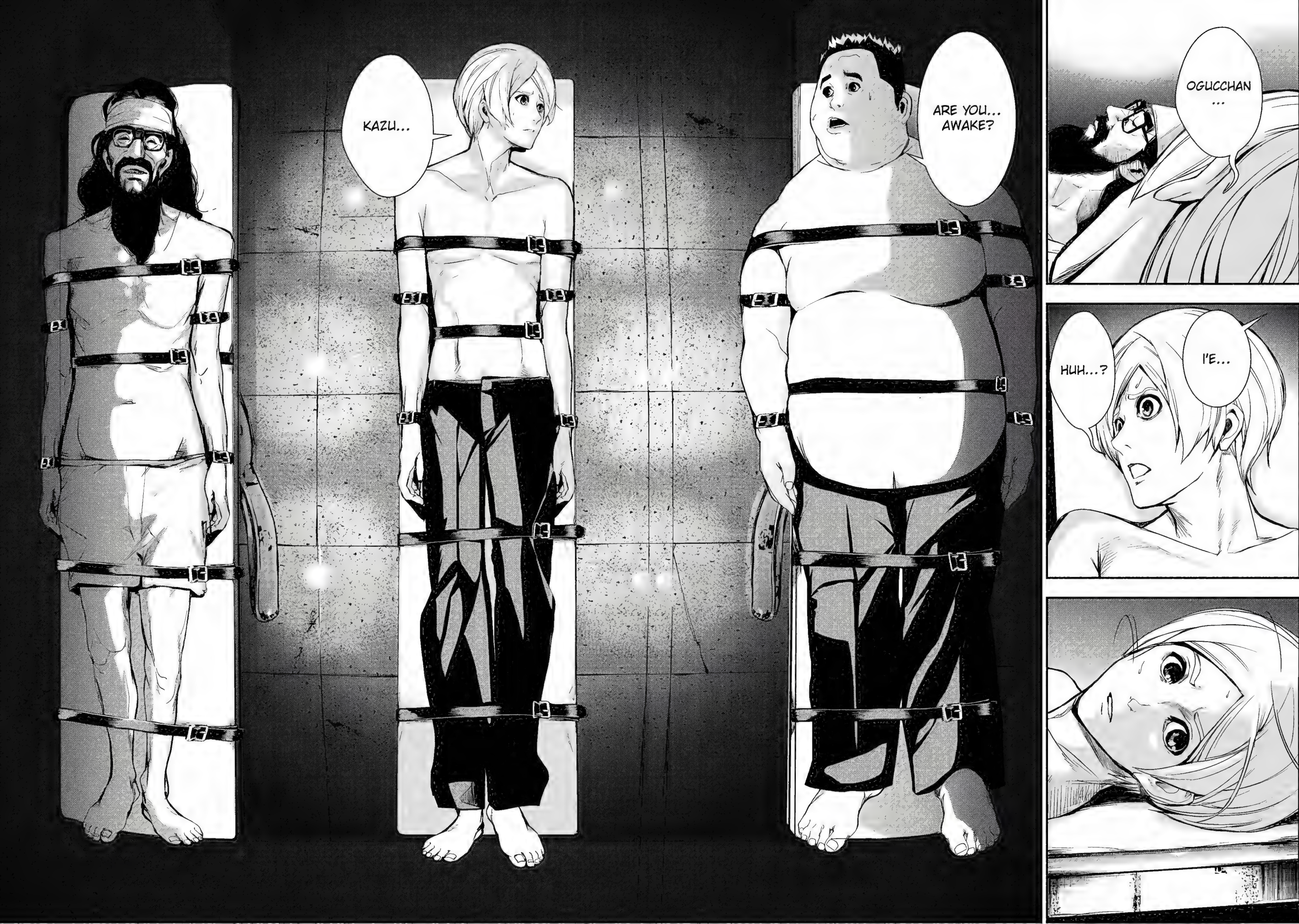
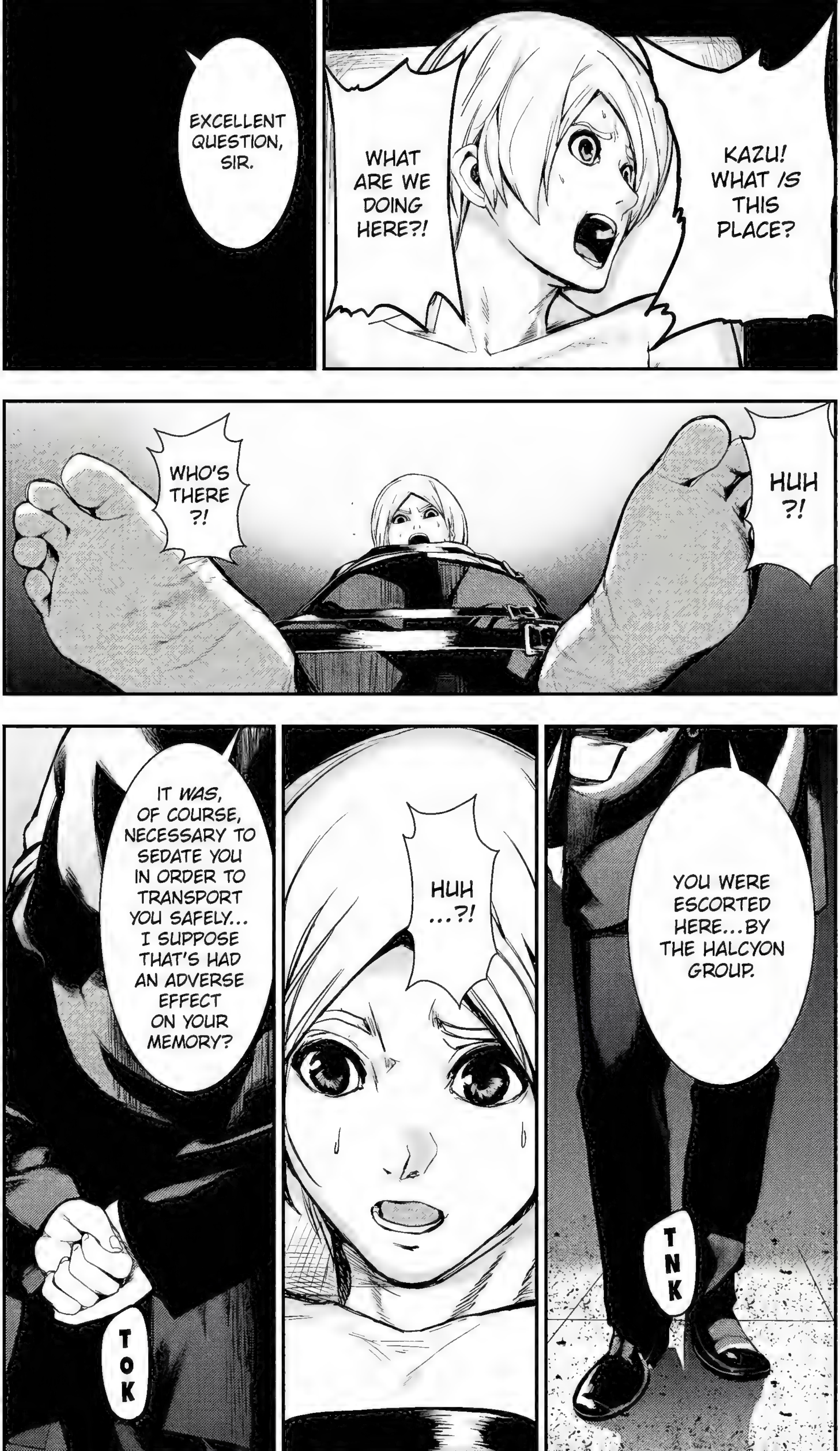
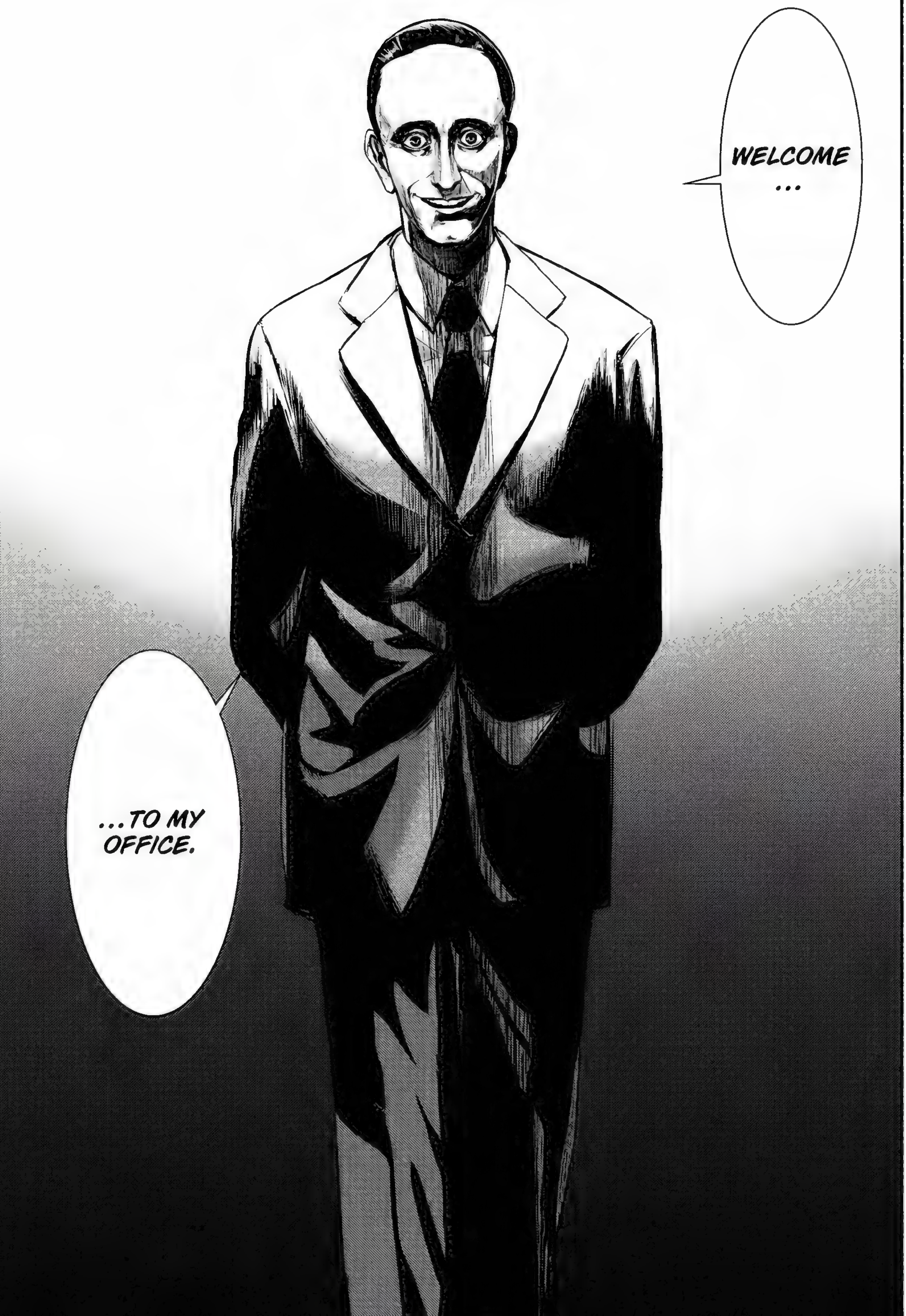
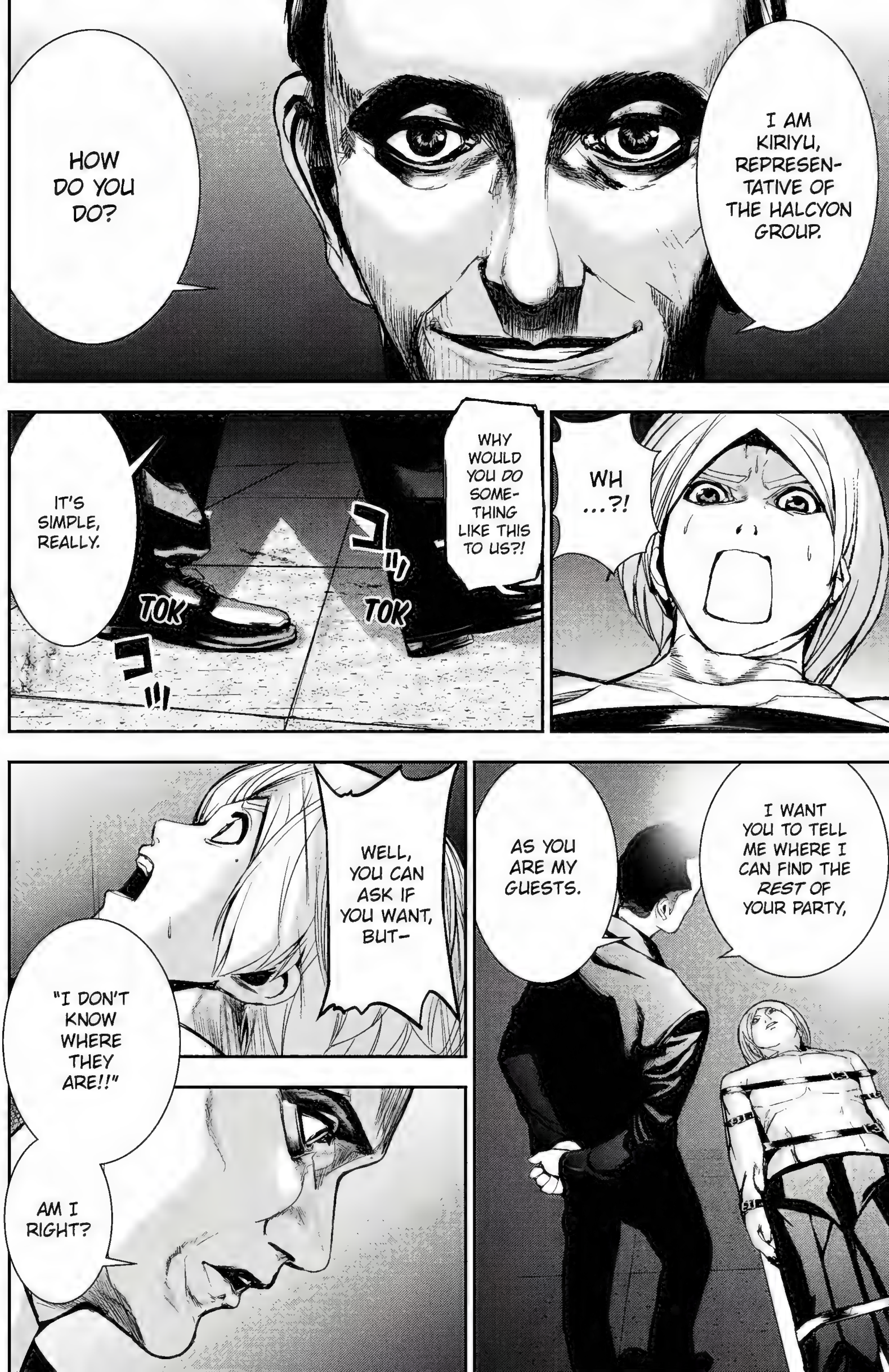

FSHH
MY EYES ...!
WHAT'S HAPPENING ...?
WHY ARE THE LIGHTS ON...?
?!
GASP
AAH ?!

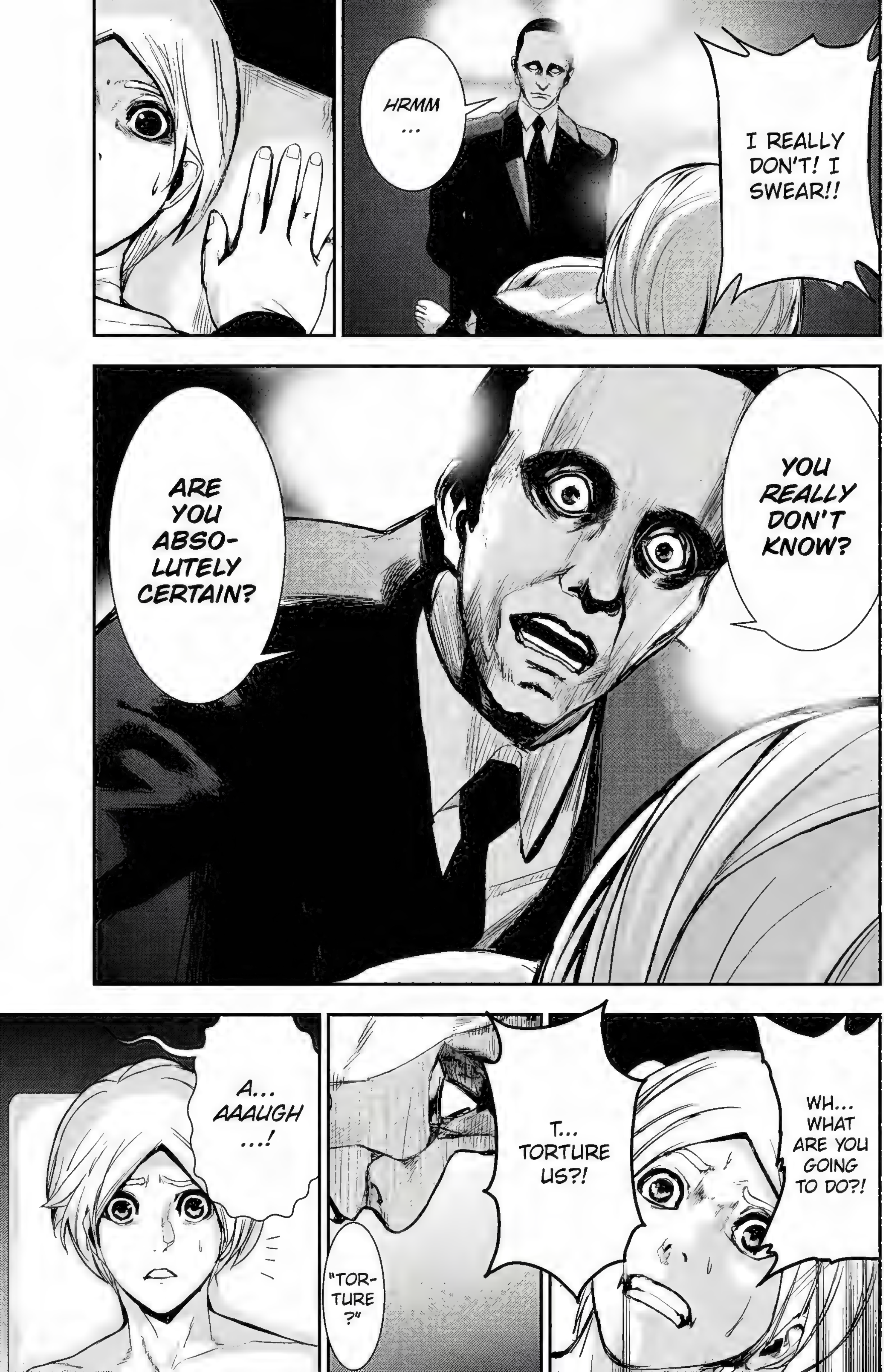

WHAT... IS THIS?
WHERE AM I...?
AAAAAH!!
AAH ...!
MY ARM ...?!
FWAP
IT'S...
IT'S STILL THERE ...
BUT...
...WHERE AM I? HOW DID THIS HAPPEN...?
PEEK

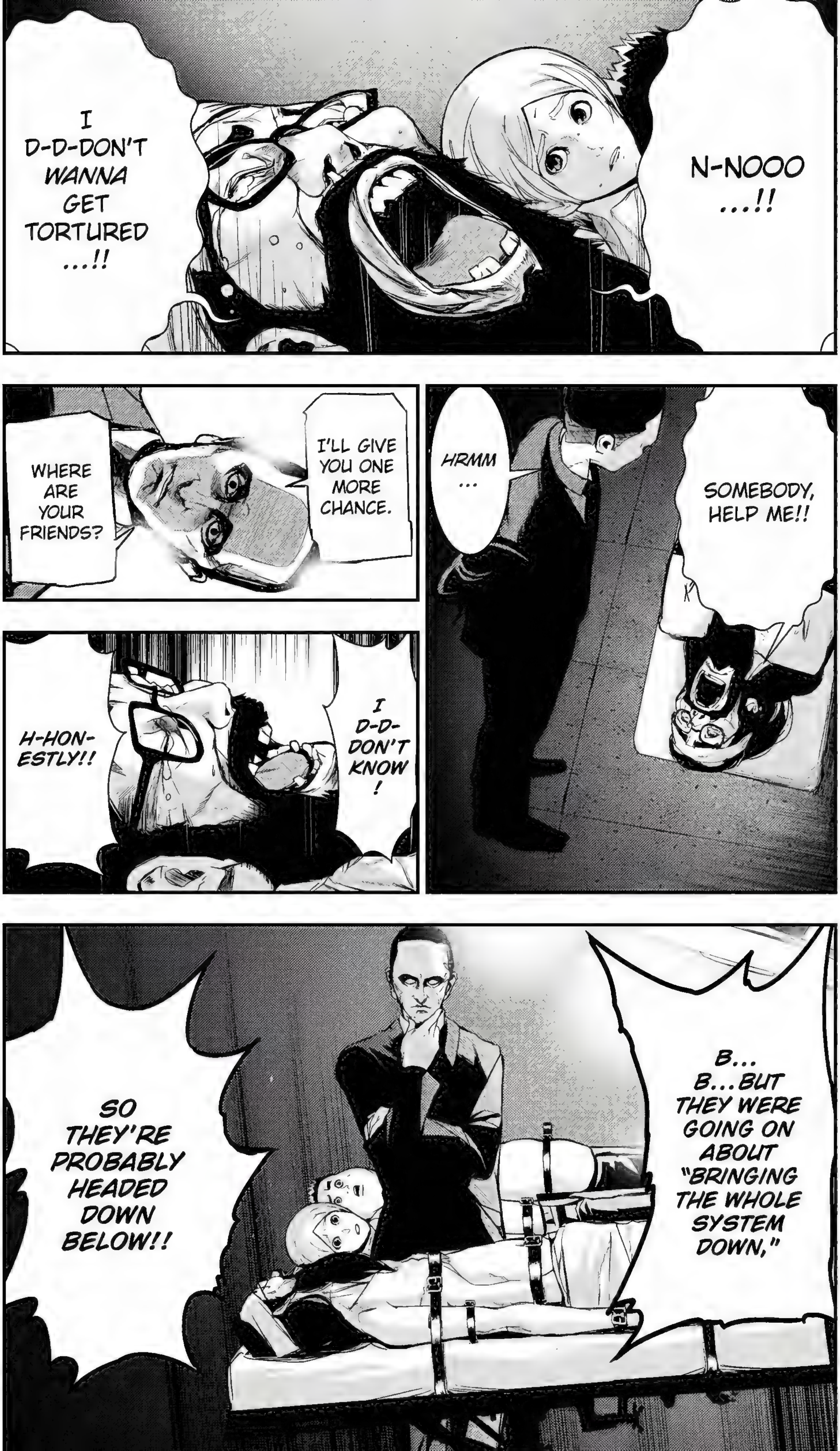

OGUCCHAN…
I'E…
HUH…?
ARE YOU… AWAKE?
KAZU…

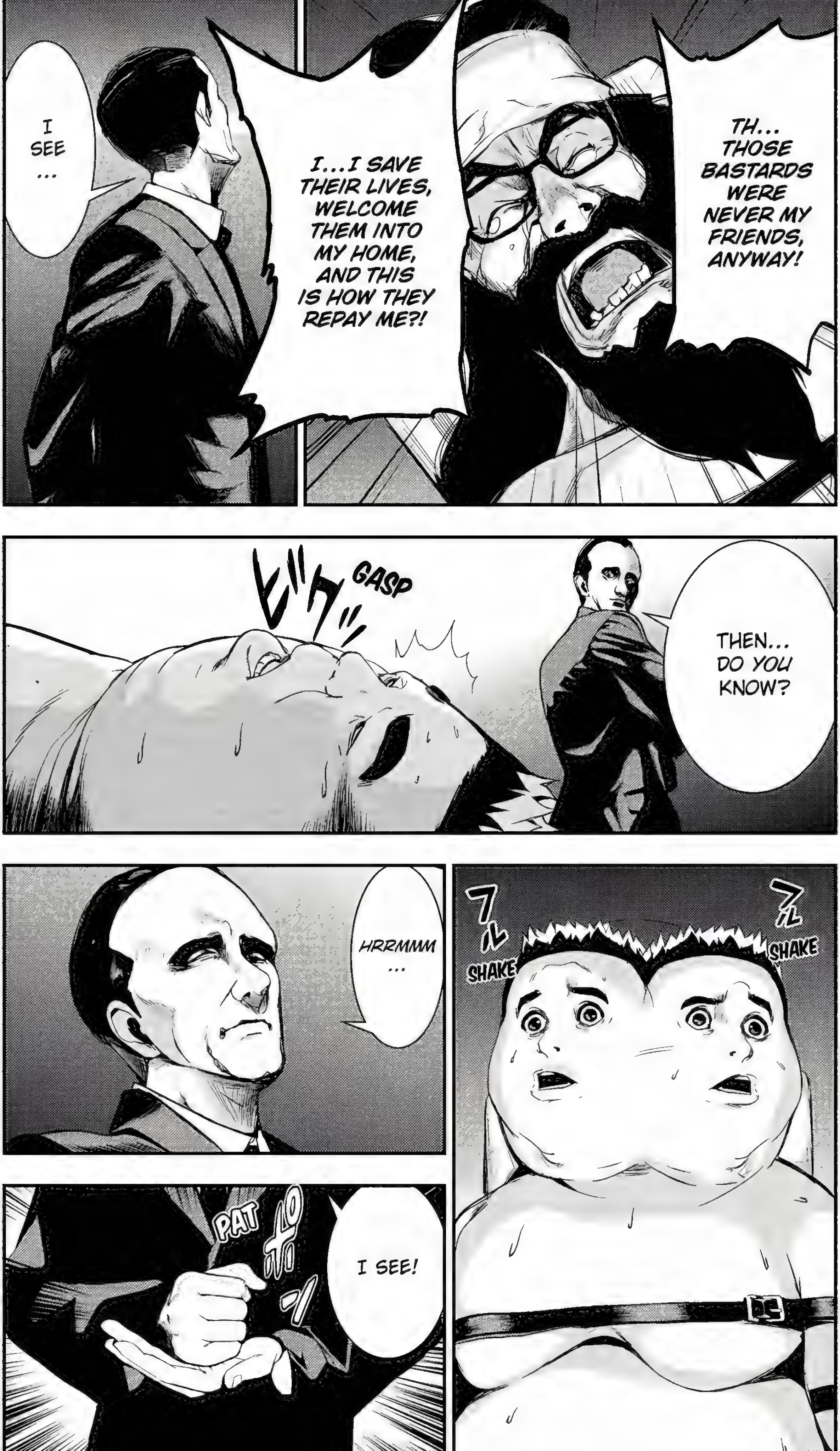

KAZU! WHAT *IS* THIS PLACE?
WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE?!
EXCELLENT QUESTION, SIR.
HUH ?!
WHO'S THERE ?!
YOU WERE ESCORTED HERE...BY THE HALCYON GROUP.
TNK
HUH ...?!
IT *WAS*, OF COURSE, NECESSARY TO SEDATE YOU IN ORDER TO TRANSPORT YOU SAFELY... I SUPPOSE THAT'S HAD AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON YOUR MEMORY?
TOK

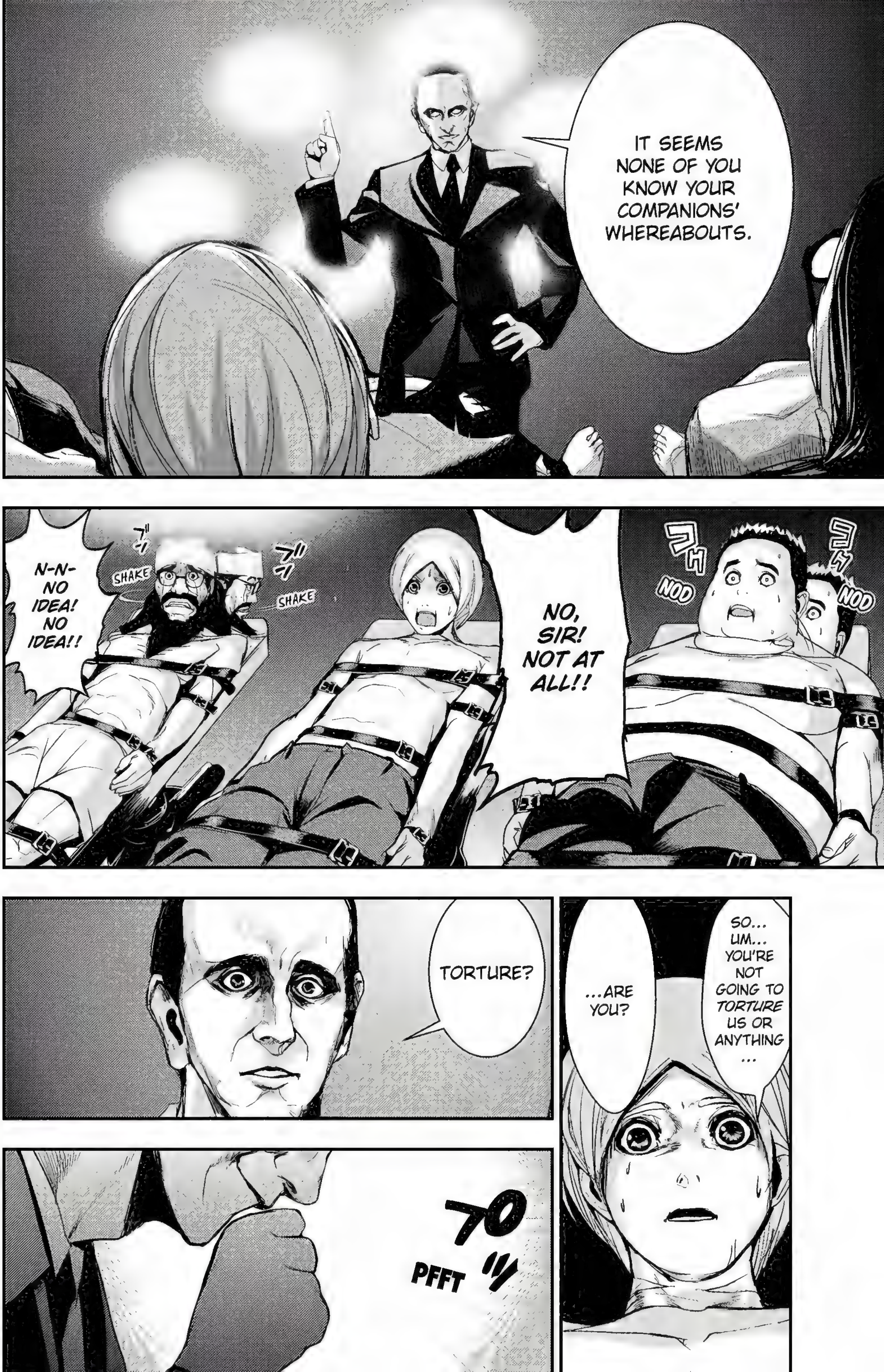

WELCOME ...
...TO MY OFFICE.

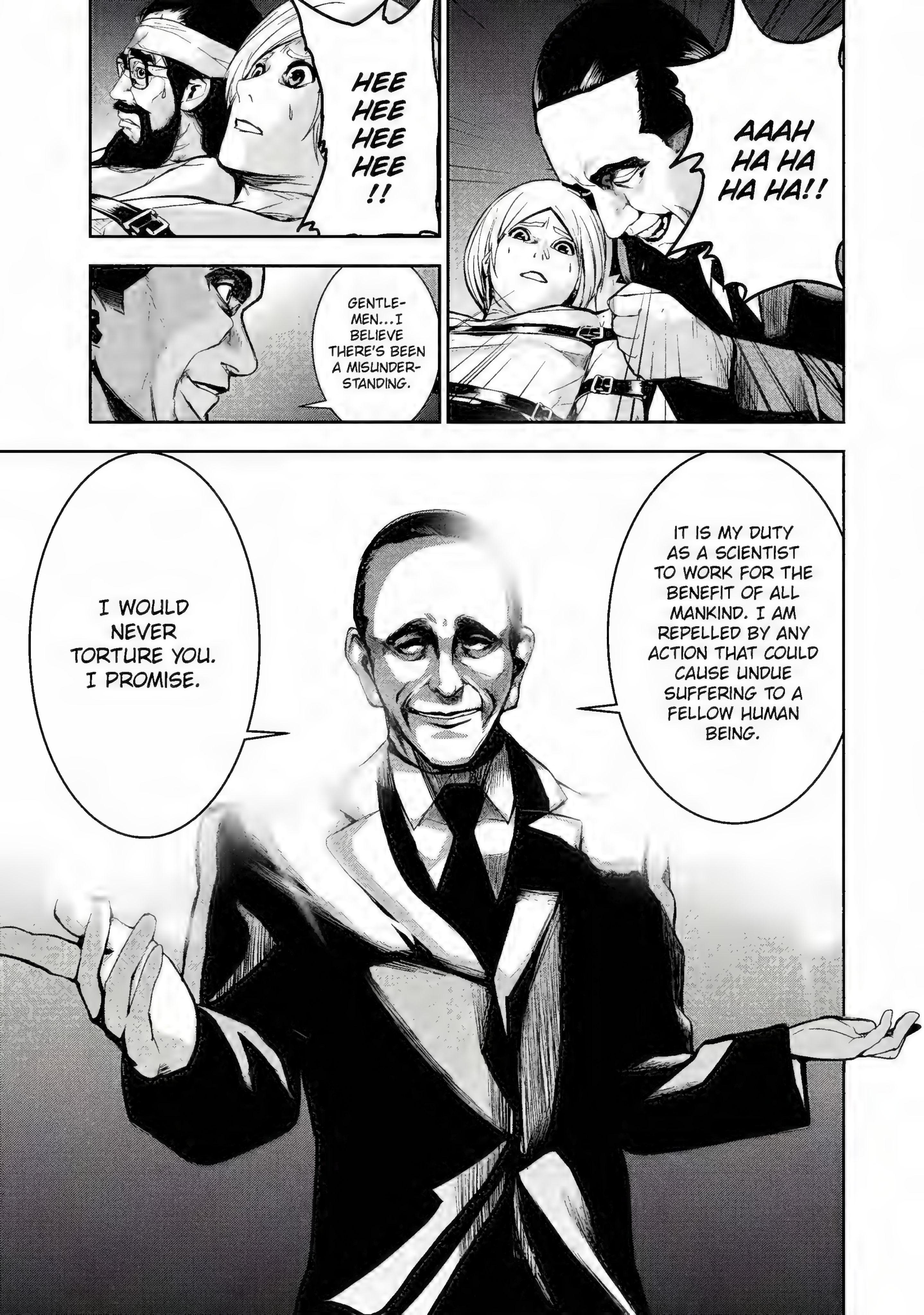

I AM KIRIYU, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HALCYON GROUP.
HOW DO YOU DO?
WH...?!
WHY WOULD YOU *DO* SOMETHING LIKE THIS TO US?!
コッ
TOK
コッ
TOK
IT'S SIMPLE, REALLY.
I WANT YOU TO TELL ME WHERE I CAN FIND THE *REST* OF YOUR PARTY,
AS YOU ARE MY GUESTS.
WELL, YOU CAN ASK IF YOU WANT, BUT-
"I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY ARE!!"
AM I RIGHT?

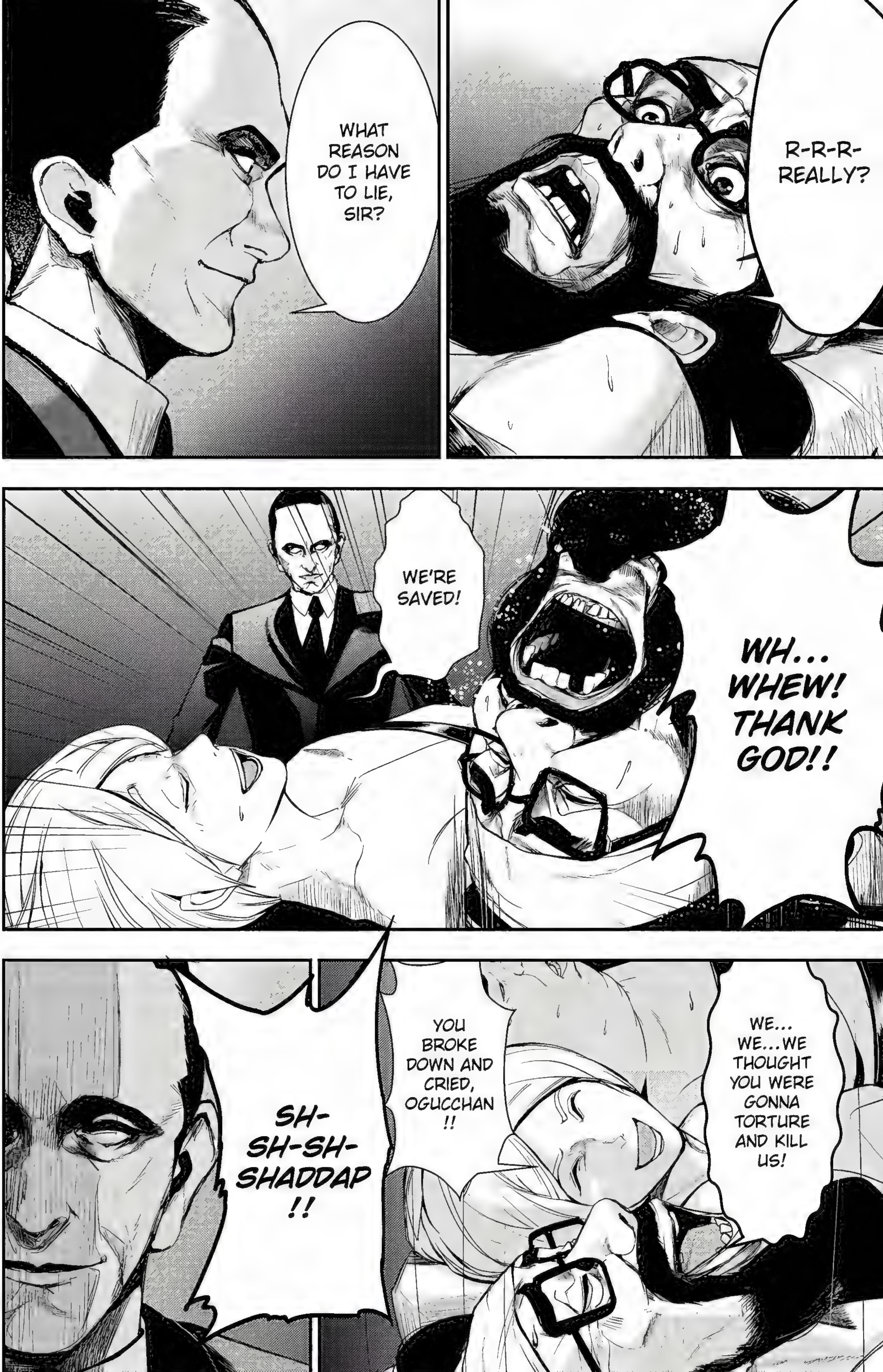

I REALLY DON'T! I SWEAR!!
HRMM...
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW?
ARE YOU ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN?
WH... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?!
T... TORTURE US?!
"TORTURE?"
A... AAAUGH...!

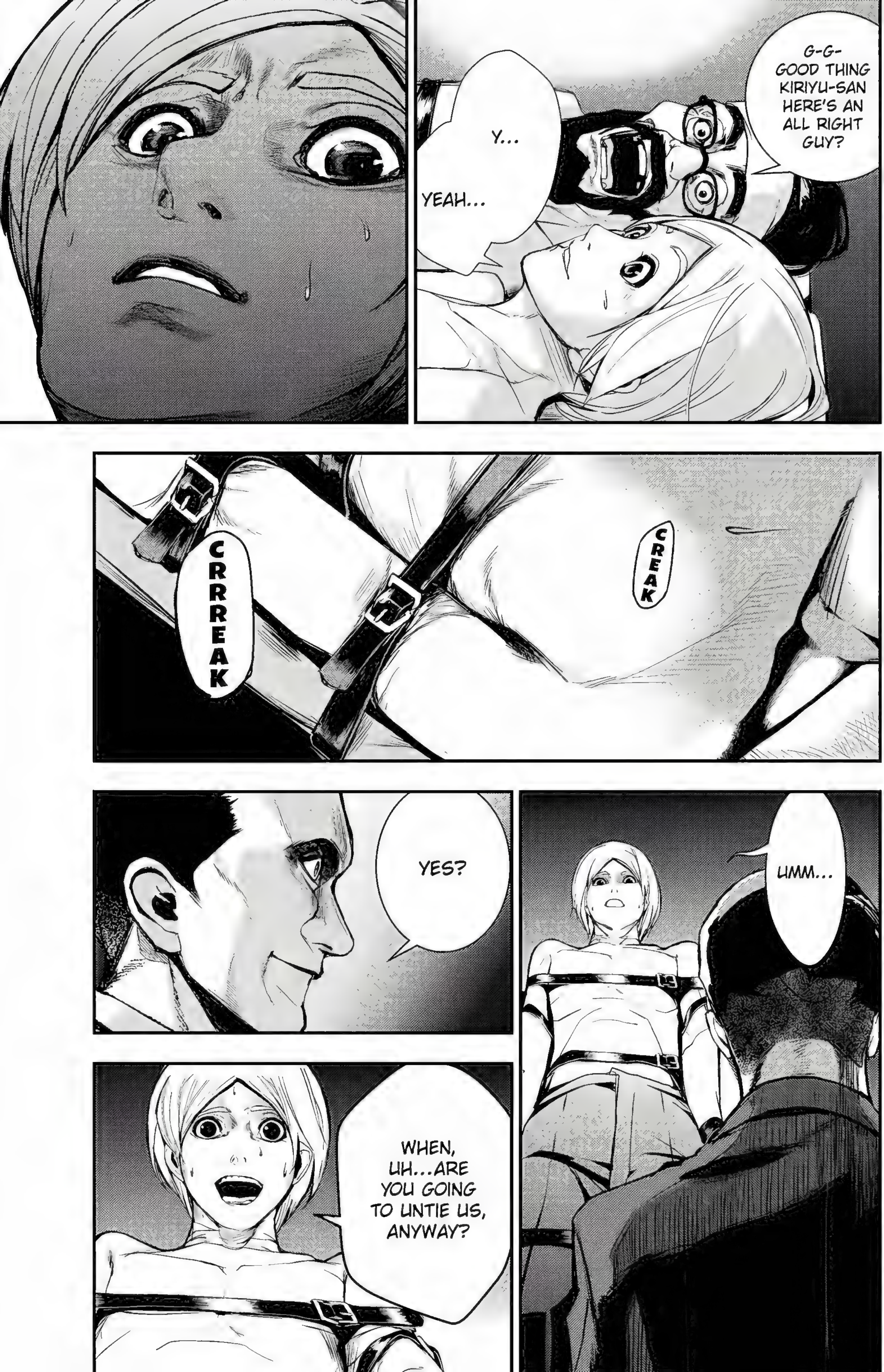

N-NOOO...!!
I D-D-DON'T WANNA GET TORTURED...!!
SOMEBODY, HELP ME!!
HRMM...
I'LL GIVE YOU ONE MORE CHANCE.
WHERE ARE YOUR FRIENDS?
I D-D-DON'T KNOW!
H-HONESTLY!!
B... B...BUT THEY WERE GOING ON ABOUT "BRINGING THE WHOLE SYSTEM DOWN,"
SO THEY'RE PROBABLY HEADED DOWN BELOW!!

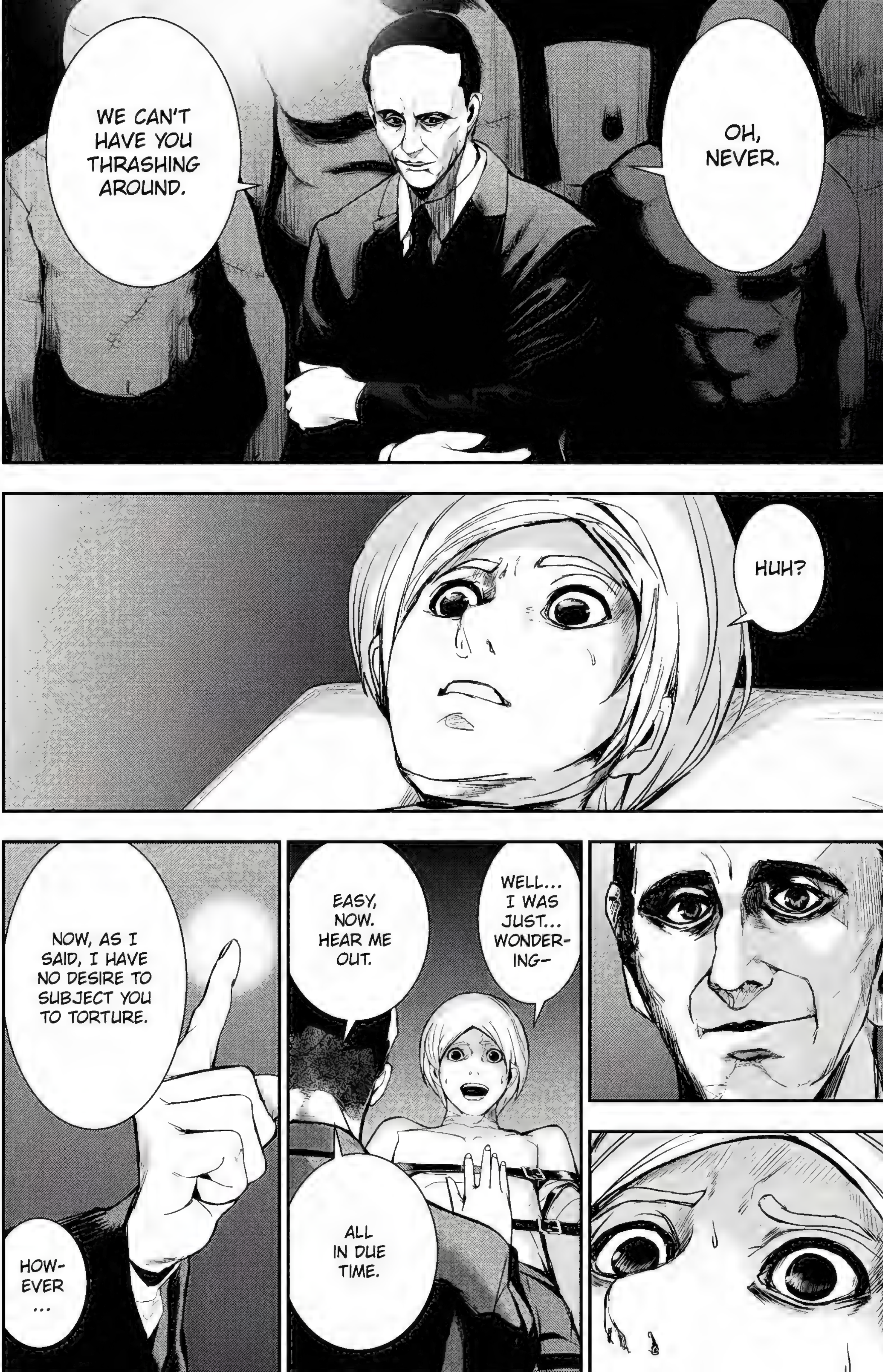

TH... THOSE BASTARDS WERE NEVER MY FRIENDS, ANYWAY!
I...I SAVE THEIR LIVES, WELCOME THEM INTO MY HOME, AND THIS IS HOW THEY REPAY ME?!
I SEE...
THEN... DO YOU KNOW?
ビクッ
GASP
フル SHAKE
フル SHAKE
HRRMMM...
I SEE!
ポン
PAT

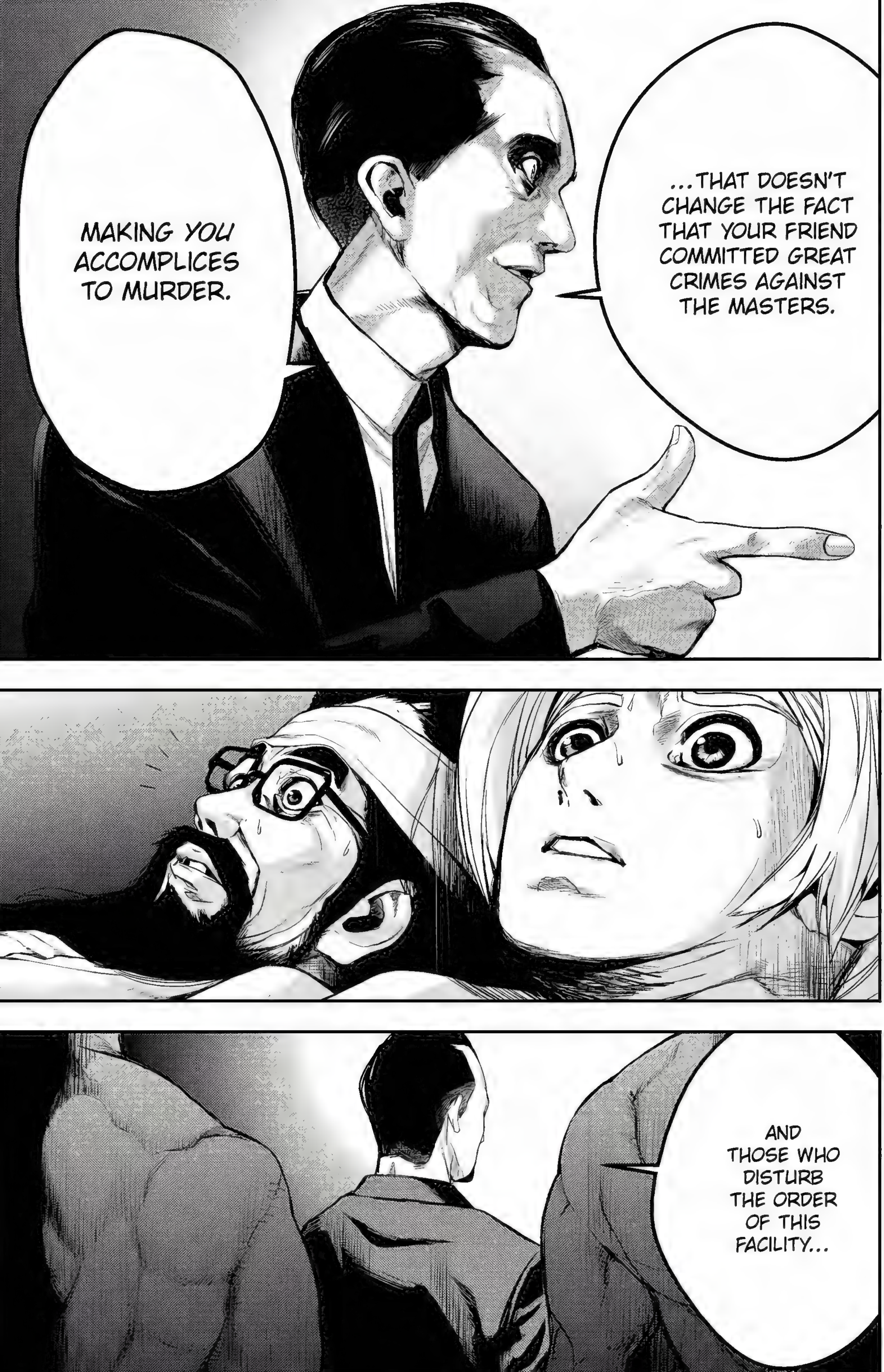

IT SEEMS NONE OF YOU KNOW YOUR COMPANIONS' WHEREABOUTS.
NOD
NOD
NO, SIR! NOT AT ALL!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
N-N-NO IDEA! NO IDEA!!
SO... UM... YOU'RE NOT GOING TO *TORTURE* US OR ANYTHING...
...ARE YOU?
TORTURE?
PFFT

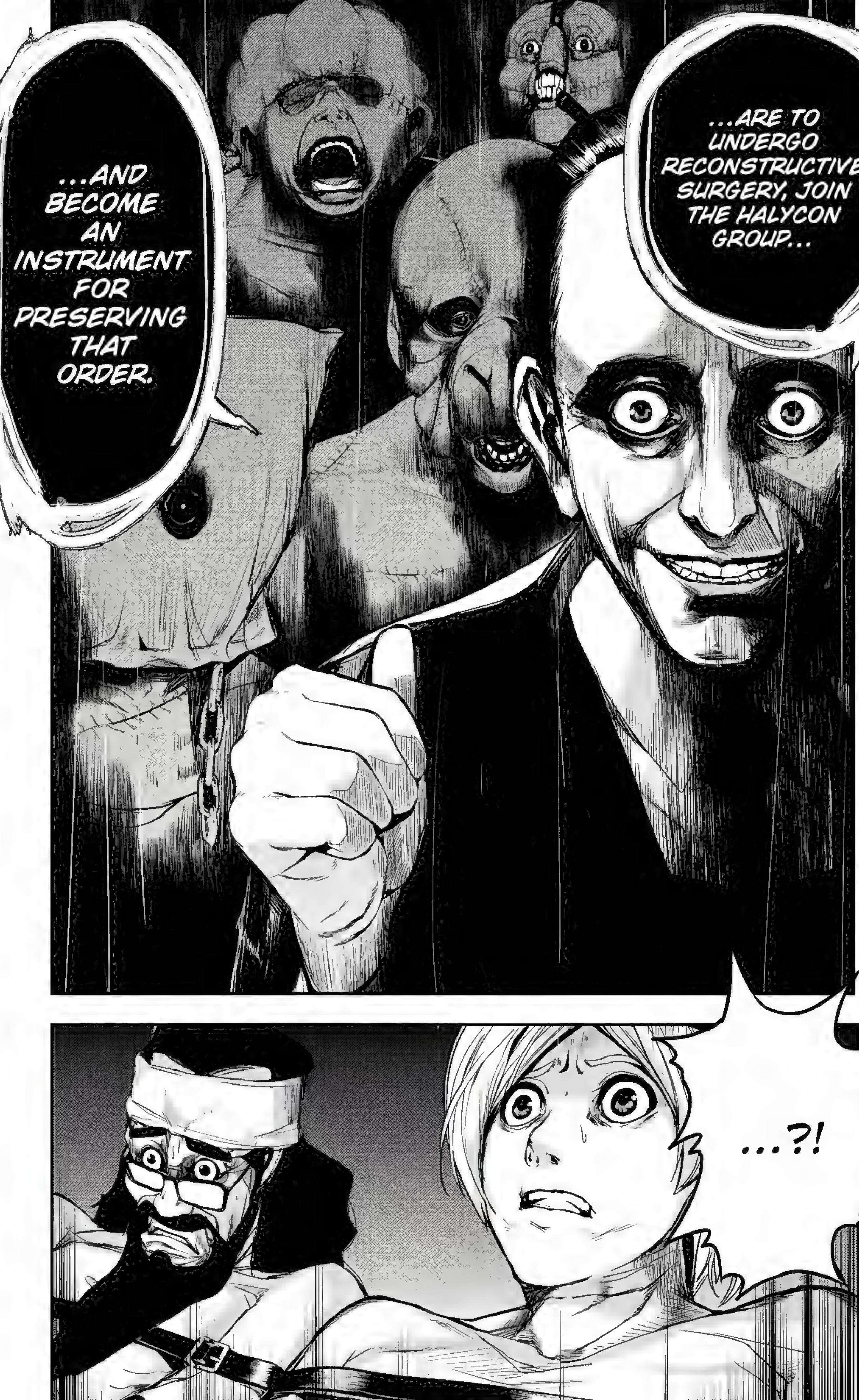

AAAH HA HA HA HA!!
HEE HEE HEE HEE!!
GENTLEMEN...I BELIEVE THERE'S BEEN A MISUNDERSTANDING.
IT IS MY DUTY AS A SCIENTIST TO WORK FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND. I AM REPELLED BY ANY ACTION THAT COULD CAUSE UNDUE SUFFERING TO A FELLOW HUMAN BEING.
I WOULD NEVER TORTURE YOU. I PROMISE.


R-R-R-REALLY?
WHAT REASON DO I HAVE TO LIE, SIR?
WH... WHEW! THANK GOD!!
WE'RE SAVED!
WE... WE...WE THOUGHT YOU WERE GONNA TORTURE AND KILL US!
YOU BROKE DOWN AND CRIED, OGUCCHAN!!
SH-SH-SH-SHADDAP!!


G-G-GOOD THING KIRIYU-SAN HERE'S AN ALL RIGHT GUY?
Y...
YEAH...
CRRREAK
CREAK
UMM...
YES?
WHEN, UH...ARE YOU GOING TO UNTIE US, ANYWAY?


OH, NEVER.
WE CAN'T HAVE YOU THRASHING AROUND.
HUH?
NOW, AS I SAID, I HAVE NO DESIRE TO SUBJECT YOU TO TORTURE.
HOW-EVER...
WELL... I WAS JUST... WONDERING-
EASY, NOW. HEAR ME OUT.
ALL IN DUE TIME.


...THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT YOUR FRIEND COMMITTED GREAT CRIMES AGAINST THE MASTERS.
MAKING *YOU* ACCOMPLICES TO MURDER.
AND THOSE WHO DISTURB THE ORDER OF THIS FACILITY...


...ARE TO UNDERGO RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY, JOIN THE HALYCON GROUP...
...AND BECOME AN INSTRUMENT FOR PRESERVING THAT ORDER.
...?!

STARVING ANONYMOUS

Story by Yuu Kuraishi × *Art by* Kazu Inabe

Original concept by Kengo Mizutani

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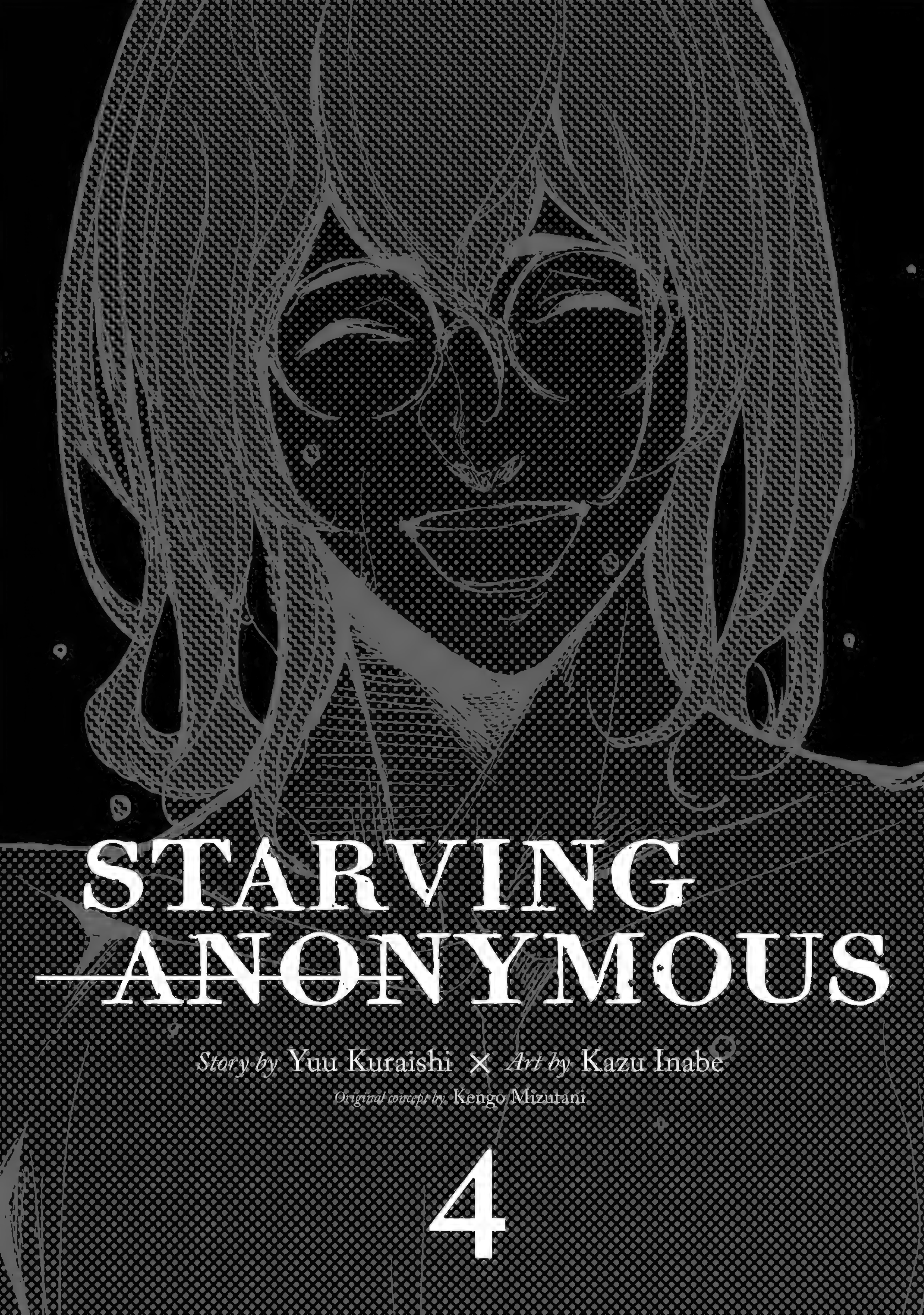

STARVING ANONYMOUS

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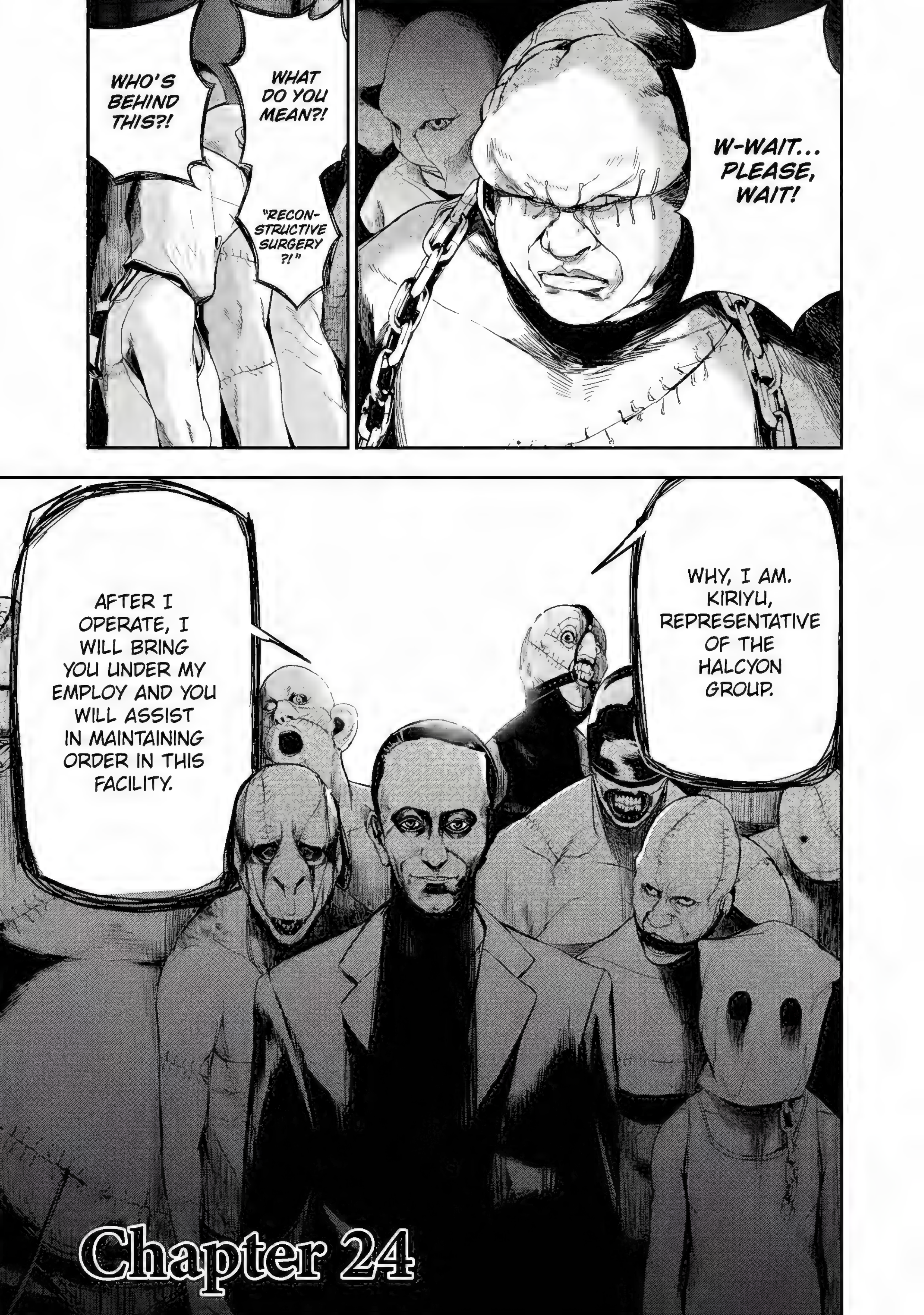
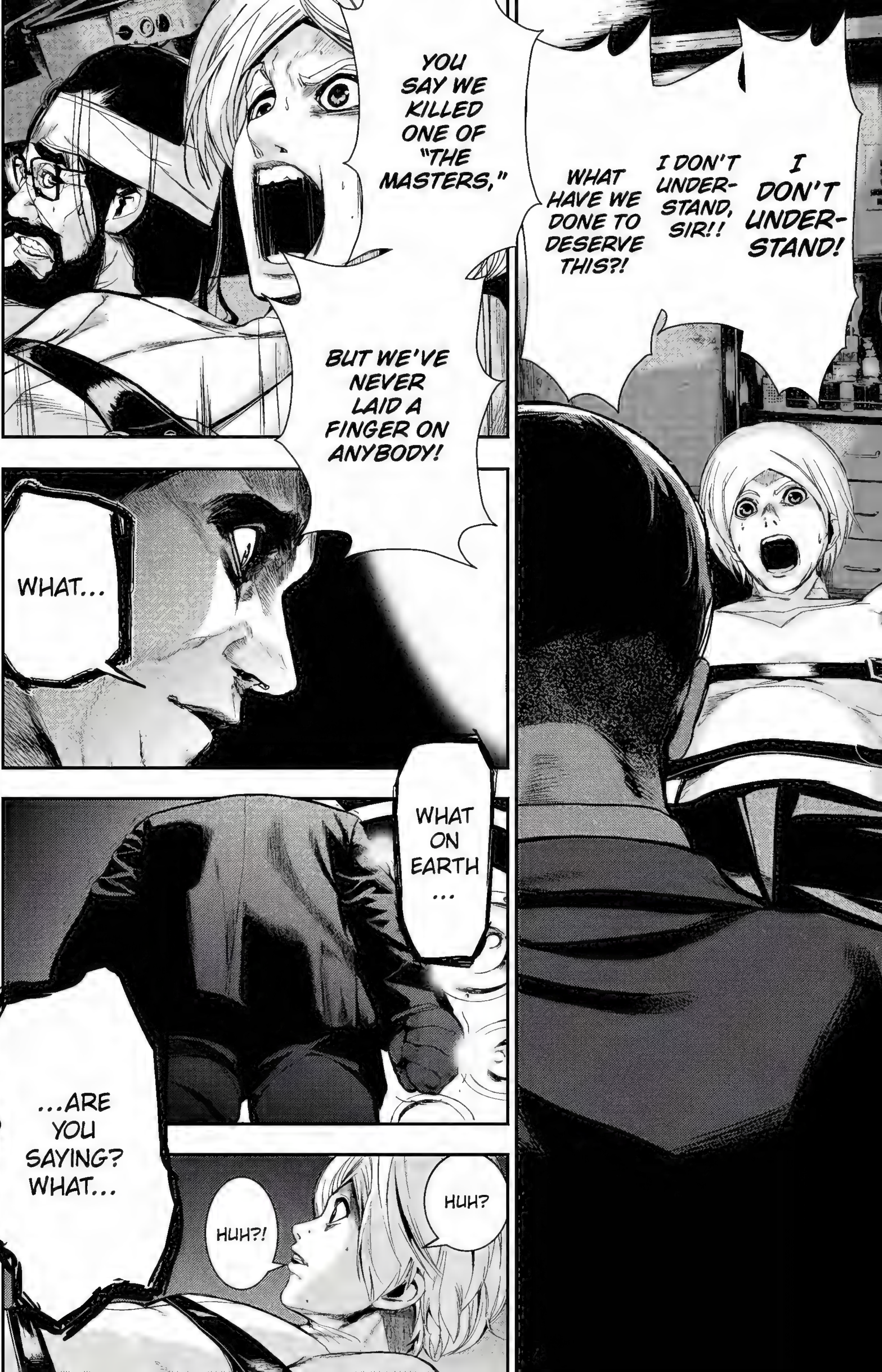
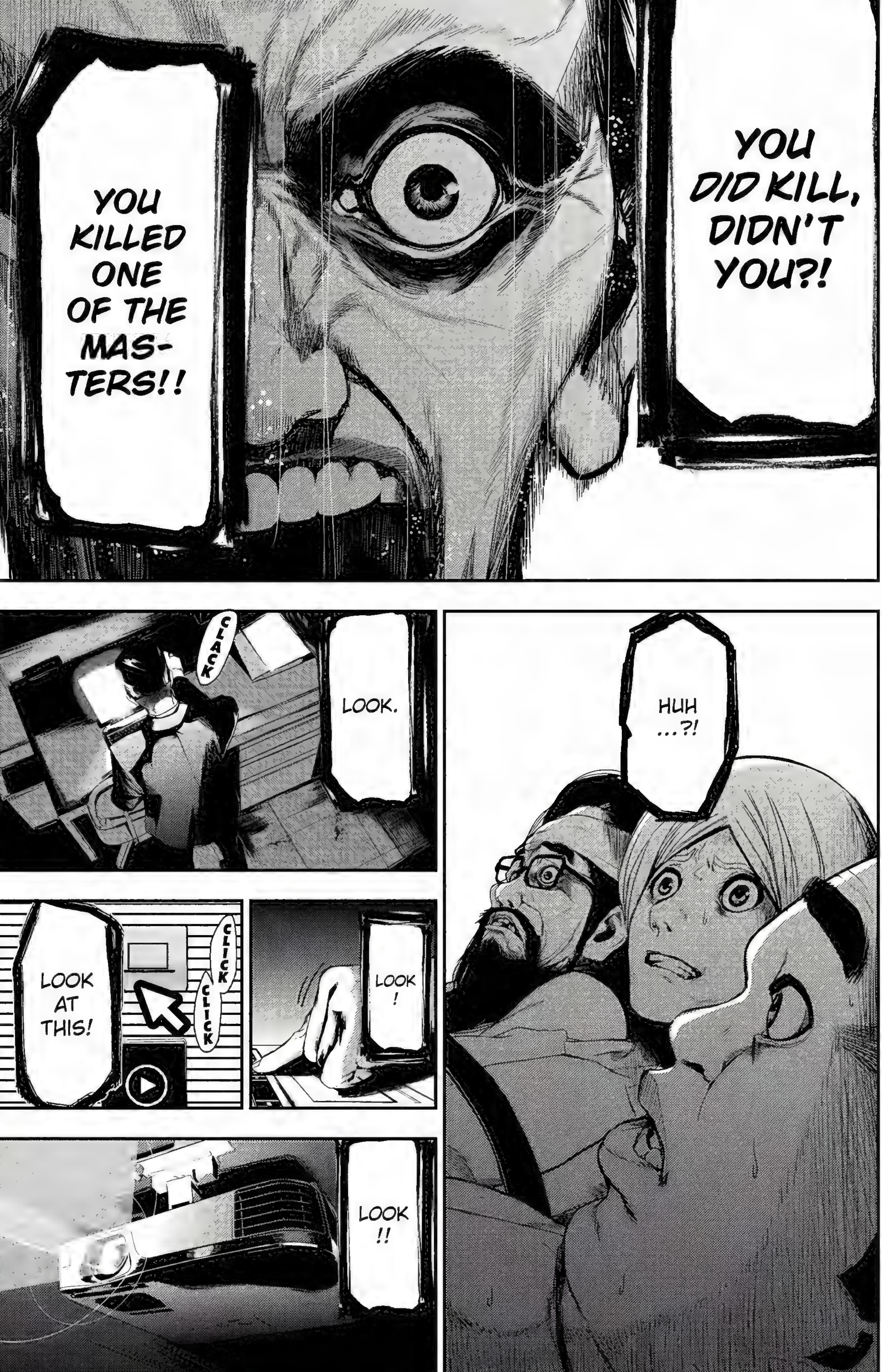
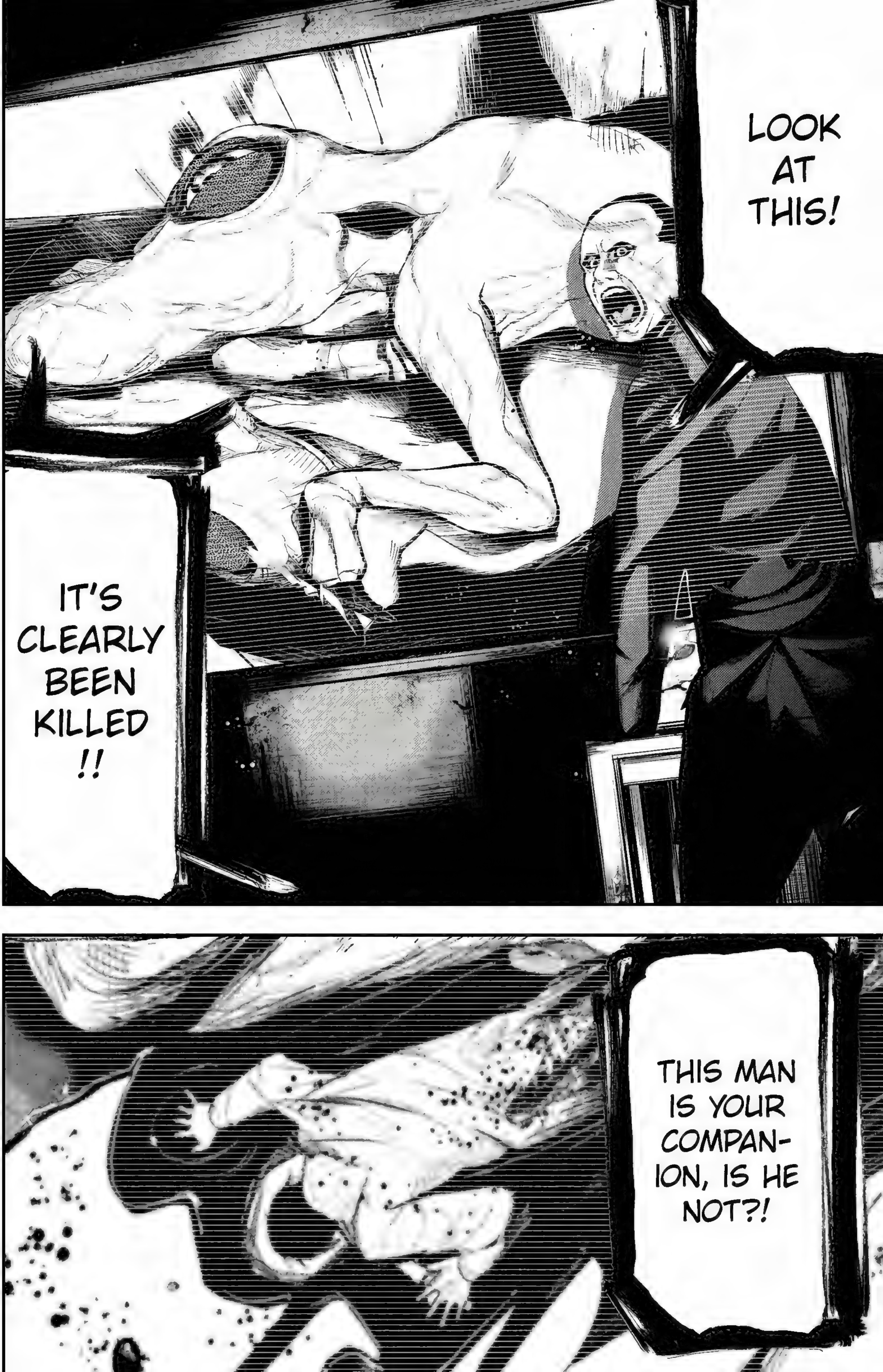
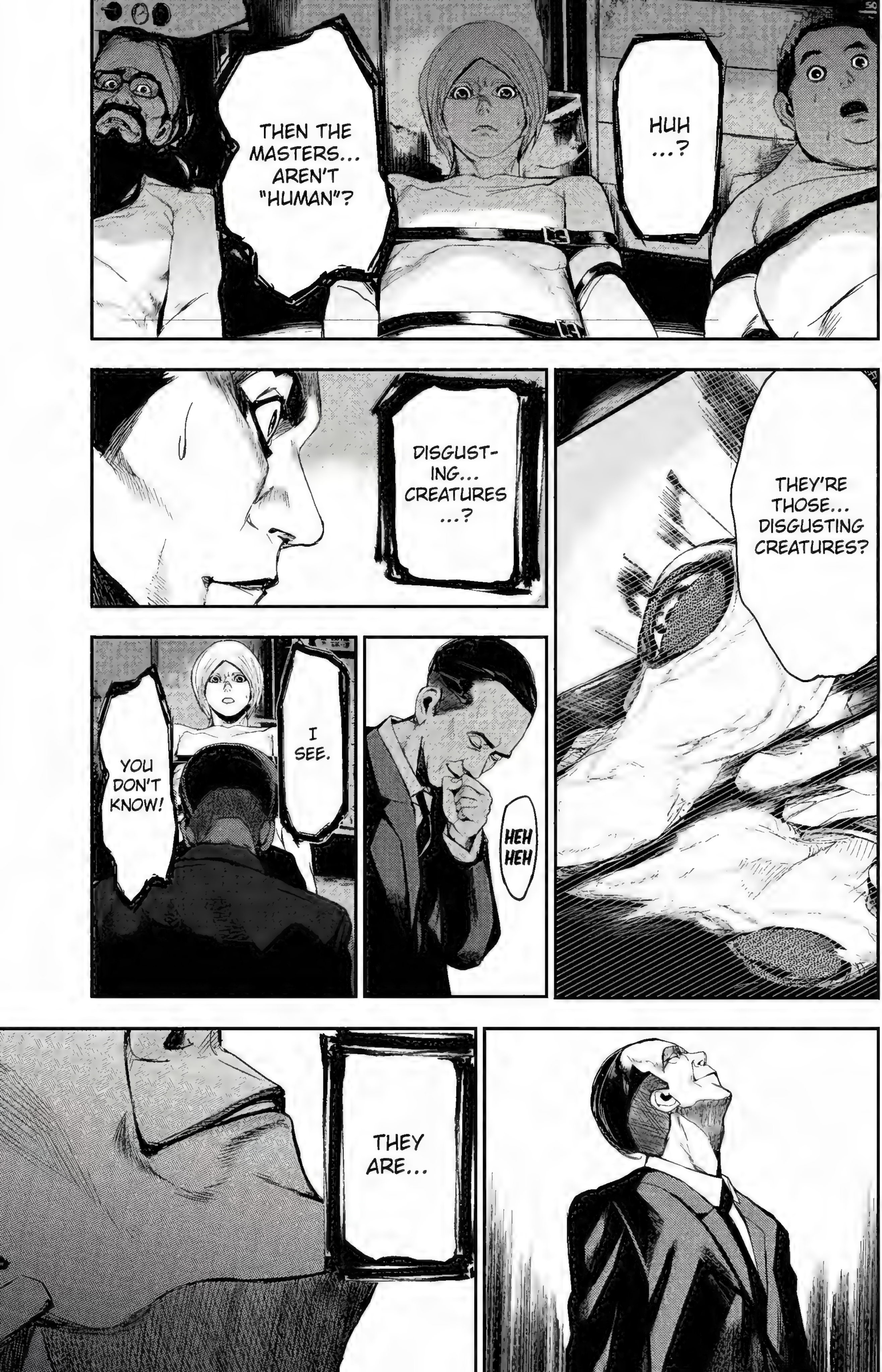
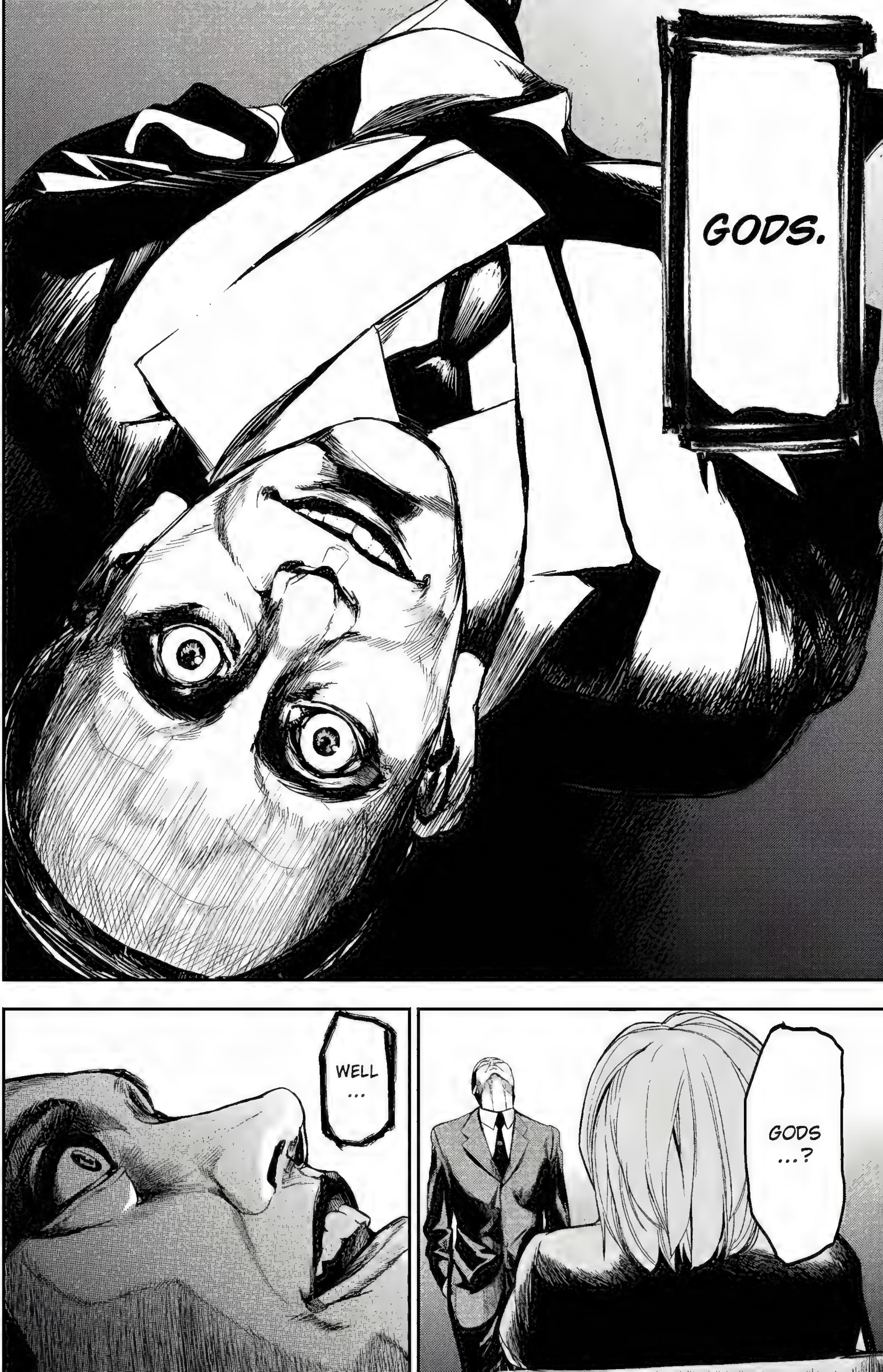

W-WAIT... PLEASE, WAIT!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
"RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY?!"
WHO'S BEHIND THIS?!
WHY, I AM. KIRIYU, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HALCYON GROUP.
AFTER I OPERATE, I WILL BRING YOU UNDER MY EMPLOY AND YOU WILL ASSIST IN MAINTAINING ORDER IN THIS FACILITY.

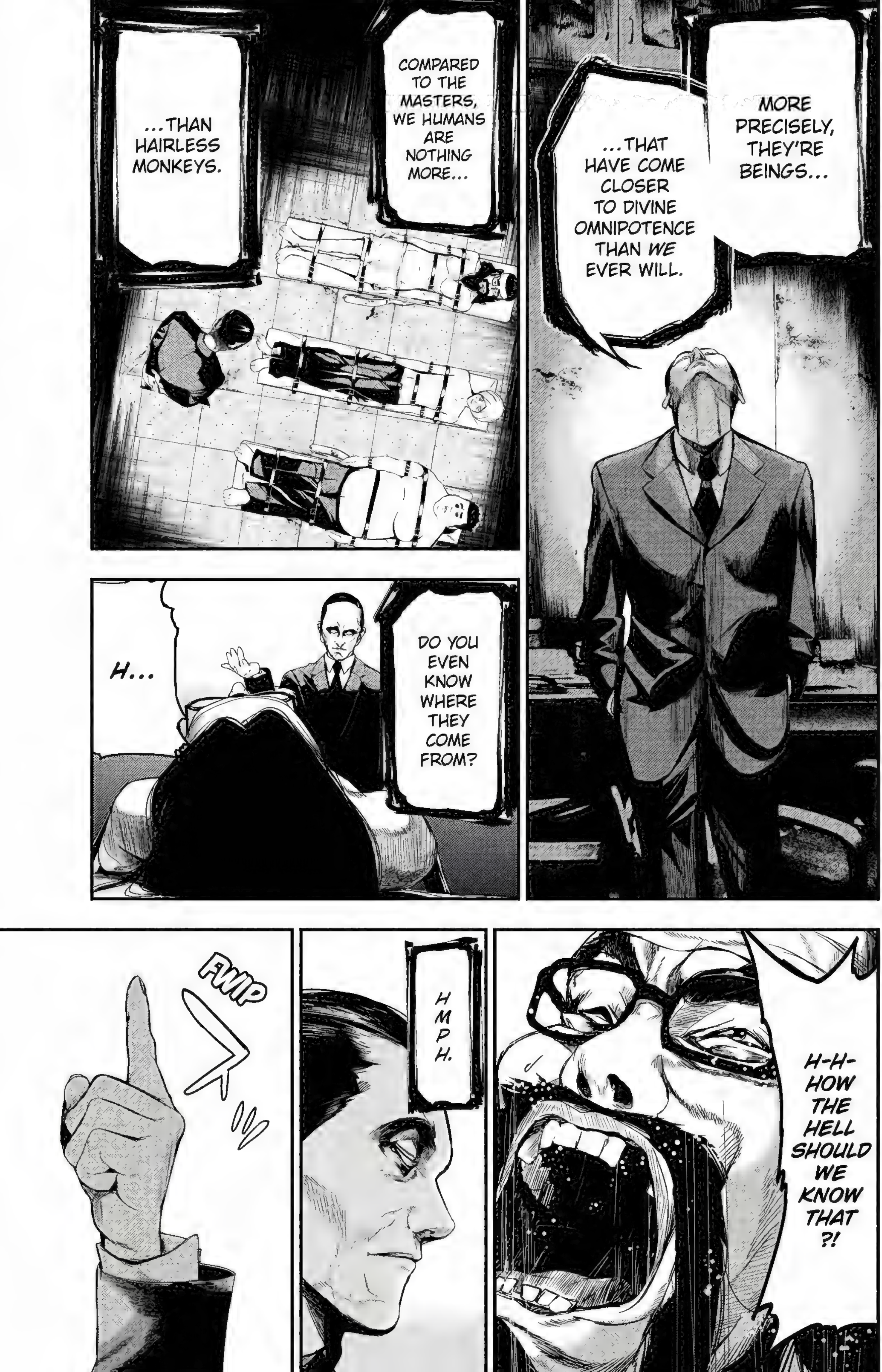

I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, SIR!!
WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO DESERVE THIS?!
YOU SAY WE KILLED ONE OF "THE MASTERS,"
BUT WE'VE NEVER LAID A FINGER ON ANYBODY!
WHAT...
WHAT ON EARTH...
...ARE YOU SAYING? WHAT...
HUH?
HUH?!

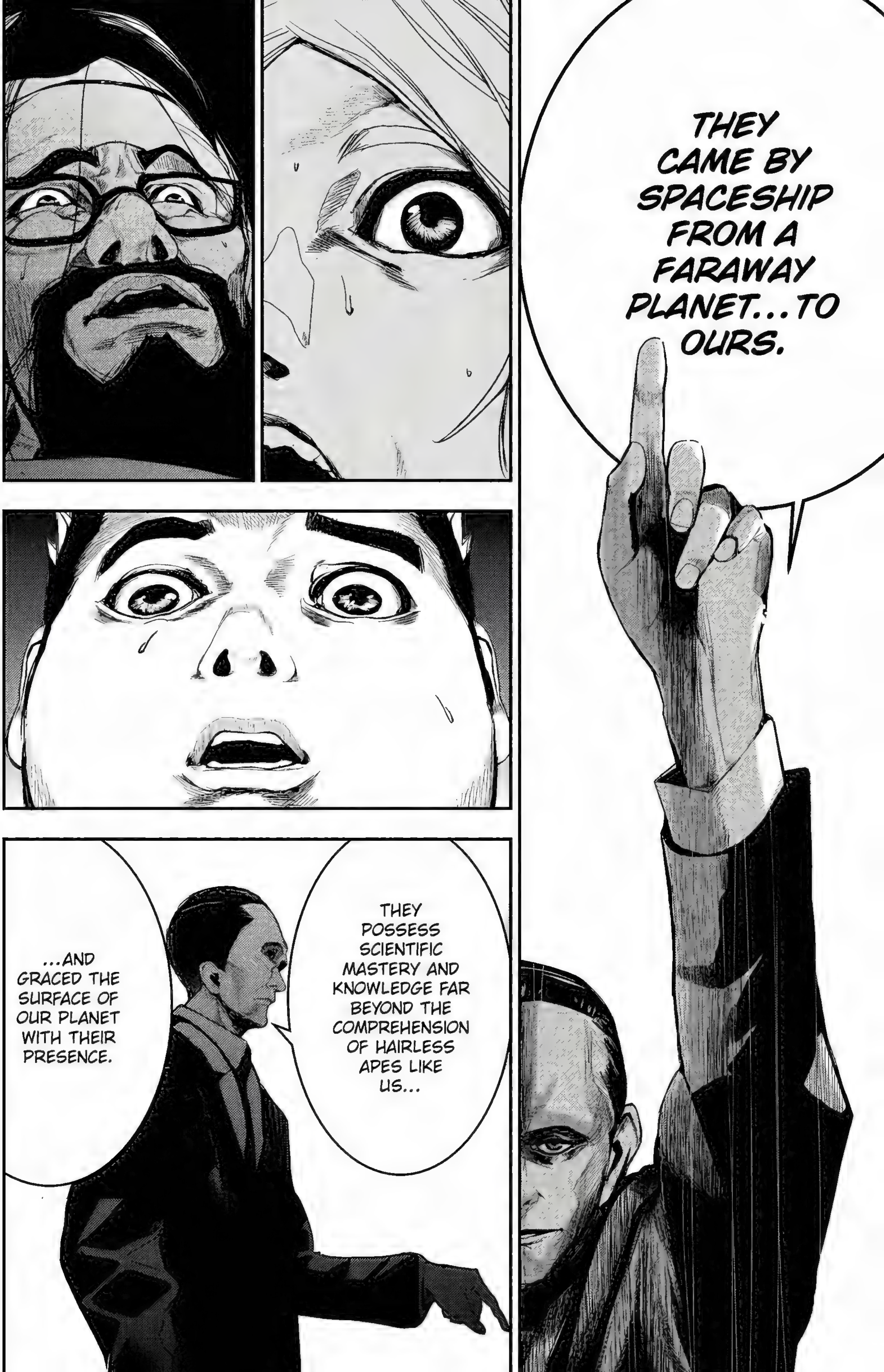

YOU DID KILL, DIDN'T YOU?!
YOU KILLED ONE OF THE MASTERS!!
HUH ...?!
CLACK
LOOK.
LOOK!
CLICK
CLICK
LOOK AT THIS!
LOOK!!

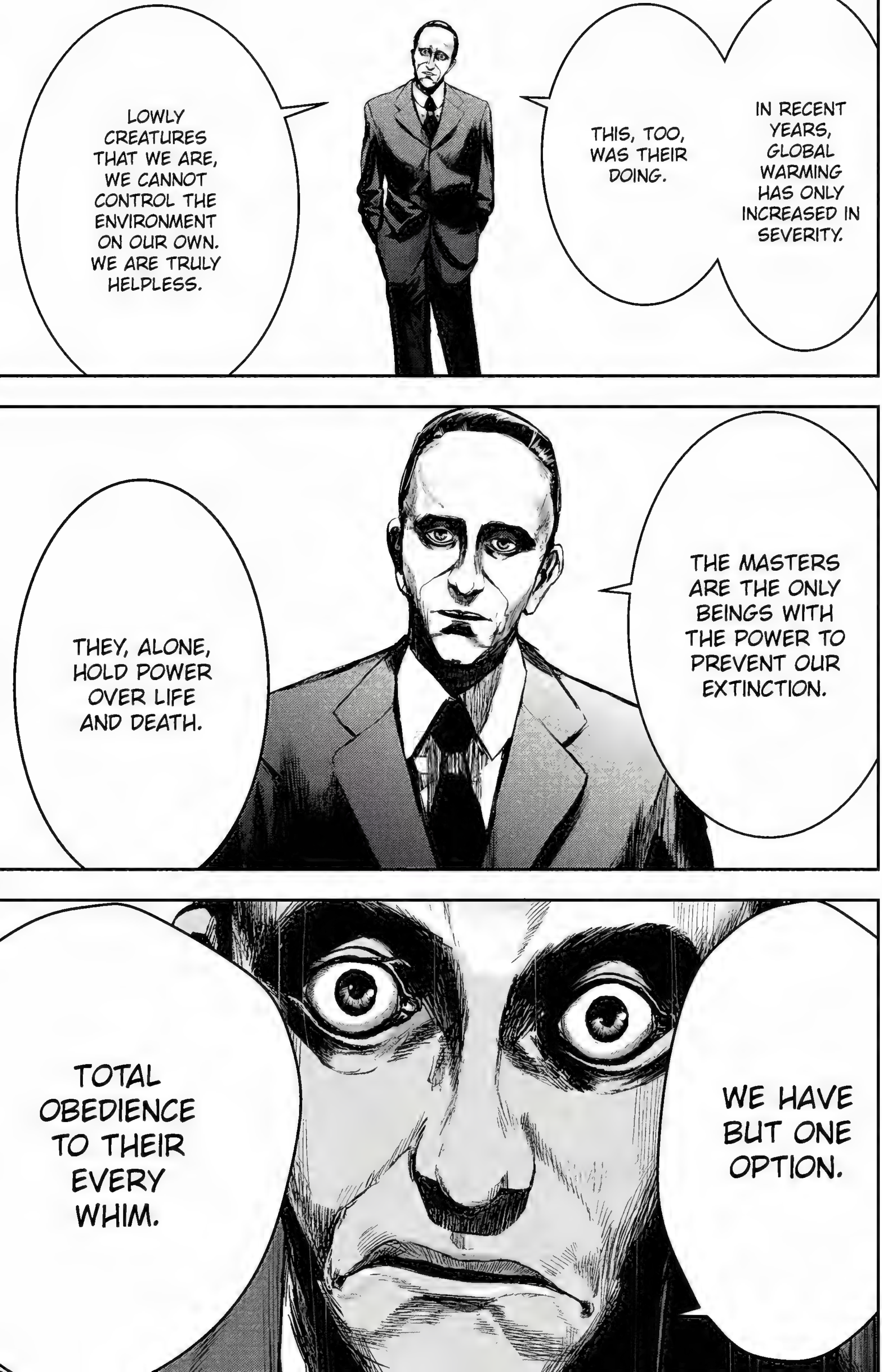

LOOK AT THIS!
IT'S CLEARLY BEEN KILLED!!
THIS MAN IS YOUR COMPANION, IS HE NOT?!

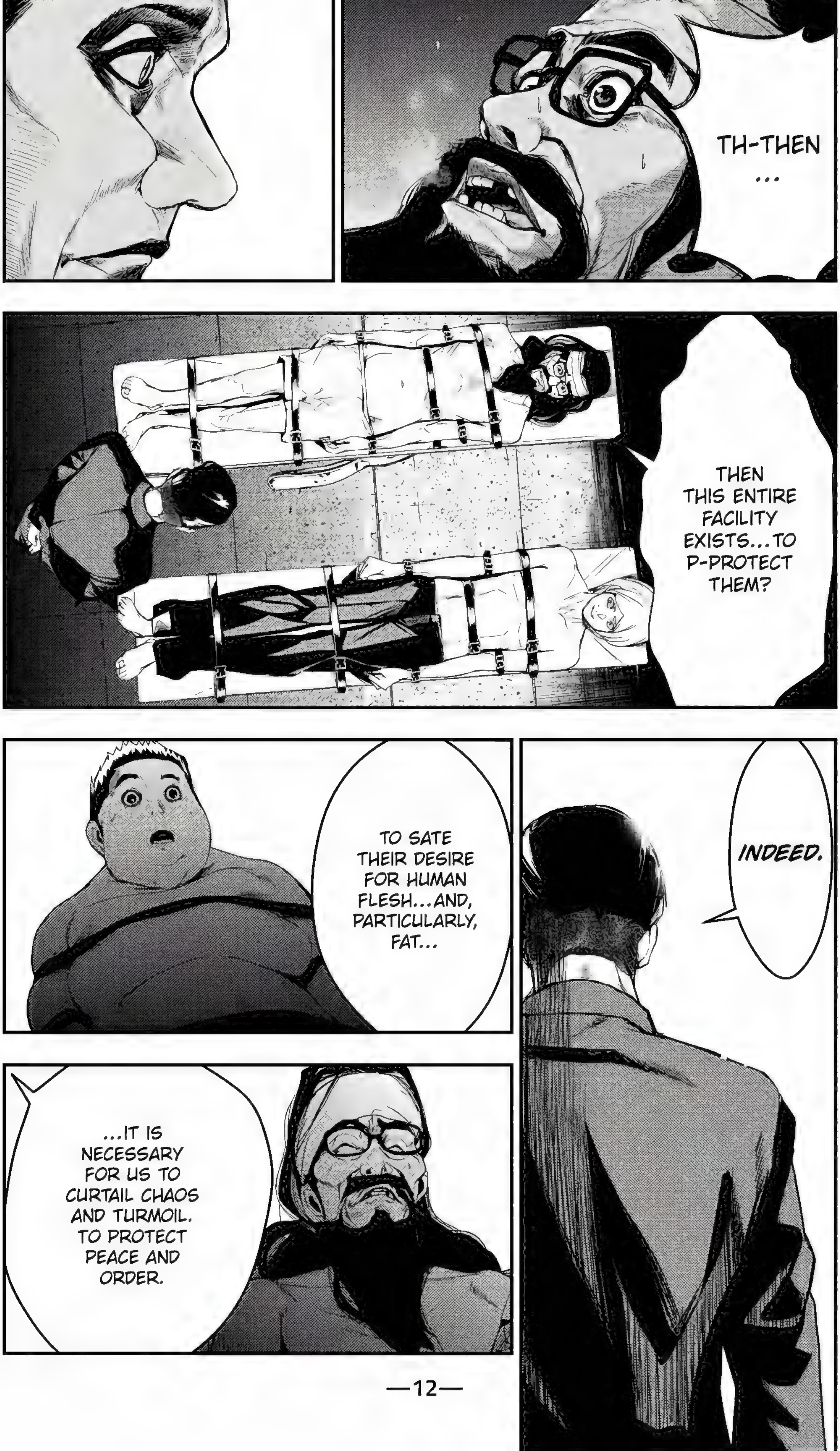

HUH …?
THEN THE MASTERS… AREN'T "HUMAN"?
THEY'RE THOSE… DISGUSTING CREATURES?
DISGUST-ING… CREATURES …?
HEH HEH
I SEE.
YOU DON'T KNOW!
THEY ARE…

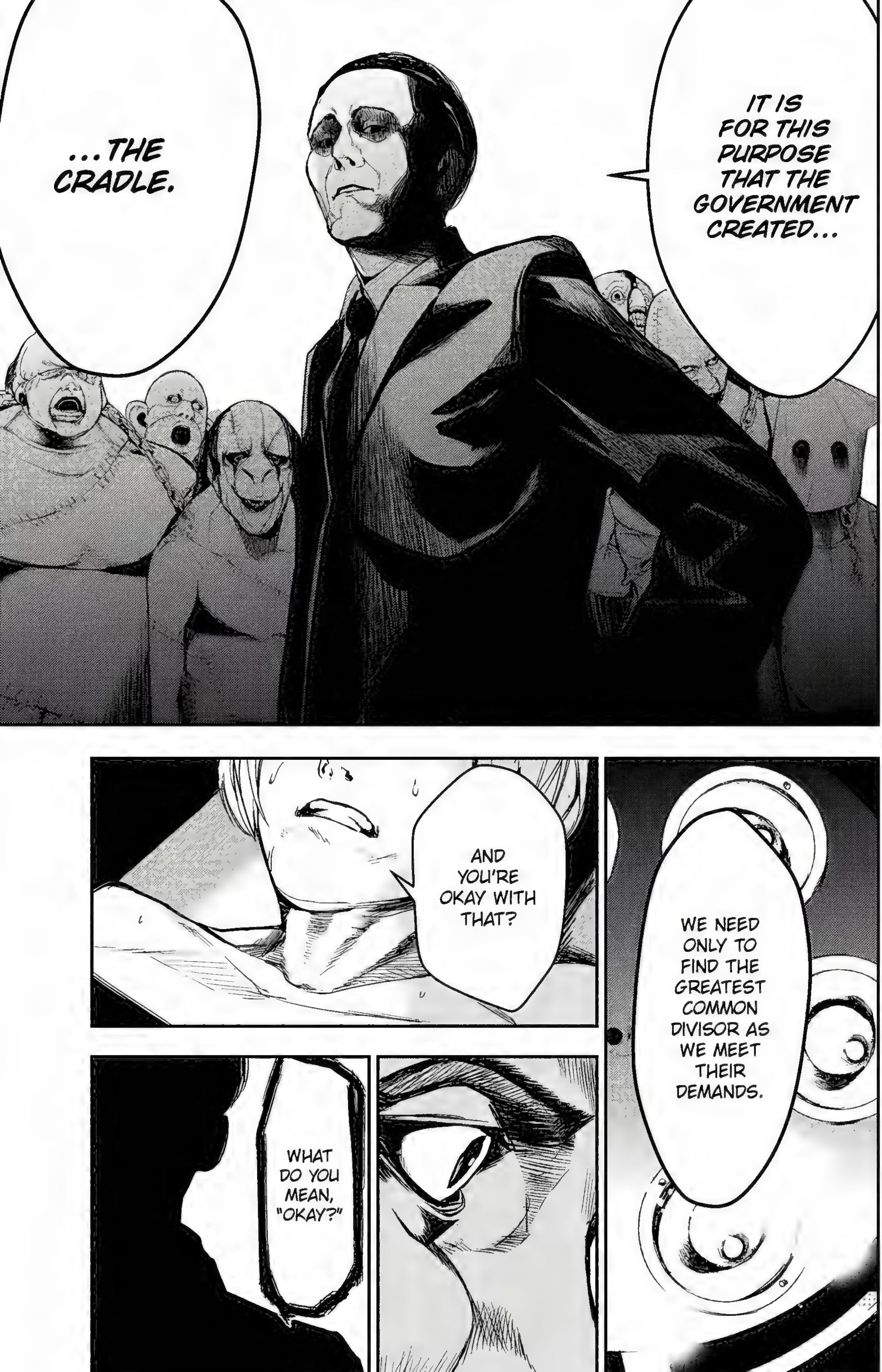

GODS.
GODS ...?
WELL ...

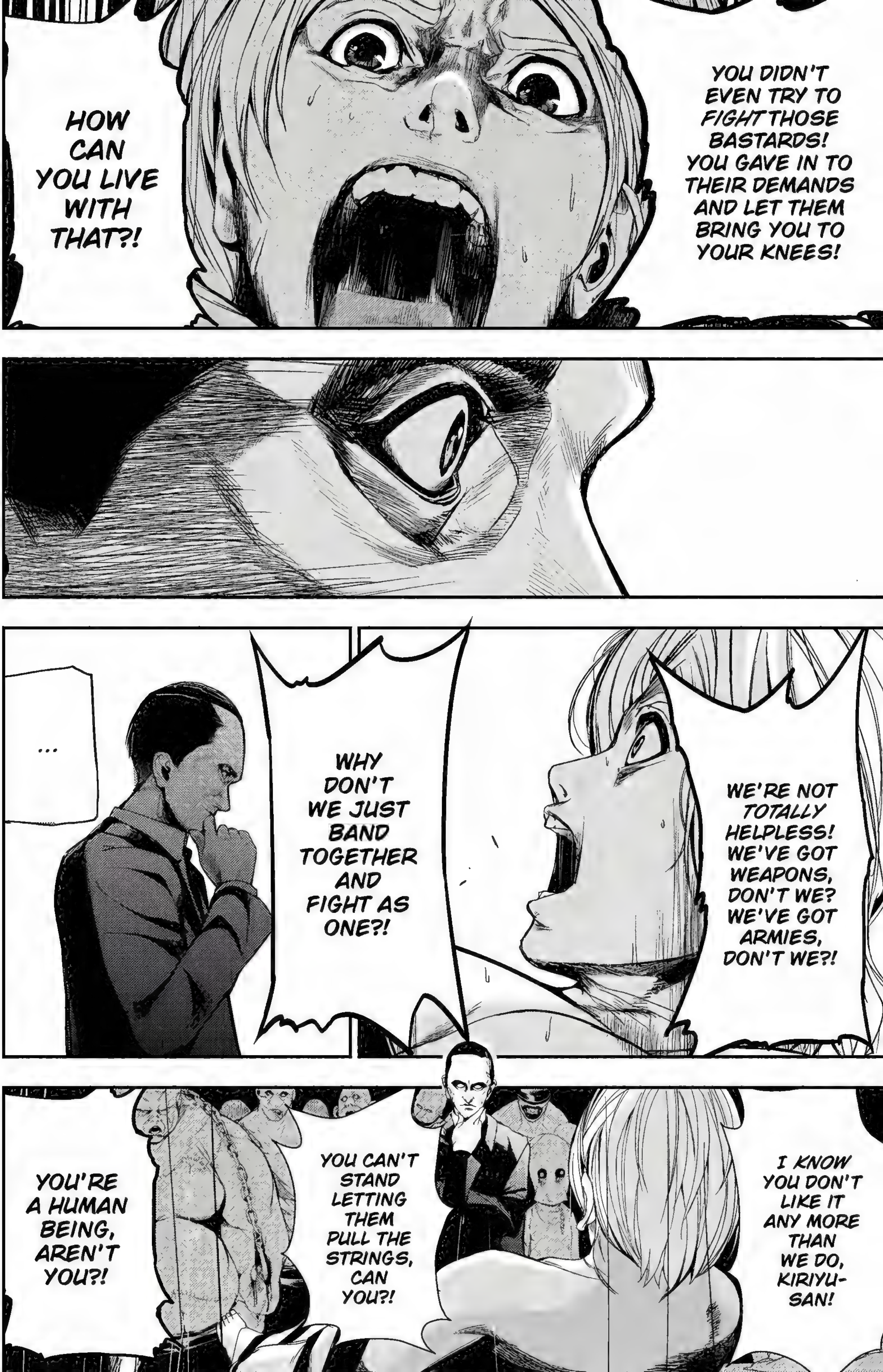

MORE PRECISELY, THEY'RE BEINGS...
...THAT HAVE COME CLOSER TO DIVINE OMNIPOTENCE THAN *WE* EVER WILL.
COMPARED TO THE MASTERS, WE HUMANS ARE NOTHING MORE...
...THAN HAIRLESS MONKEYS.
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHERE THEY COME FROM?
H...
H-H-HOW THE HELL SHOULD WE KNOW THAT?!
HMPH.
FWIP

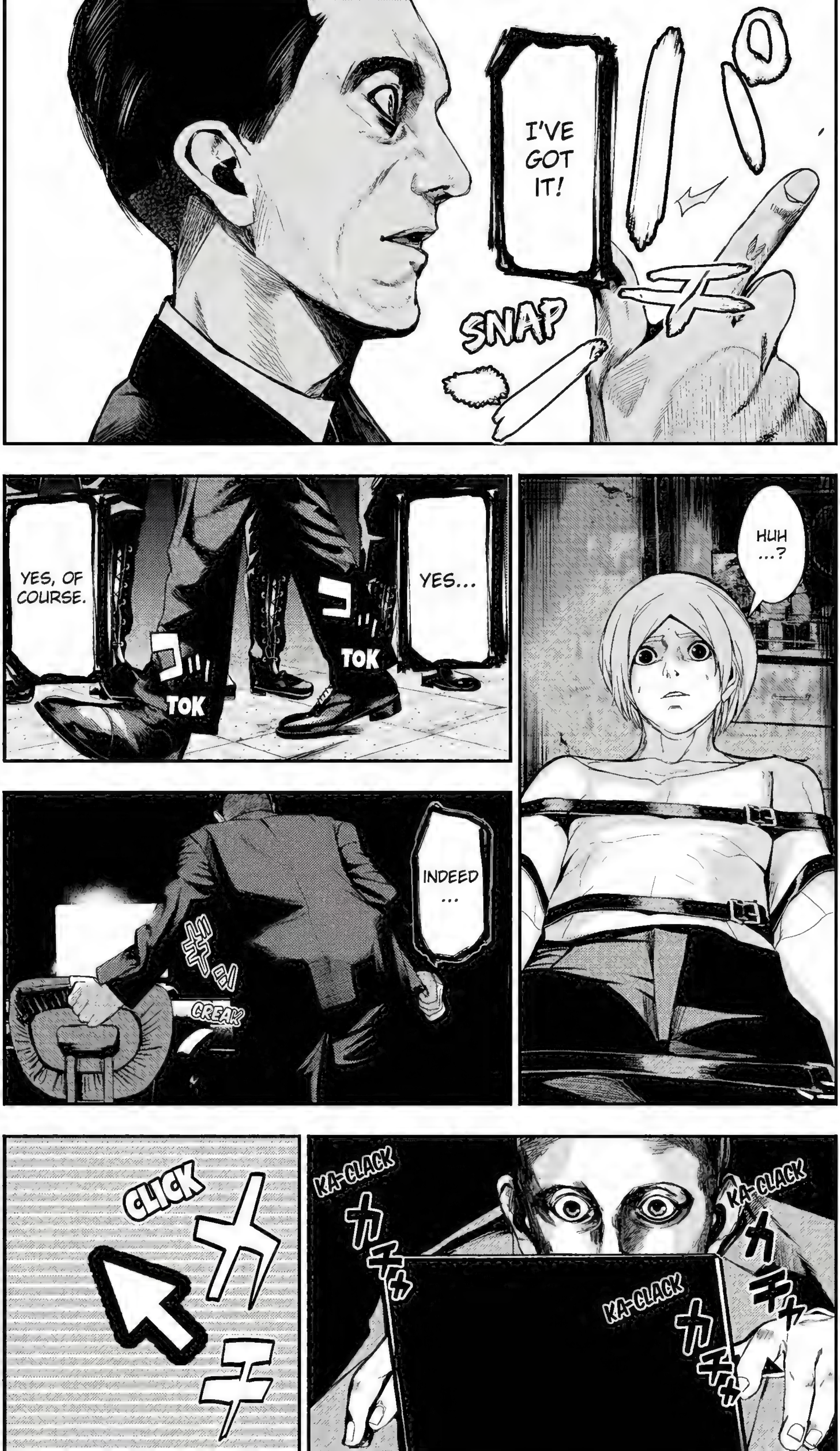

THEY CAME BY SPACESHIP FROM A FARAWAY PLANET...TO OURS.
THEY POSSESS SCIENTIFIC MASTERY AND KNOWLEDGE FAR BEYOND THE COMPREHENSION OF HAIRLESS APES LIKE US...
...AND GRACED THE SURFACE OF OUR PLANET WITH THEIR PRESENCE.

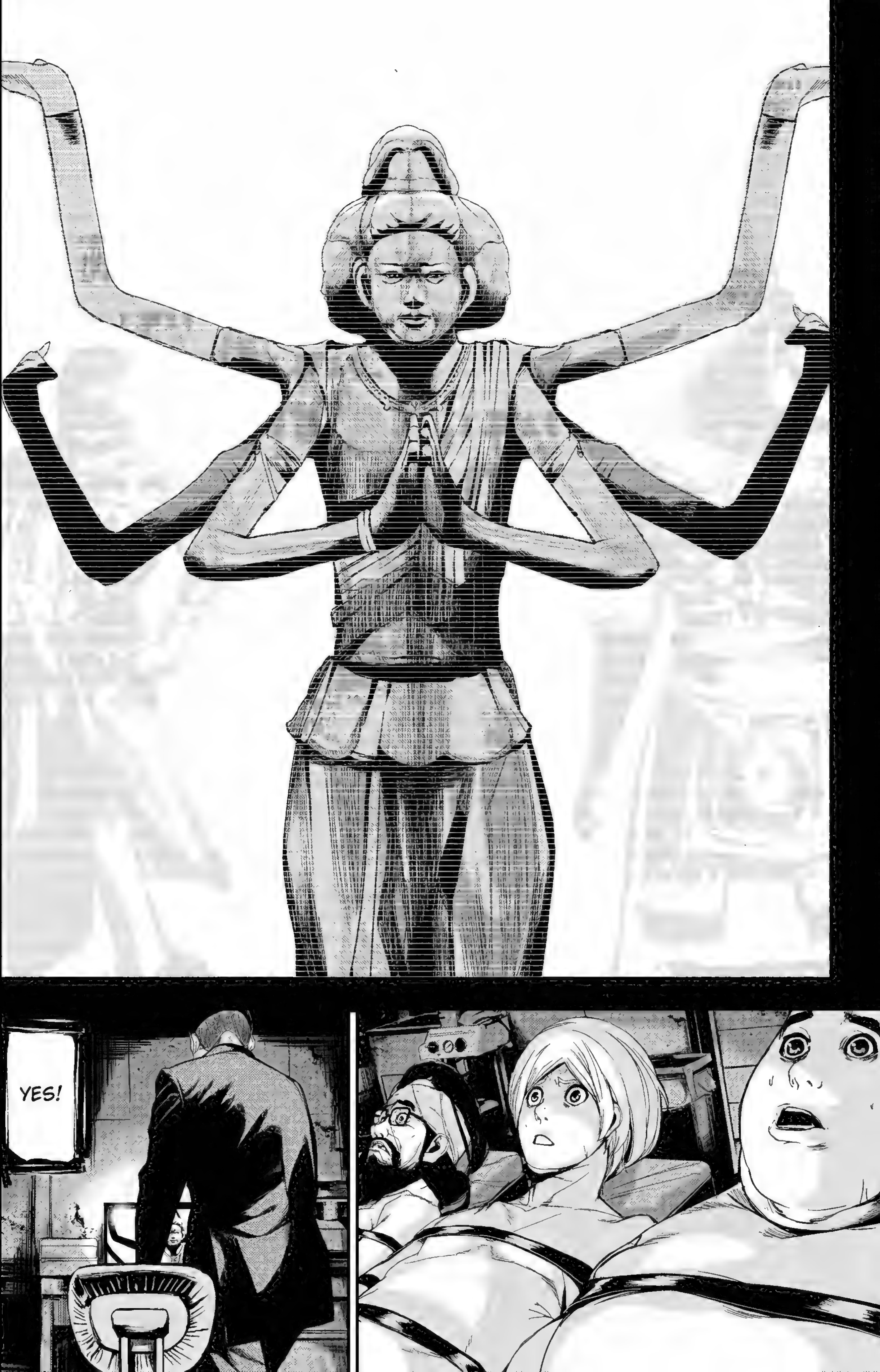

IN RECENT YEARS, GLOBAL WARMING HAS ONLY INCREASED IN SEVERITY.
THIS, TOO, WAS THEIR DOING.
LOWLY CREATURES THAT WE ARE, WE CANNOT CONTROL THE ENVIRONMENT ON OUR OWN. WE ARE TRULY HELPLESS.
THE MASTERS ARE THE ONLY BEINGS WITH THE POWER TO PREVENT OUR EXTINCTION.
THEY, ALONE, HOLD POWER OVER LIFE AND DEATH.
WE HAVE BUT ONE OPTION.
TOTAL OBEDIENCE TO THEIR EVERY WHIM.

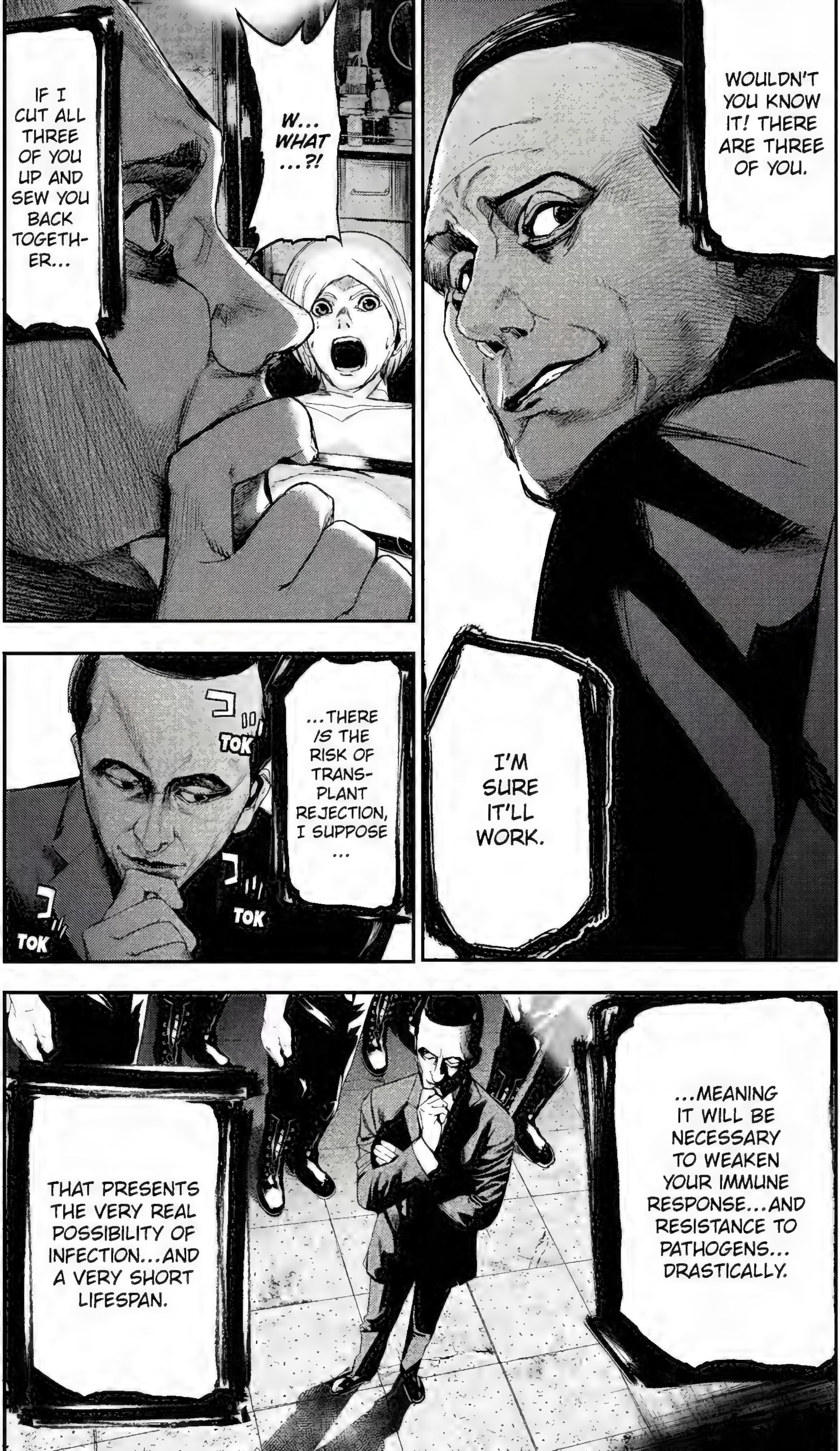

TH-THEN …
THEN THIS ENTIRE FACILITY EXISTS…TO P-PROTECT THEM?
INDEED.
TO SATE THEIR DESIRE FOR HUMAN FLESH…AND, PARTICULARLY, FAT…
…IT IS NECESSARY FOR US TO CURTAIL CHAOS AND TURMOIL. TO PROTECT PEACE AND ORDER.

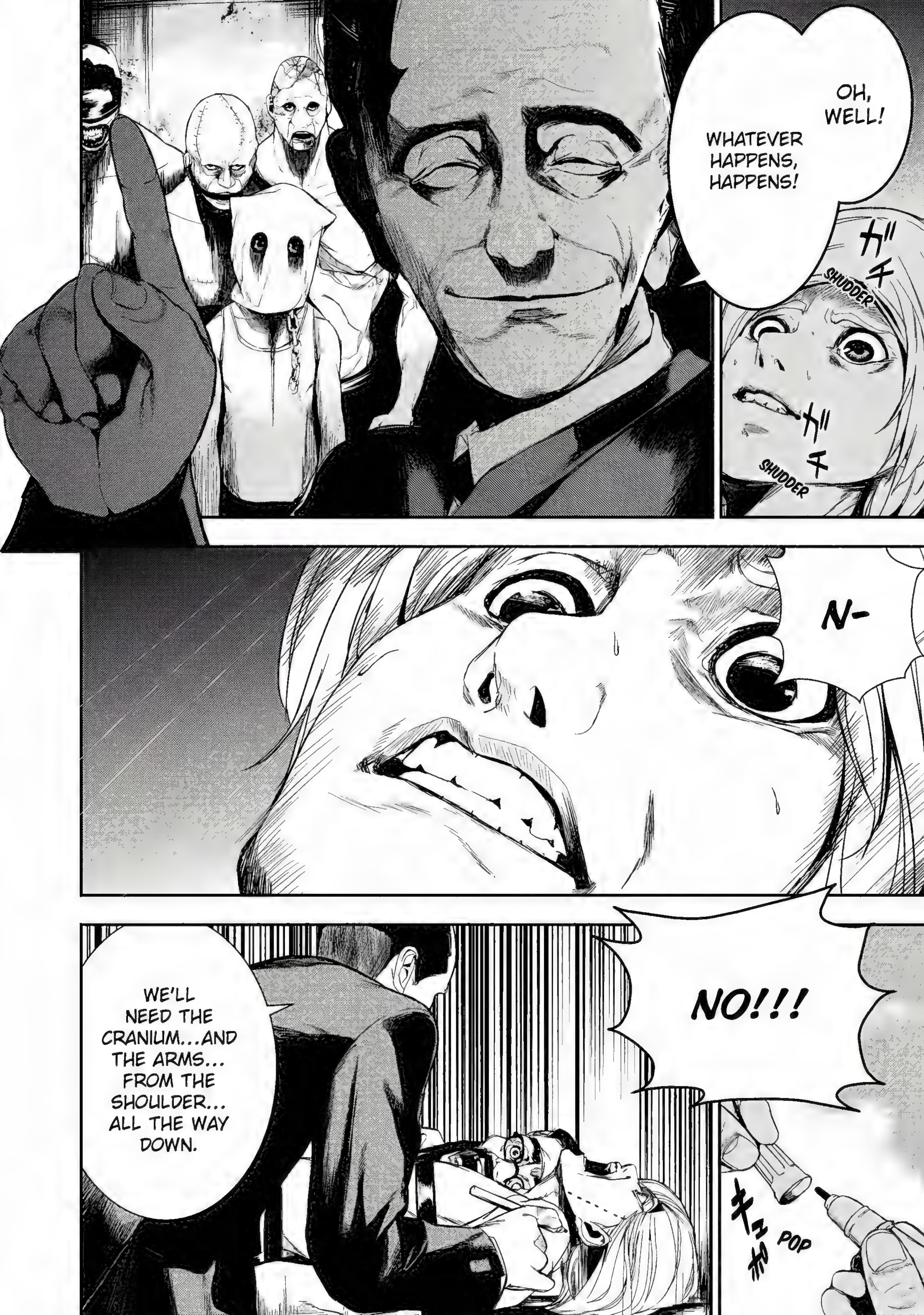

IT IS FOR THIS PURPOSE THAT THE GOVERNMENT CREATED...
...THE CRADLE.
WE NEED ONLY TO FIND THE GREATEST COMMON DIVISOR AS WE MEET THEIR DEMANDS.
AND YOU'RE OKAY WITH THAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "OKAY?"

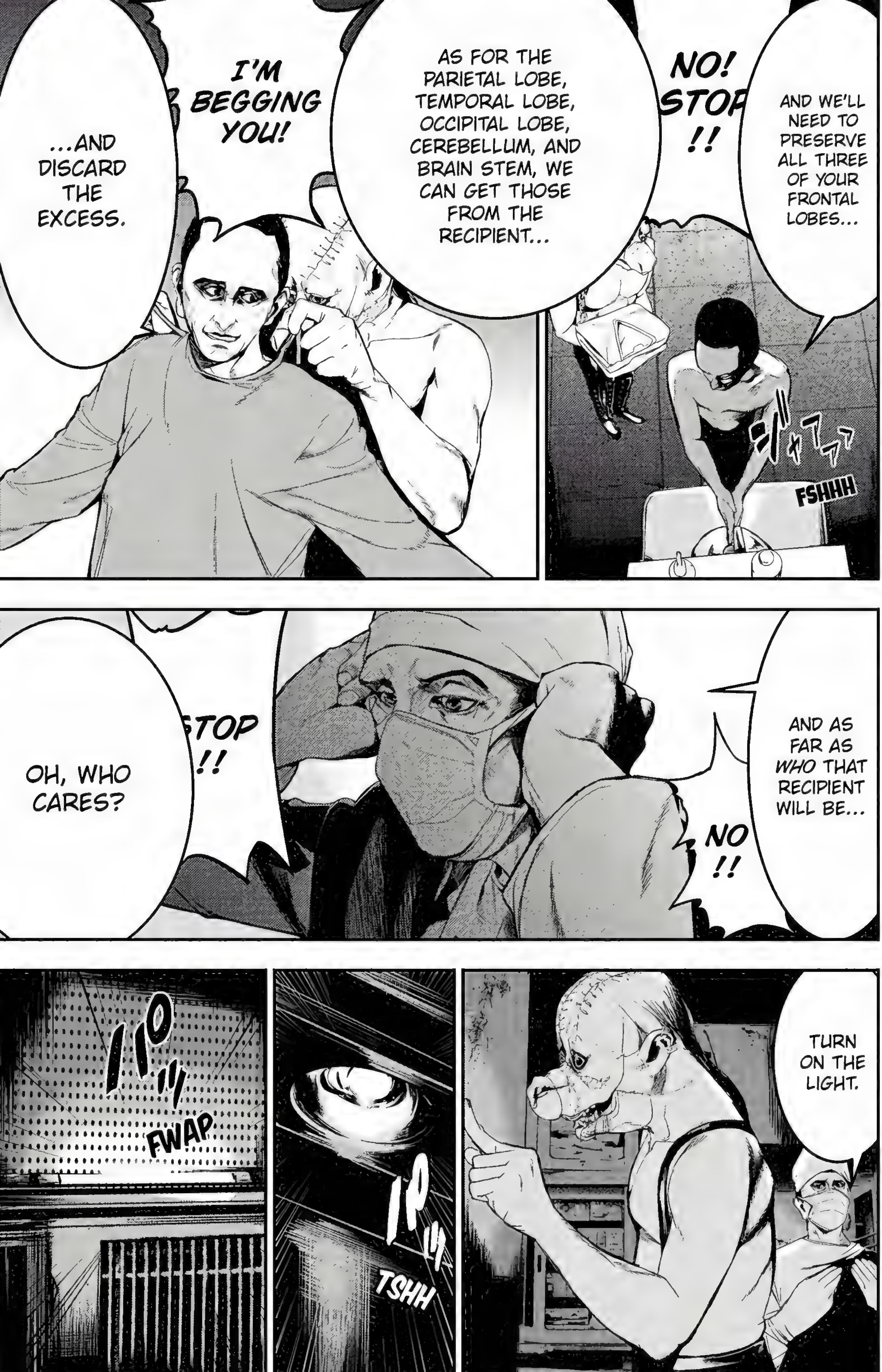

YOU DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO *FIGHT* THOSE BASTARDS! YOU GAVE IN TO THEIR DEMANDS AND LET THEM BRING YOU TO YOUR KNEES!
HOW CAN YOU LIVE WITH THAT?!
WE'RE NOT *TOTALLY* HELPLESS! WE'VE GOT WEAPONS, DON'T WE? WE'VE GOT ARMIES, DON'T WE?!
WHY DON'T WE JUST **BAND** TOGETHER AND FIGHT AS ONE?!
...
I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE IT ANY MORE THAN WE DO, KIRIYU-SAN!
YOU CAN'T STAND LETTING THEM PULL THE STRINGS, CAN YOU?!
YOU'RE A HUMAN BEING, AREN'T YOU?!

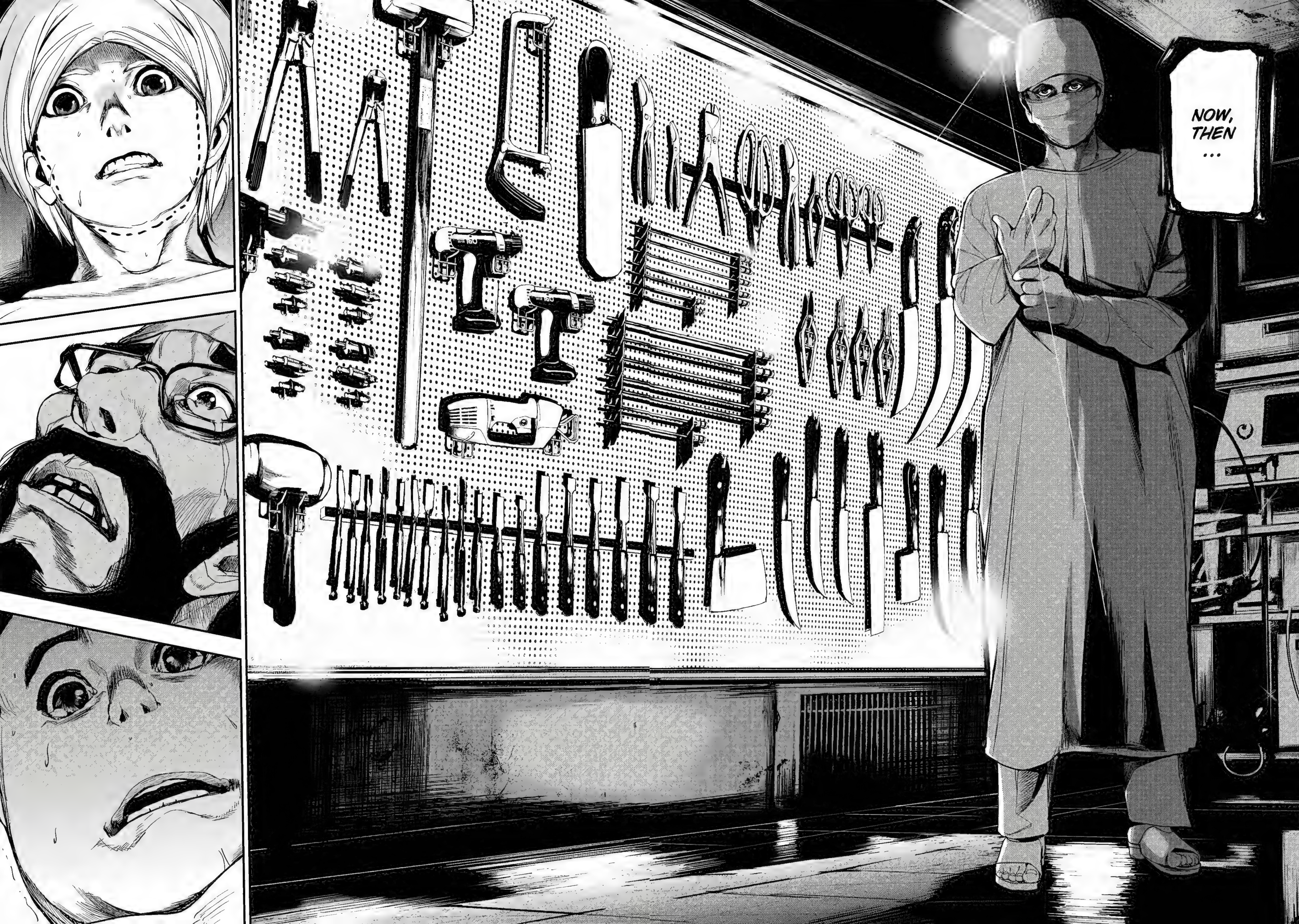

I'VE GOT IT!
SNAP
HUH …?
YES…
TOK
TOK
YES, OF COURSE.
INDEED …
CREAK
KA-CLACK
KA-CLACK
KA-CLACK
CLICK


YES!


WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT! THERE ARE THREE OF YOU.
IF I CUT ALL THREE OF YOU UP AND SEW YOU BACK TOGETHER...
W... WHAT ...?!
I'M SURE IT'LL WORK.
...THERE IS THE RISK OF TRANSPLANT REJECTION, I SUPPOSE ...
コ TOK
コ TOK
コ TOK
...MEANING IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO WEAKEN YOUR IMMUNE RESPONSE...AND RESISTANCE TO PATHOGENS... DRASTICALLY.
THAT PRESENTS THE VERY REAL POSSIBILITY OF INFECTION...AND A VERY SHORT LIFESPAN.

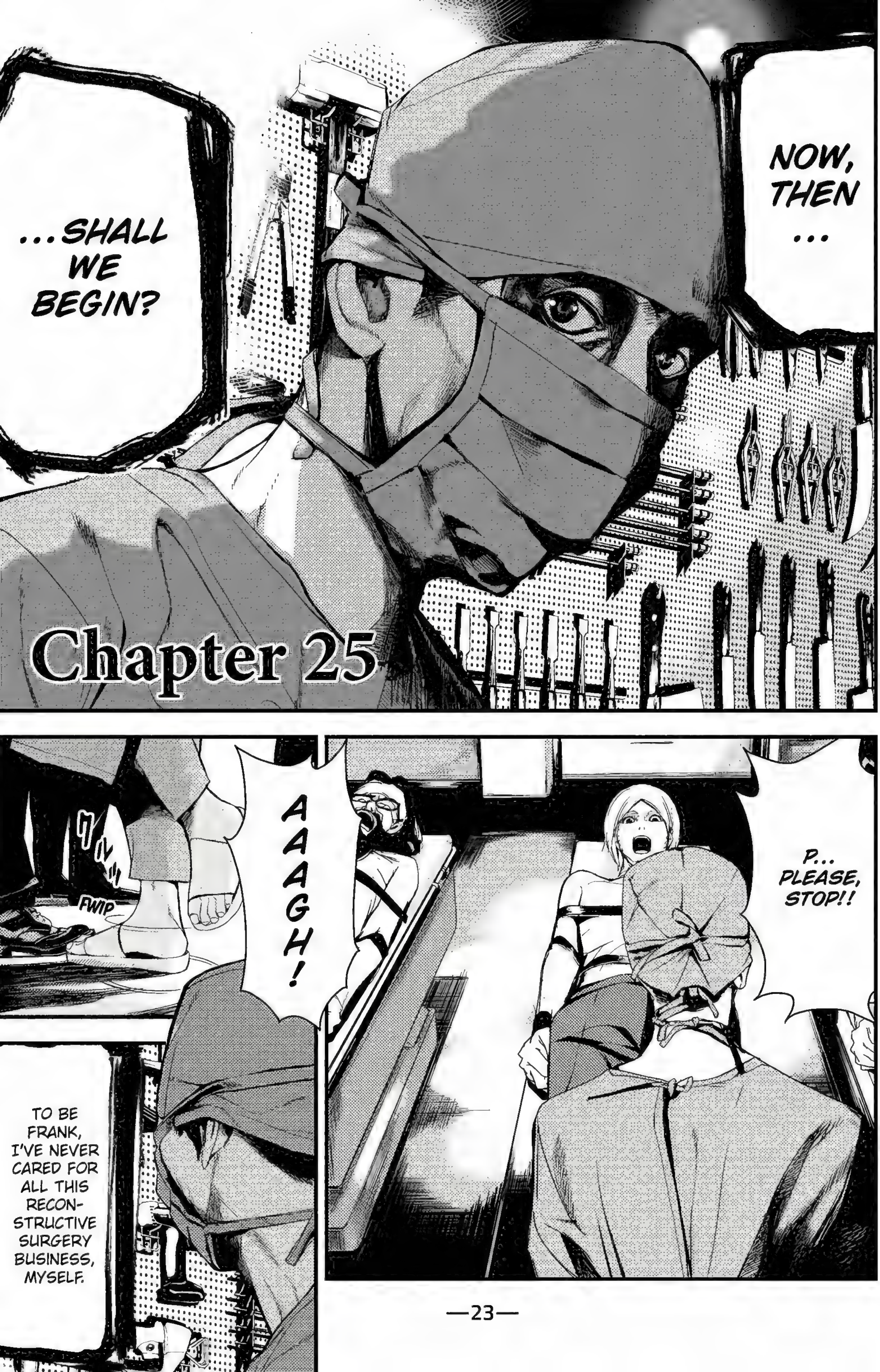

OH, WELL!
WHATEVER HAPPENS, HAPPENS!
ガチ SHUDDER
ガチ SHUDDER
N-
NO!!!
WE'LL NEED THE CRANIUM...AND THE ARMS... FROM THE SHOULDER... ALL THE WAY DOWN.
キュポ POP

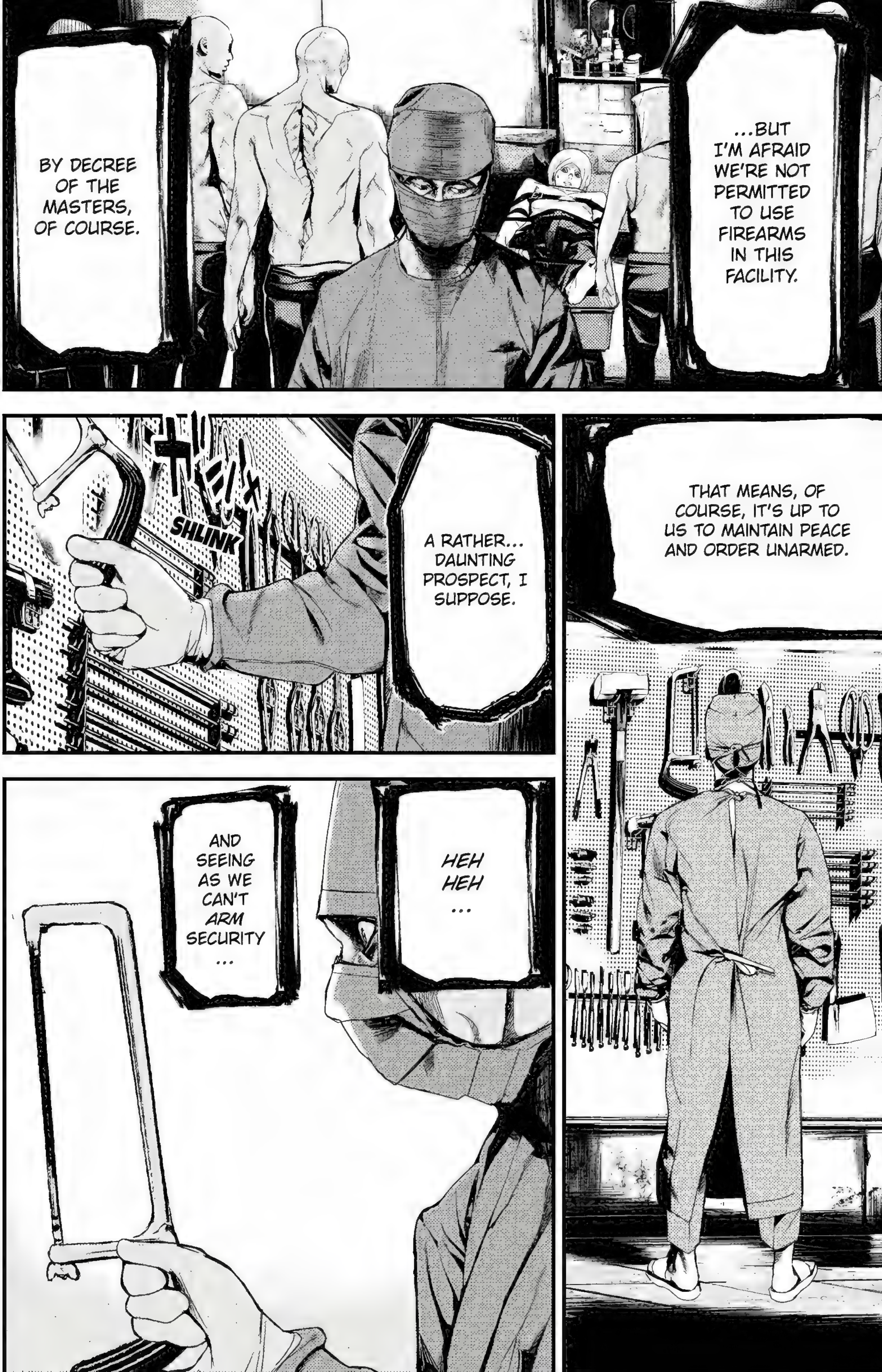

AND WE'LL NEED TO PRESERVE ALL THREE OF YOUR FRONTAL LOBES...
NO! STOP!!
FSHHH
AS FOR THE PARIETAL LOBE, TEMPORAL LOBE, OCCIPITAL LOBE, CEREBELLUM, AND BRAIN STEM, WE CAN GET THOSE FROM THE RECIPIENT...
I'M BEGGING YOU!
...AND DISCARD THE EXCESS.
AND AS FAR AS *WHO* THAT RECIPIENT WILL BE...
NO!!
STOP!!
OH, WHO CARES?
TURN ON THE LIGHT.
TSHH
FWAP

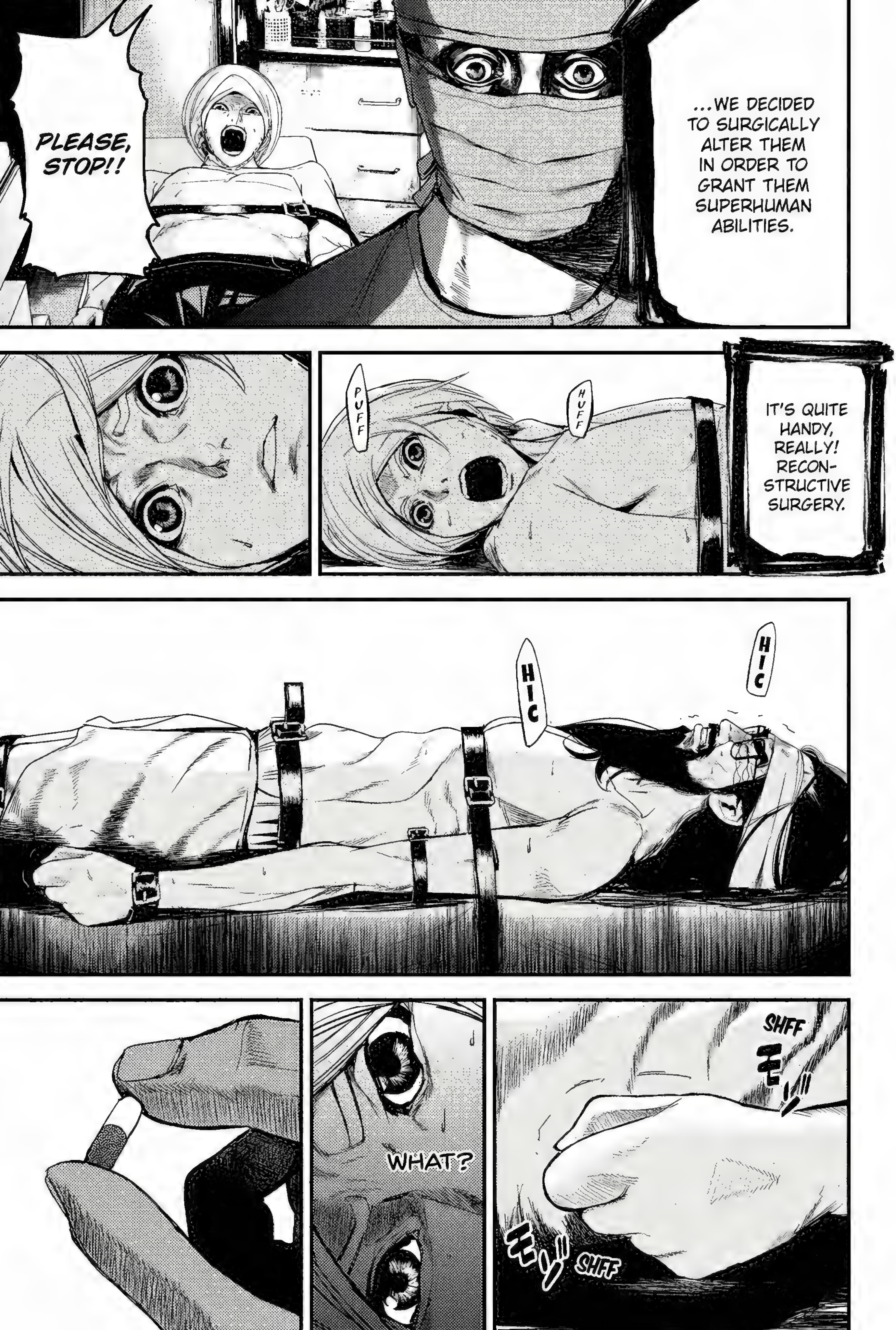

NOW, THEN ...

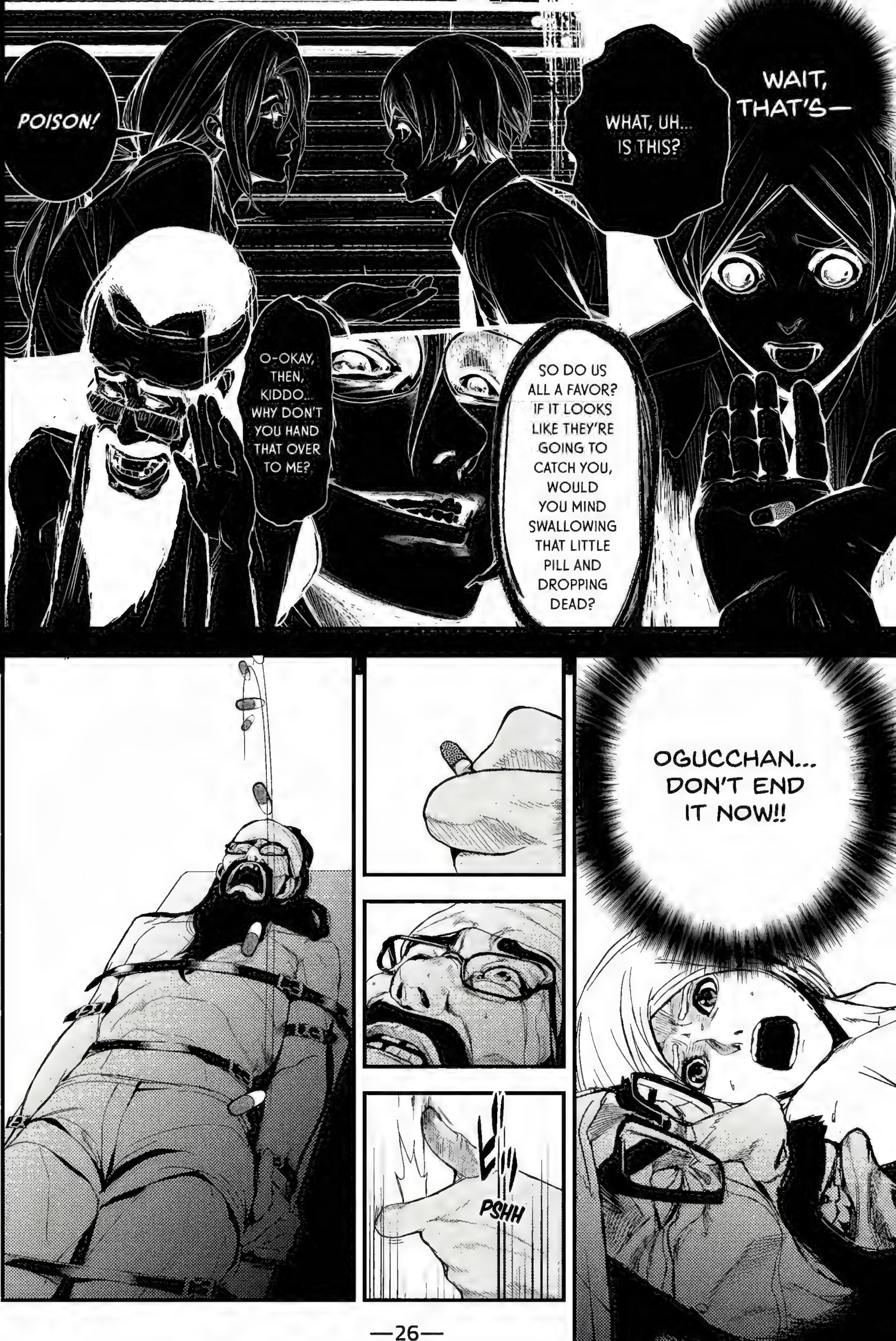
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

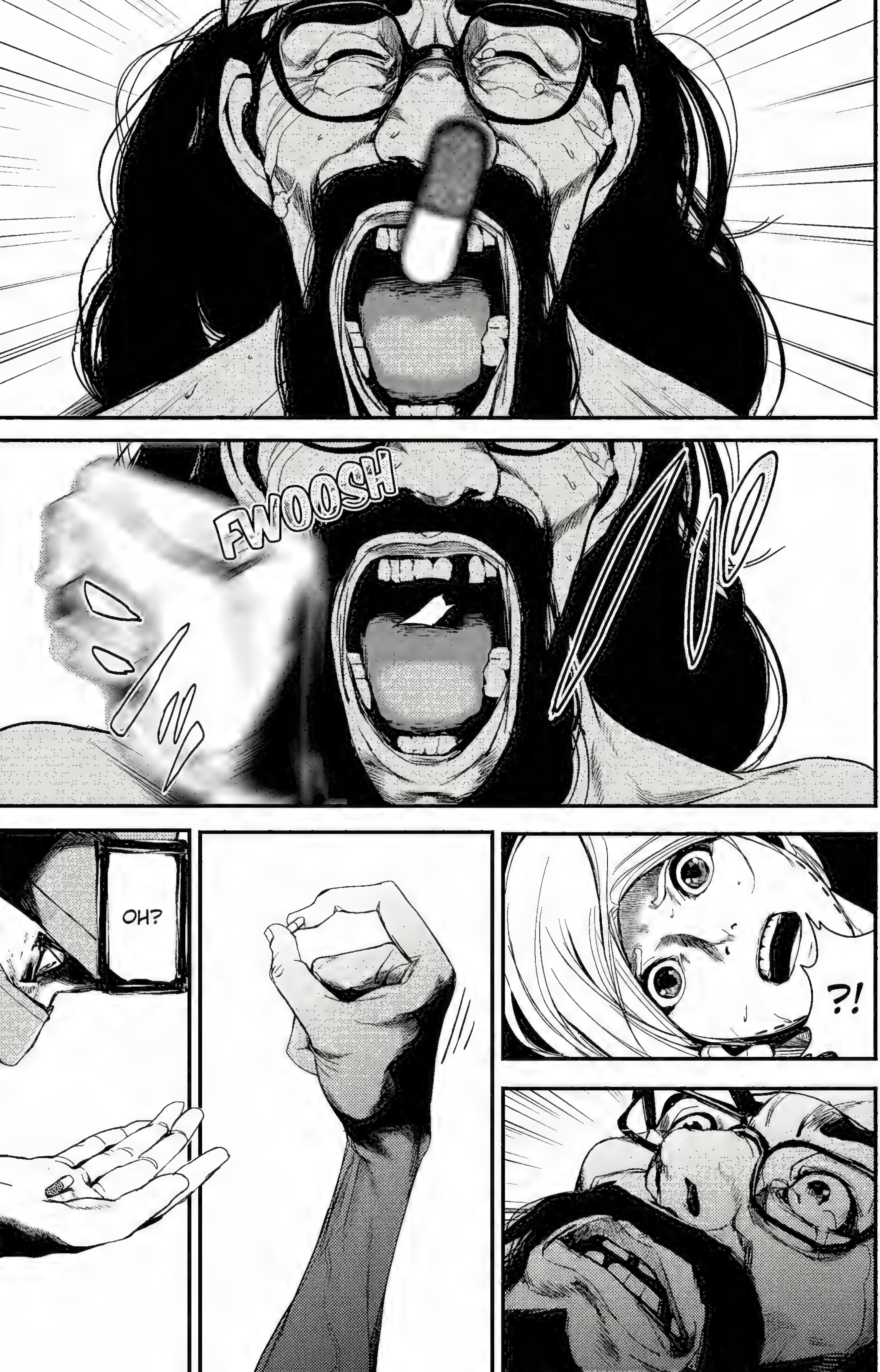
Chapter 25

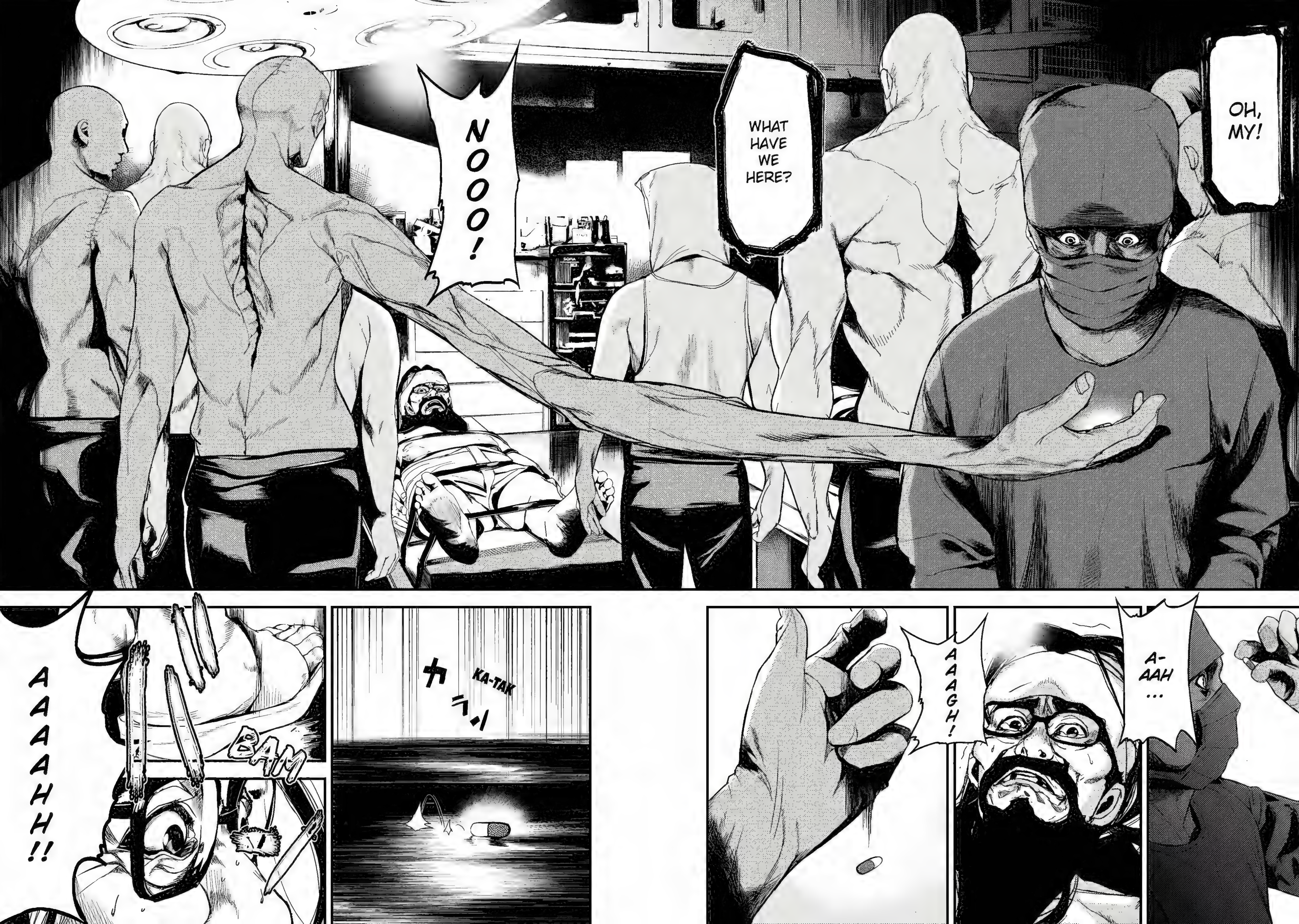

NOW, THEN ...
...SHALL WE BEGIN?
P... PLEASE, STOP!!
AAAAGH!
FWIP
TO BE FRANK, I'VE NEVER CARED FOR ALL THIS RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY BUSINESS, MYSELF.

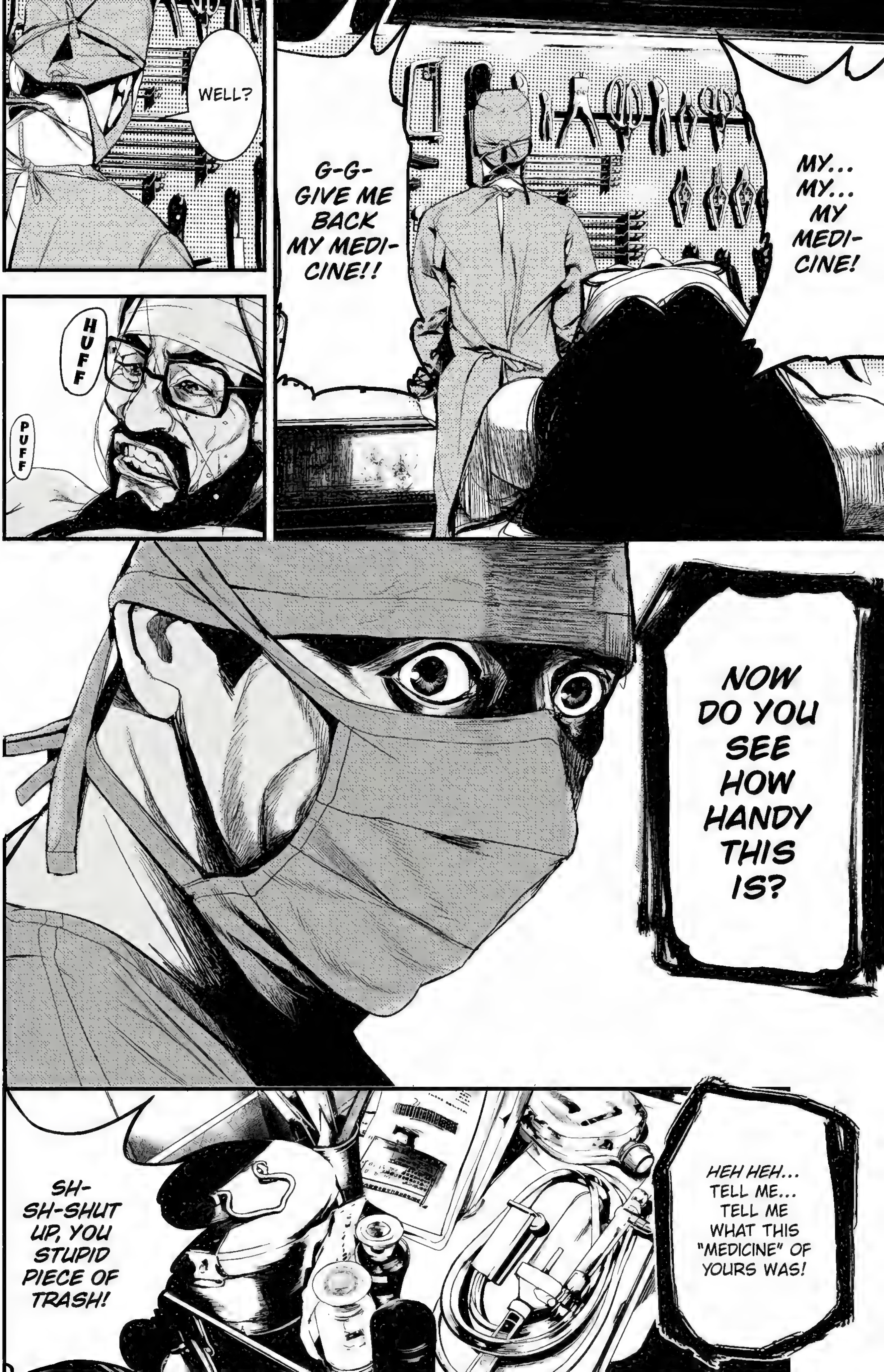

...BUT I'M AFRAID WE'RE NOT PERMITTED TO USE FIREARMS IN THIS FACILITY.
BY DECREE OF THE MASTERS, OF COURSE.
THAT MEANS, OF COURSE, IT'S UP TO US TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND ORDER UNARMED.
A RATHER... DAUNTING PROSPECT, I SUPPOSE.
SHLINK
HEH HEH ...
AND SEEING AS WE CAN'T *ARM* SECURITY ...

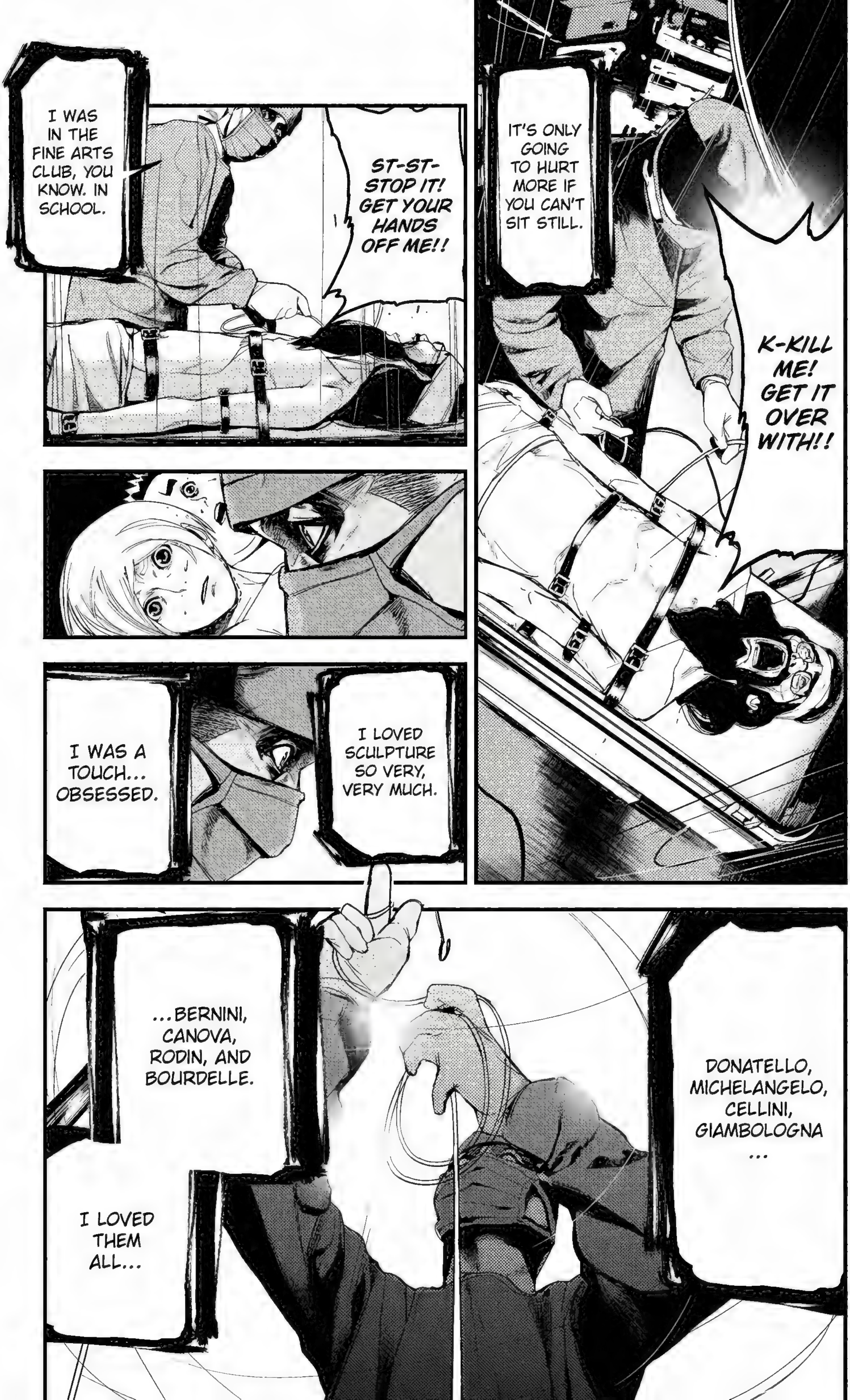

...WE DECIDED TO SURGICALLY ALTER THEM IN ORDER TO GRANT THEM SUPERHUMAN ABILITIES.
PLEASE, STOP!!
IT'S QUITE HANDY, REALLY! RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY.
HUFF
PUFF
HIC
HIC
SHFF
モゾ
WHAT?
モゾ
SHFF

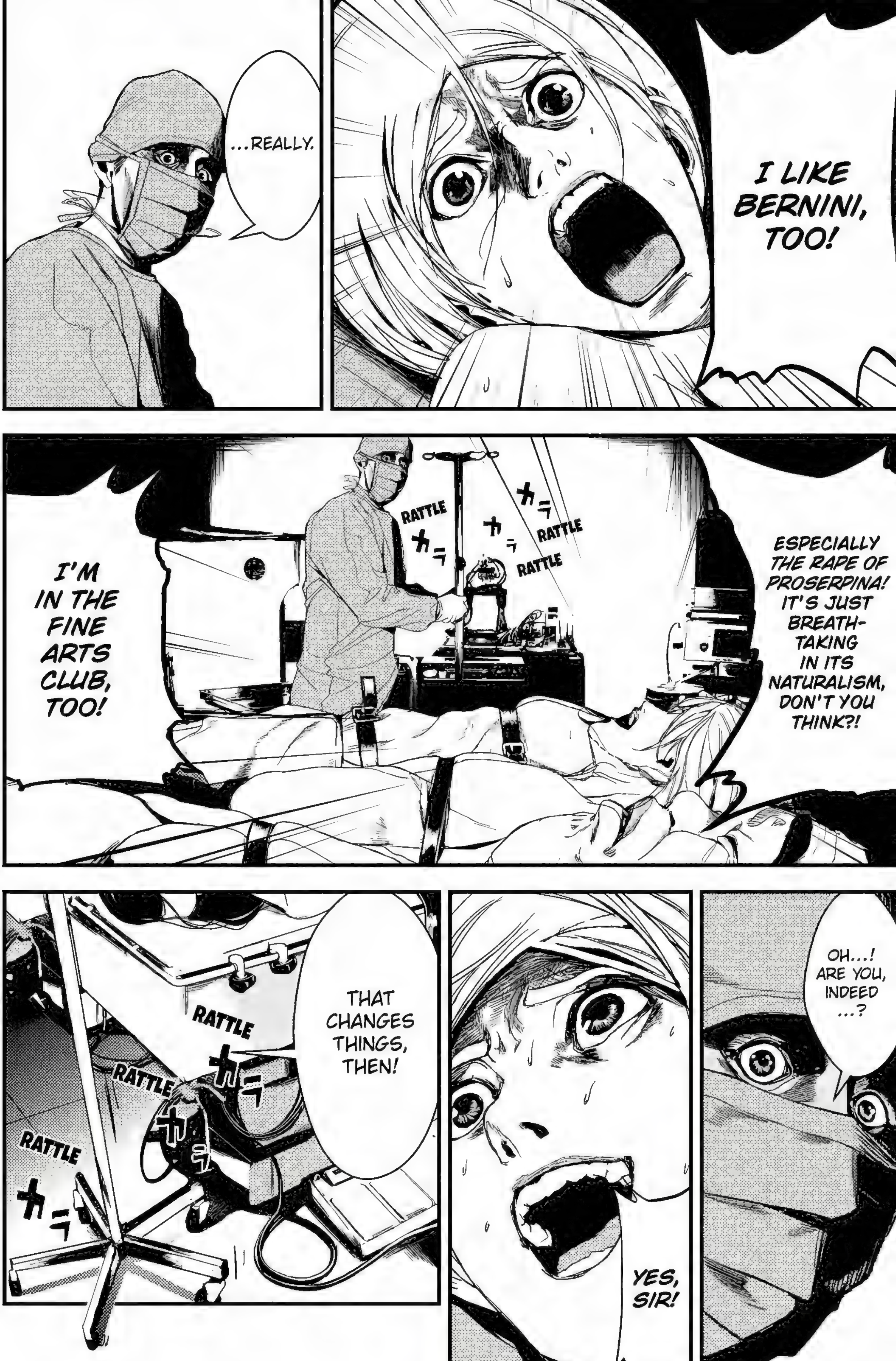

WAIT, THAT'S—
WHAT, UH... IS THIS?
POISON!
SO DO US ALL A FAVOR? IF IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GOING TO CATCH YOU, WOULD YOU MIND SWALLOWING THAT LITTLE PILL AND DROPPING DEAD?
O-OKAY, THEN, KIDDO... WHY DON'T YOU HAND THAT OVER TO ME?
OGUCCHAN... DON'T END IT NOW!!
ビッ
PSHH

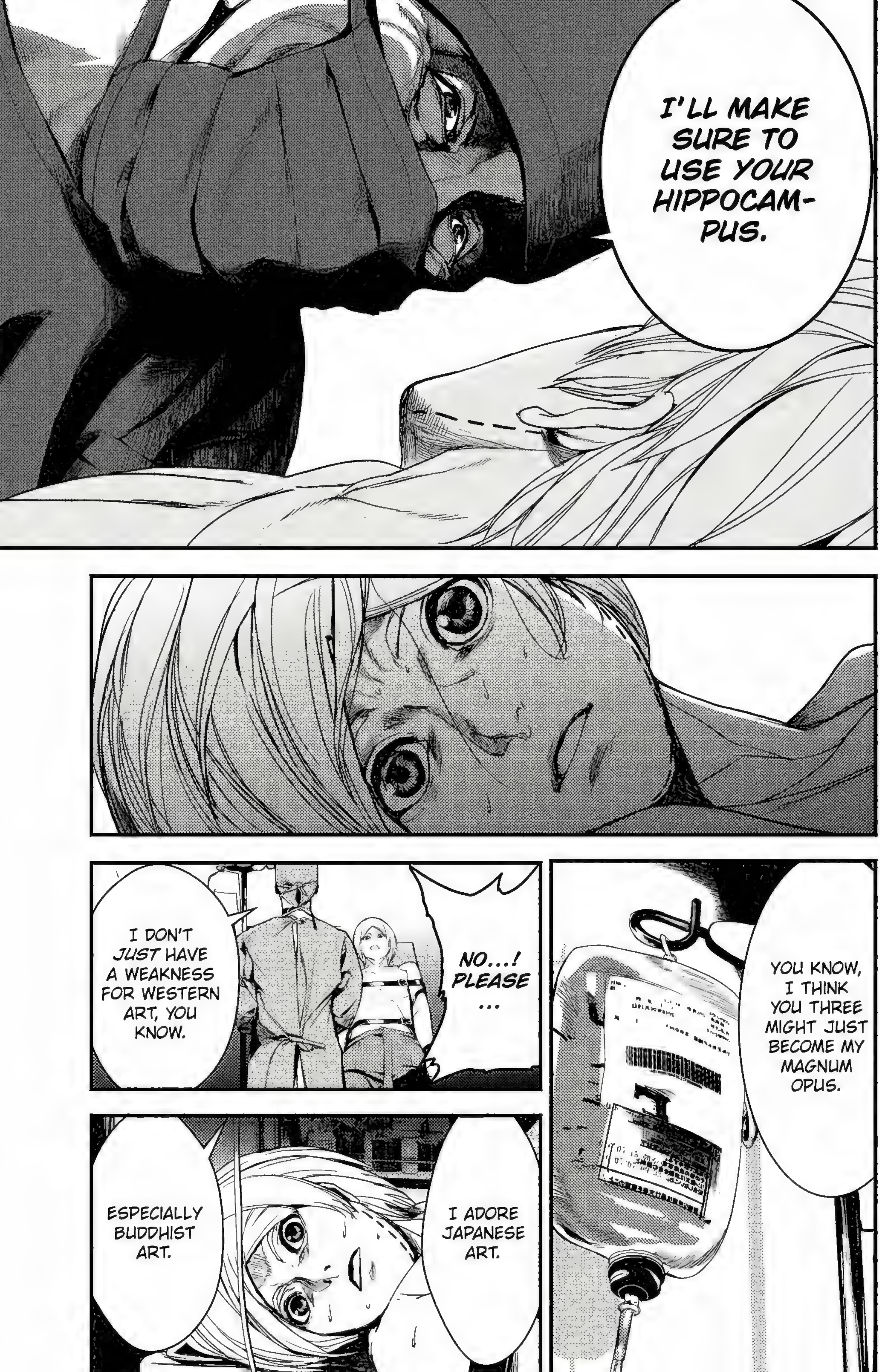

FWOOSH
?!
OH?

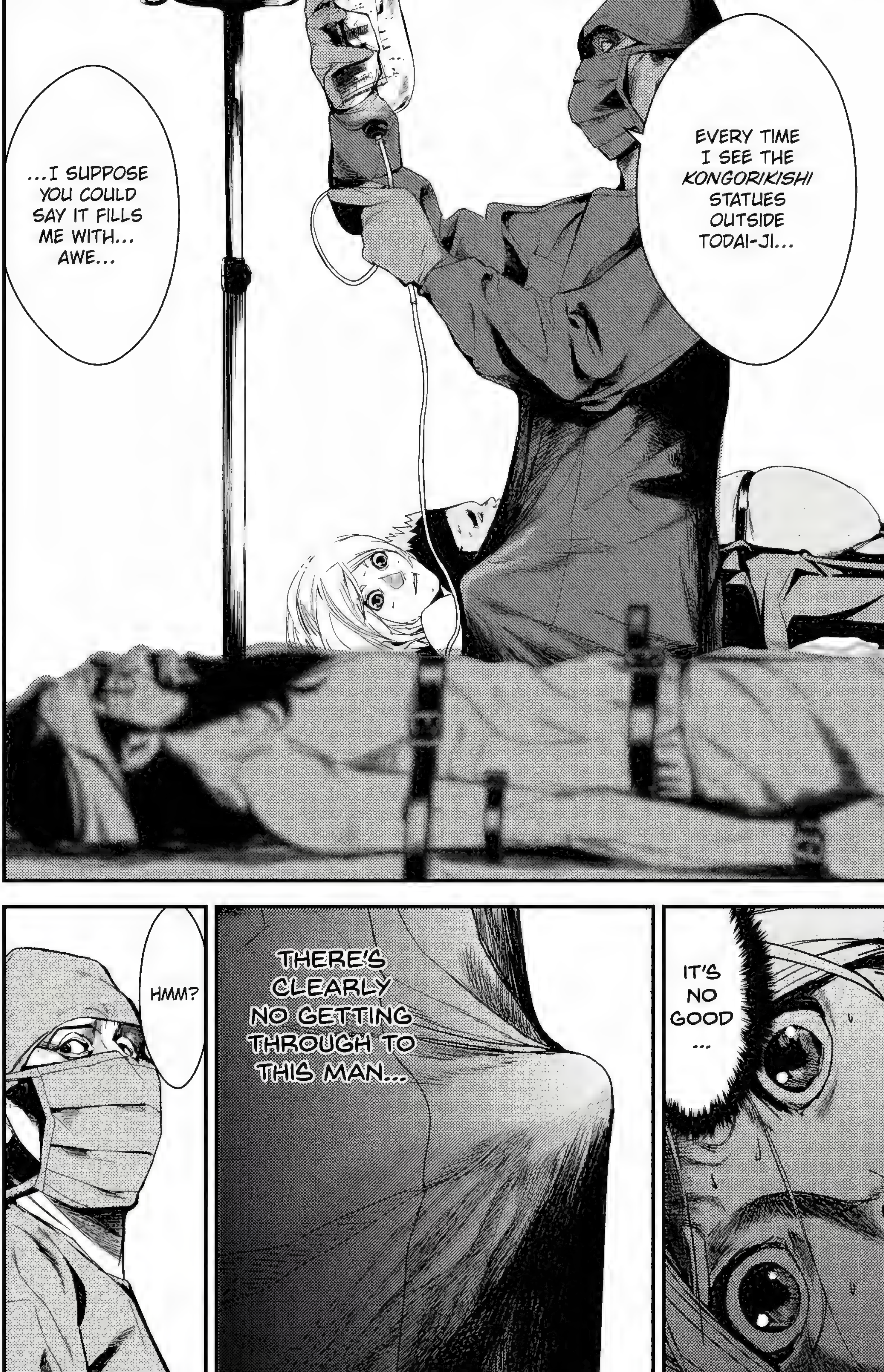

OH, MY!
WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
NOOOO!
A-AAH...
AAAGH!
カラン
KA-TAK
BAM
AAAAAAHH!!

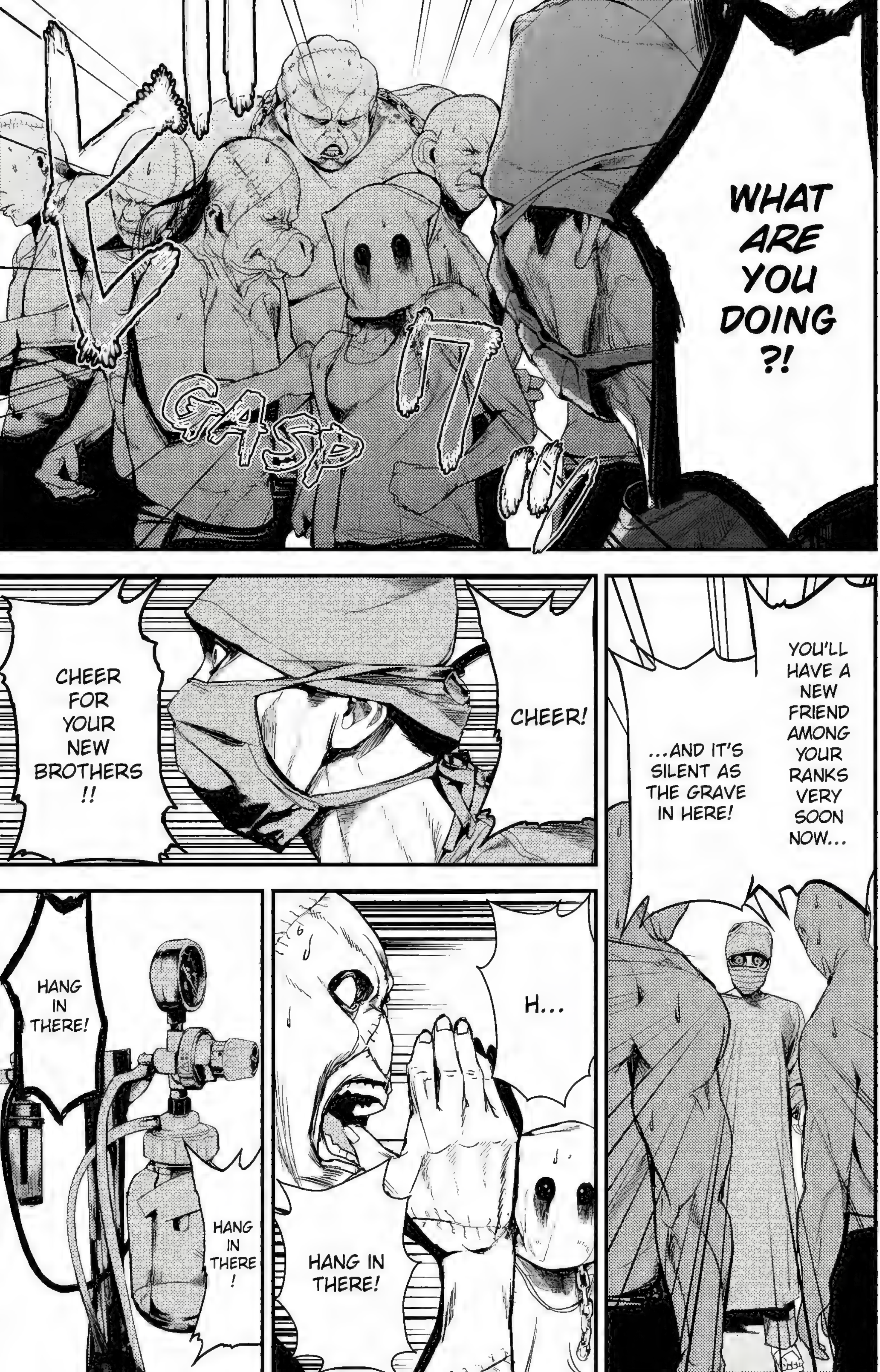

MY... MY... MY MEDICINE!
G-G-GIVE ME BACK MY MEDICINE!!
WELL?
HUFF
PUFF
NOW DO YOU SEE HOW HANDY THIS IS?
HEH HEH... TELL ME... TELL ME WHAT THIS "MEDICINE" OF YOURS WAS!
SH-SH-SHUT UP, YOU STUPID PIECE OF TRASH!

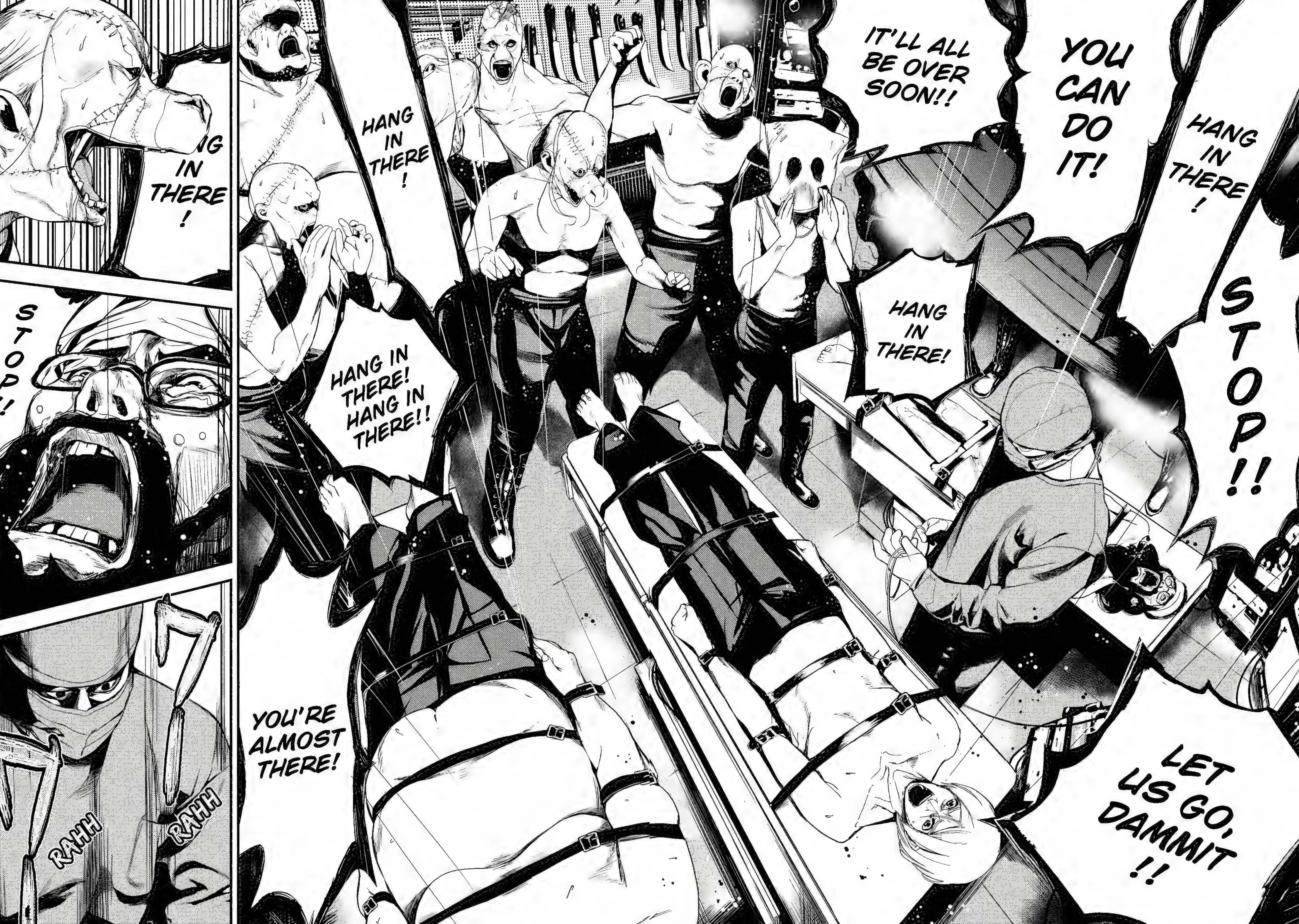

ST-ST-STOP IT! GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!!
I WAS IN THE FINE ARTS CLUB, YOU KNOW. IN SCHOOL.
IT'S ONLY GOING TO HURT MORE IF YOU CAN'T SIT STILL.
K-KILL ME! GET IT OVER WITH!!
I LOVED SCULPTURE SO VERY, VERY MUCH.
I WAS A TOUCH… OBSESSED.
DONATELLO, MICHELANGELO, CELLINI, GIAMBOLOGNA…
…BERNINI, CANOVA, RODIN, AND BOURDELLE.
I LOVED THEM ALL…

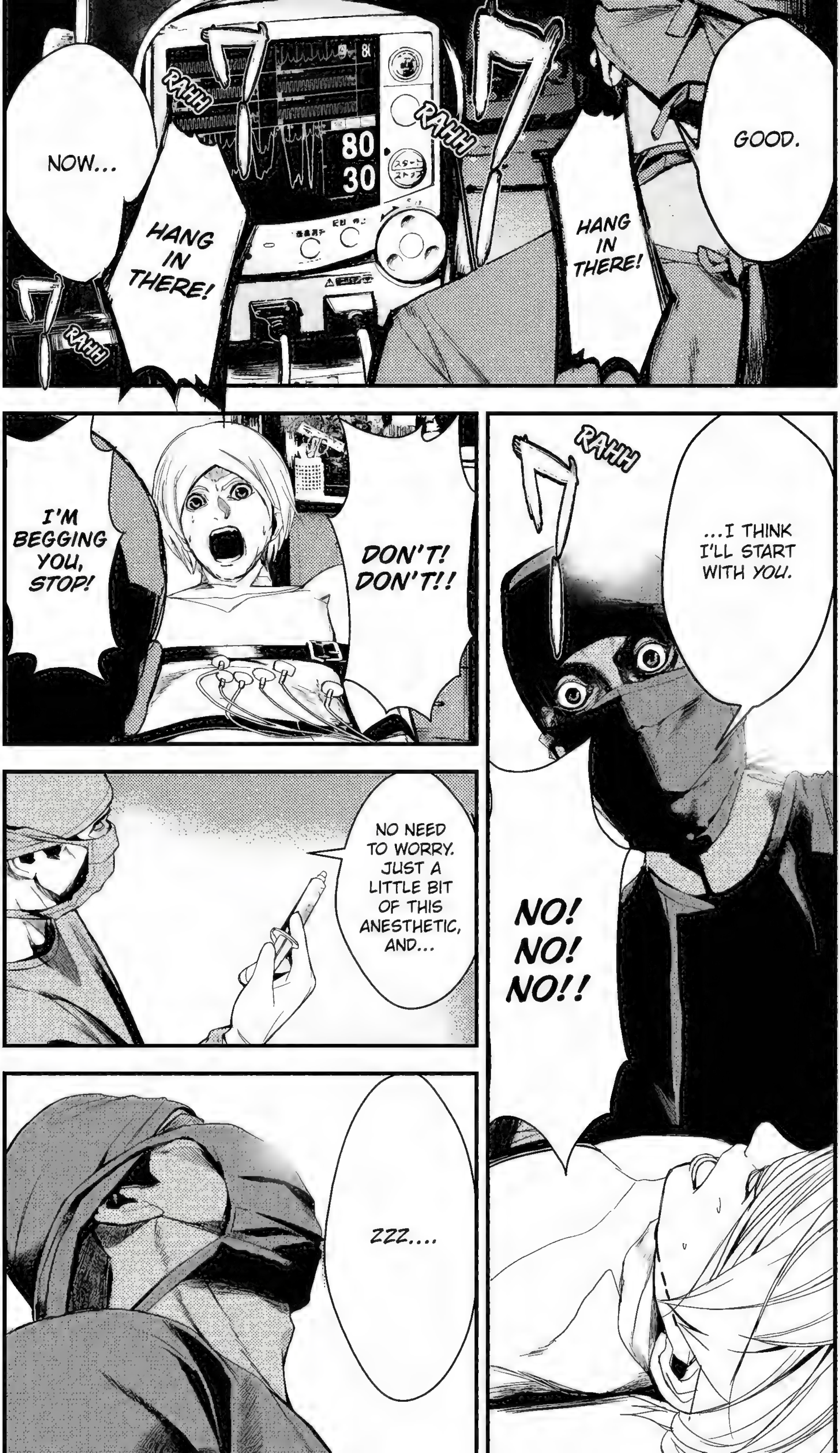

I LIKE BERNINI, TOO!
...REALLY.
ESPECIALLY THE RAPE OF PROSERPINA! IT'S JUST BREATH-TAKING IN ITS NATURALISM, DON'T YOU THINK?!
カラ RATTLE
カラ RATTLE
カラ RATTLE
I'M IN THE FINE ARTS CLUB, TOO!
OH...! ARE YOU, INDEED ...?
YES, SIR!
THAT CHANGES THINGS, THEN!
RATTLE カラ
RATTLE カラ
RATTLE カラ

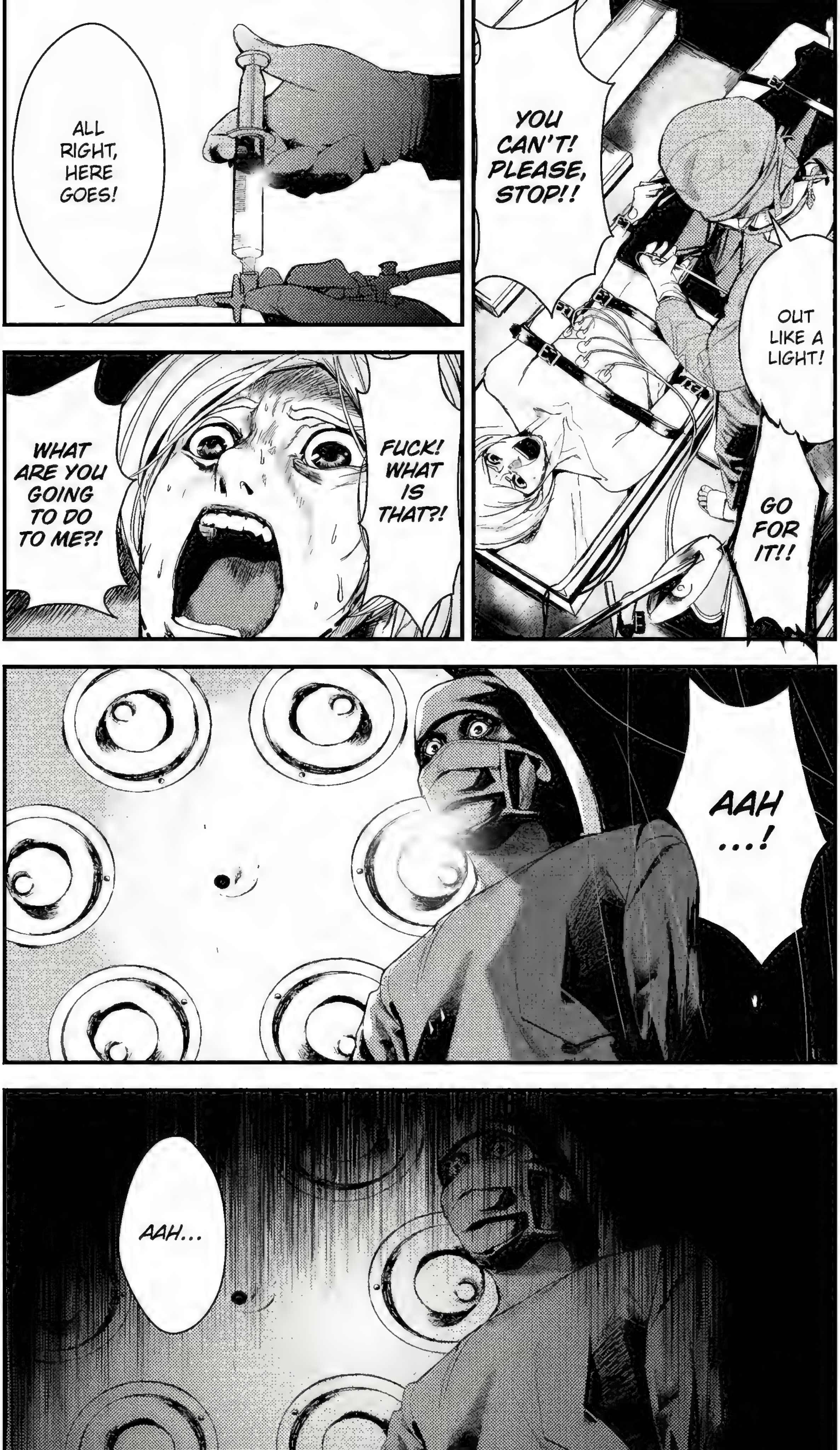

I'LL MAKE SURE TO USE YOUR HIPPOCAMPUS.
NO...! PLEASE ...
I DON'T *JUST* HAVE A WEAKNESS FOR WESTERN ART, YOU KNOW.
I ADORE JAPANESE ART.
ESPECIALLY BUDDHIST ART.
YOU KNOW, I THINK YOU THREE MIGHT JUST BECOME MY MAGNUM OPUS.

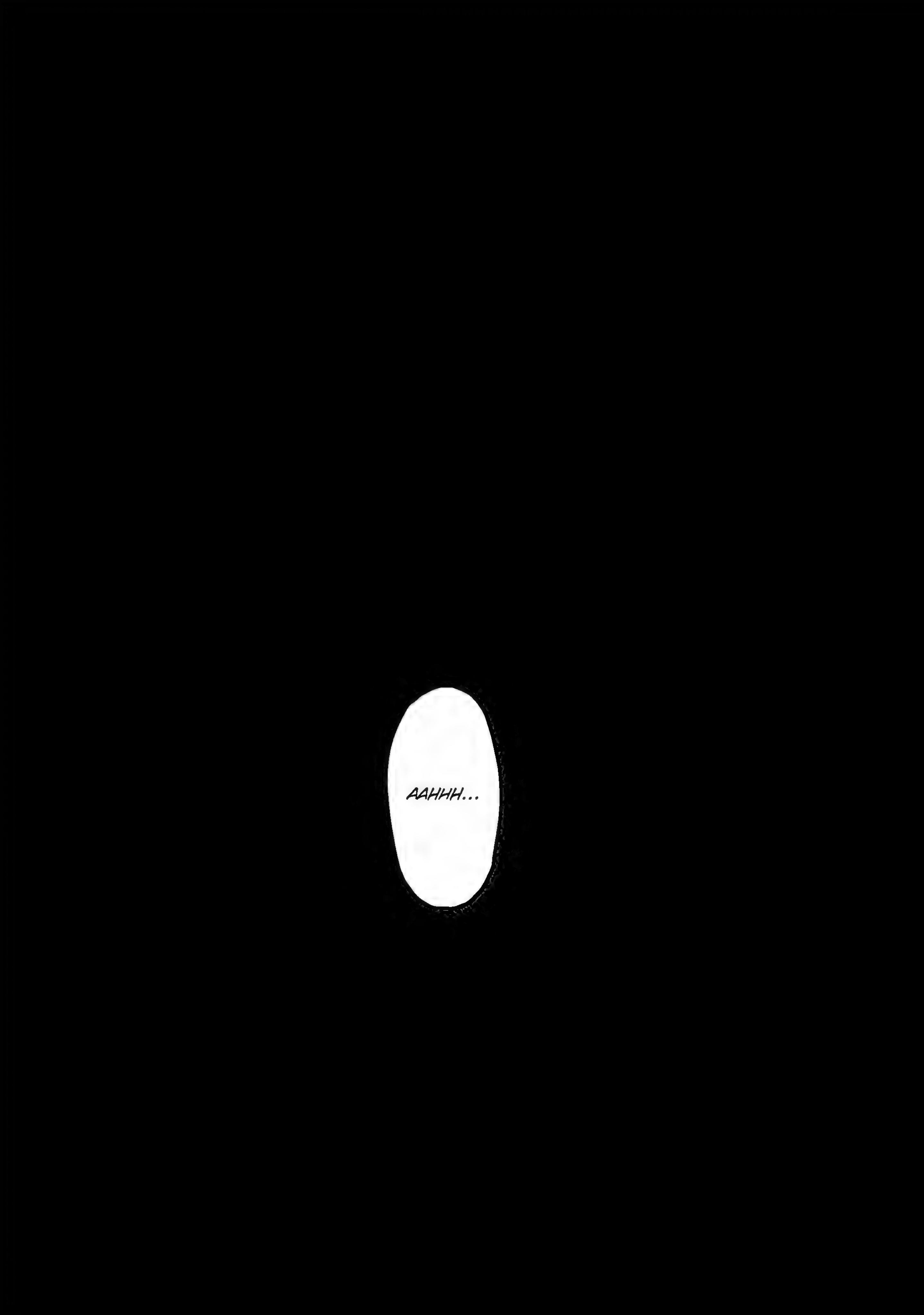

EVERY TIME I SEE THE *KONGORIKISHI* STATUES OUTSIDE TODAI-JI...
...I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY IT FILLS ME WITH... AWE...
IT'S NO GOOD ...
THERE'S CLEARLY NO GETTING THROUGH TO THIS MAN...
HMM?

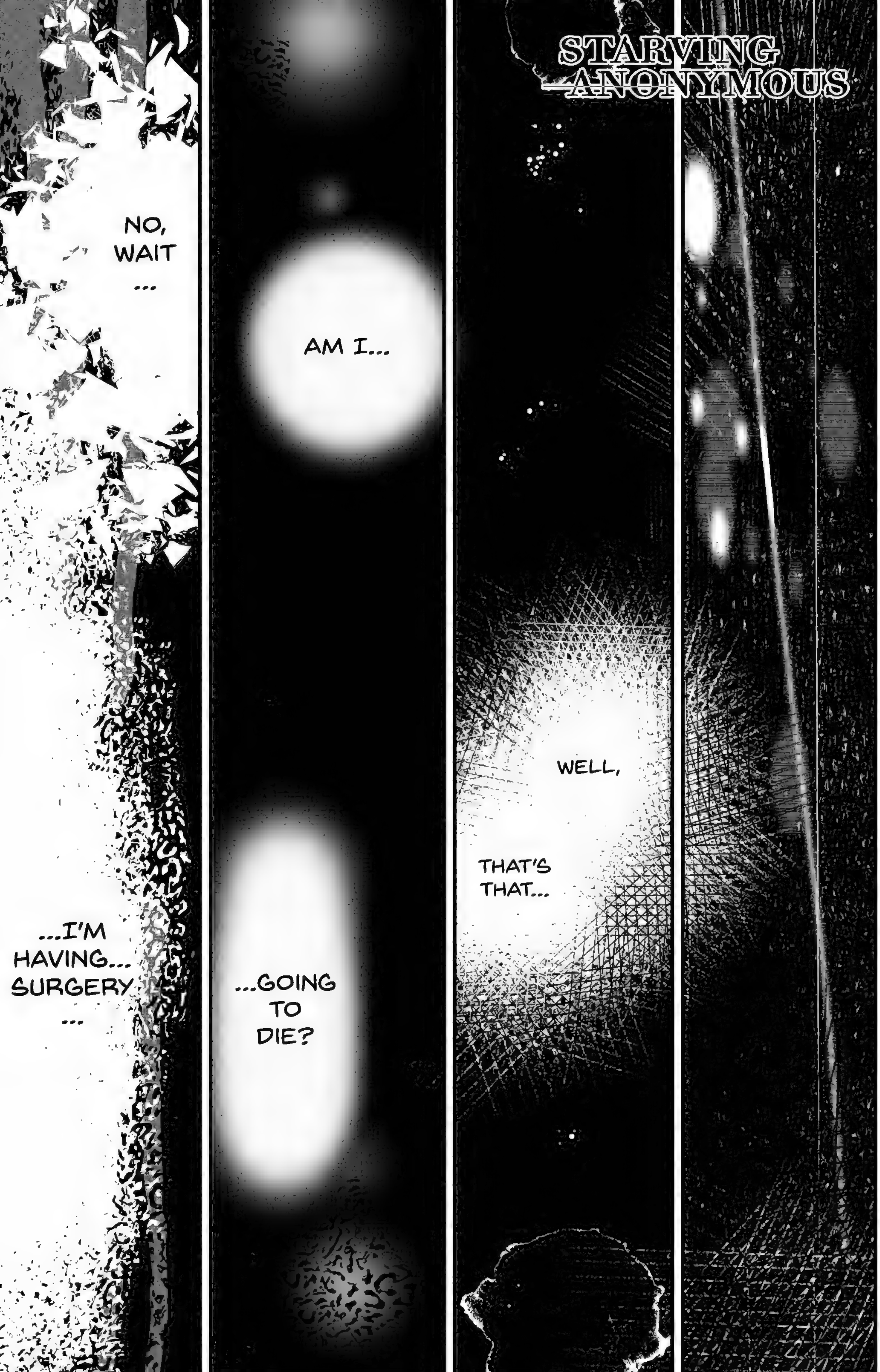

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
GASP
!!
YOU'LL HAVE A NEW FRIEND AMONG YOUR RANKS VERY SOON NOW...
...AND IT'S SILENT AS THE GRAVE IN HERE!
CHEER!
CHEER FOR YOUR NEW BROTHERS!!
H...
HANG IN THERE!
HANG IN THERE!
HANG IN THERE!

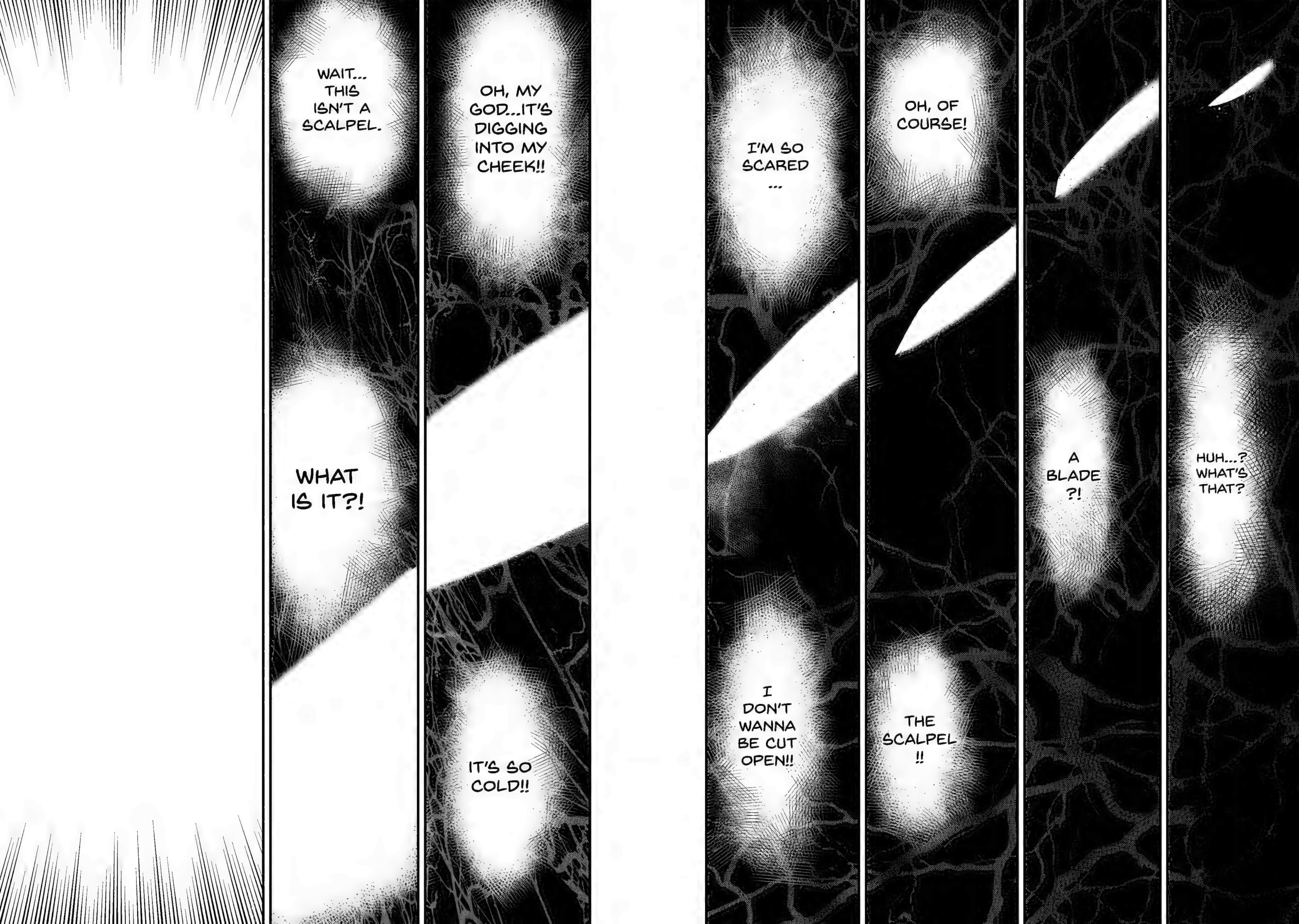

STOP!!
LET US GO, DAMMIT!!
HANG IN THERE!
YOU CAN DO IT!
IT'LL ALL BE OVER SOON!!
HANG IN THERE!
HANG IN THERE!
HANG IN THERE! HANG IN THERE!!
YOU'RE ALMOST THERE!
NG IN THERE!
STOP!!
RAHH
RAHH


GOOD.
HANG IN THERE!
RAHH
NOW...
HANG IN THERE!
RAHH
RAHH
RAHH
...I THINK I'LL START WITH *YOU*.
NO! NO! NO!!
DON'T! DON'T!!
I'M BEGGING YOU, STOP!
NO NEED TO WORRY. JUST A LITTLE BIT OF THIS ANESTHETIC, AND...
ZZZ....

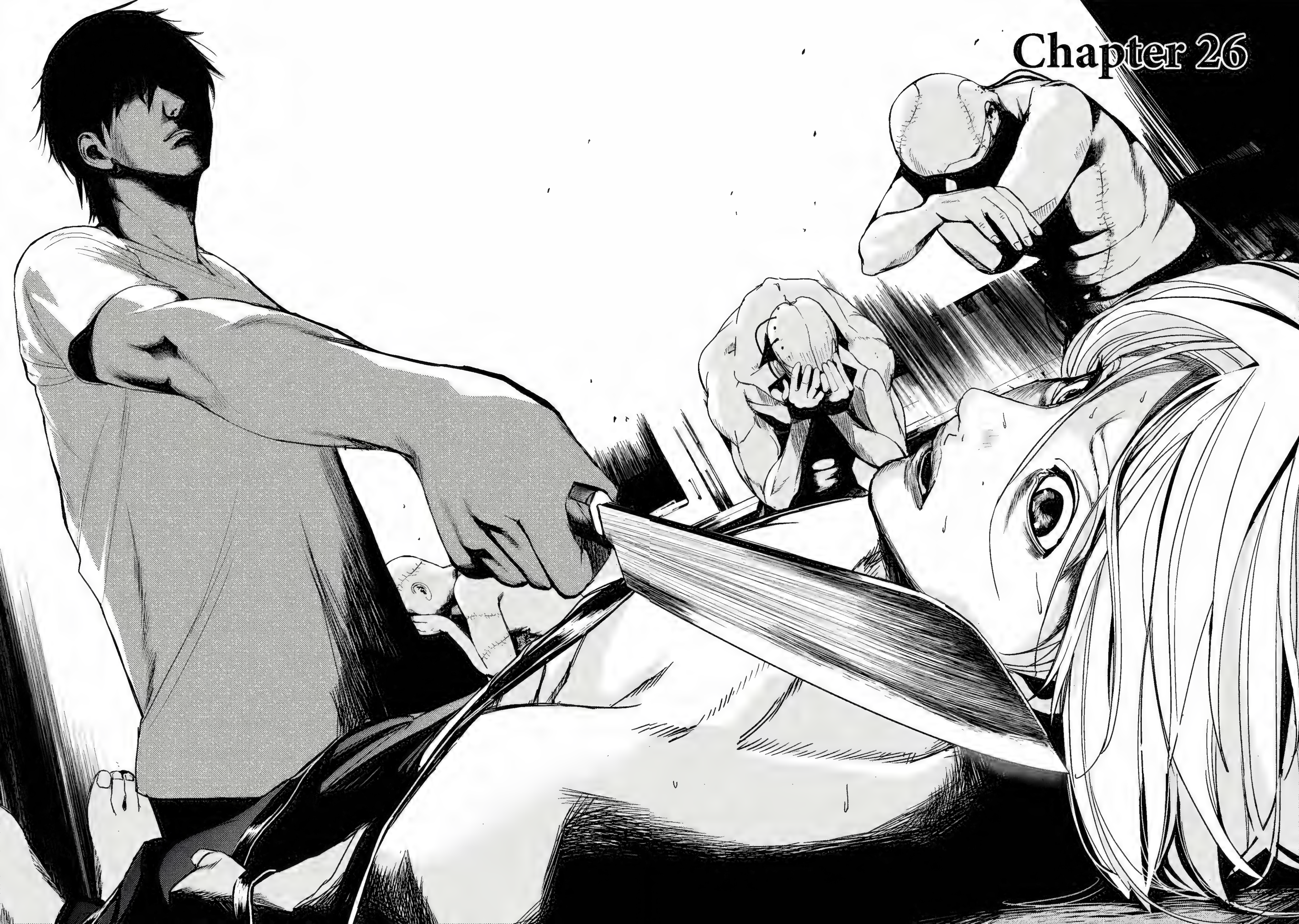

YOU CAN'T! PLEASE, STOP!!
OUT LIKE A LIGHT!
GO FOR IT!!
ALL RIGHT, HERE GOES!
FUCK! WHAT IS THAT?!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO ME?!
AAH ...!
AAH...

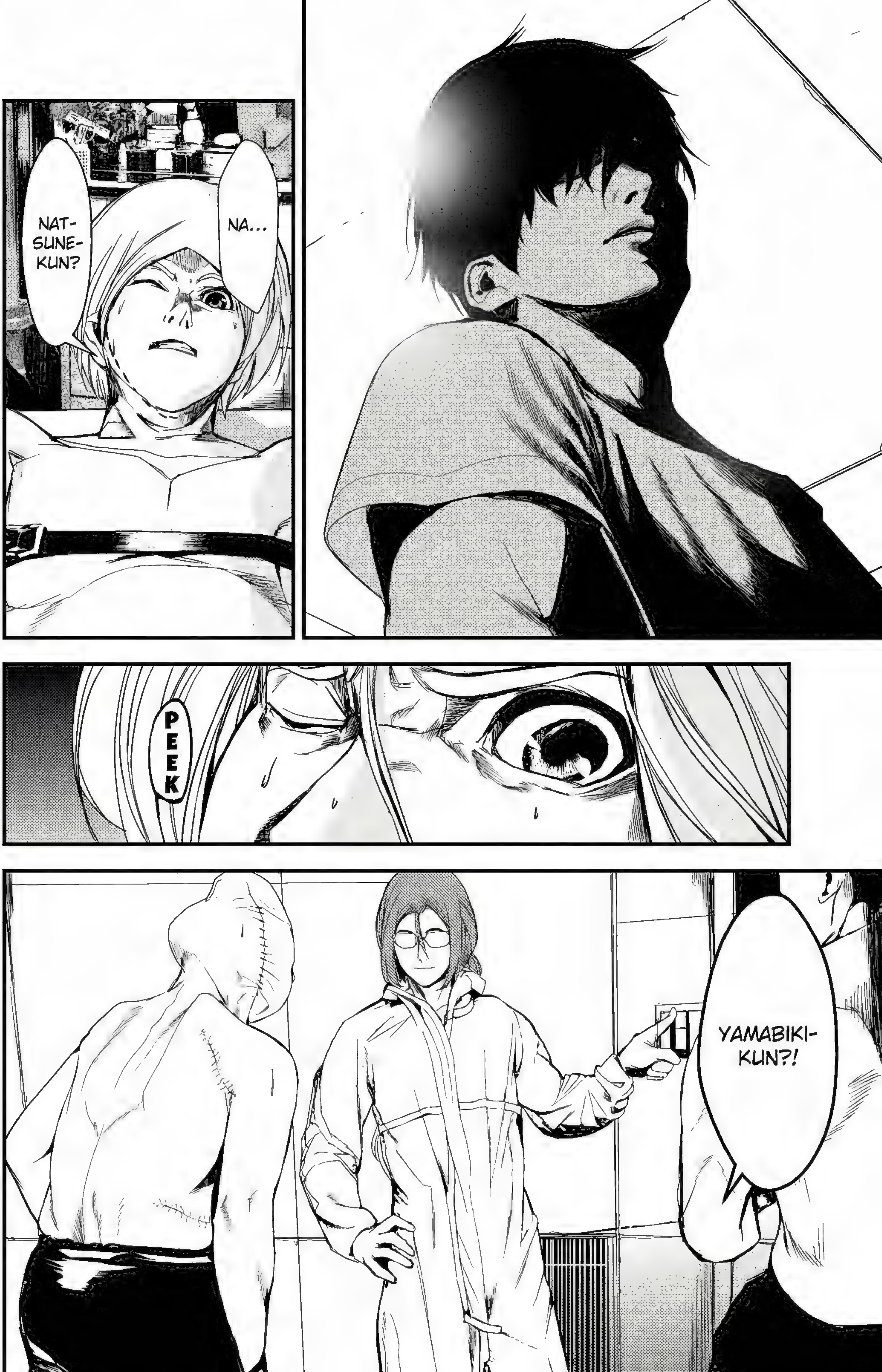

AAHHH...

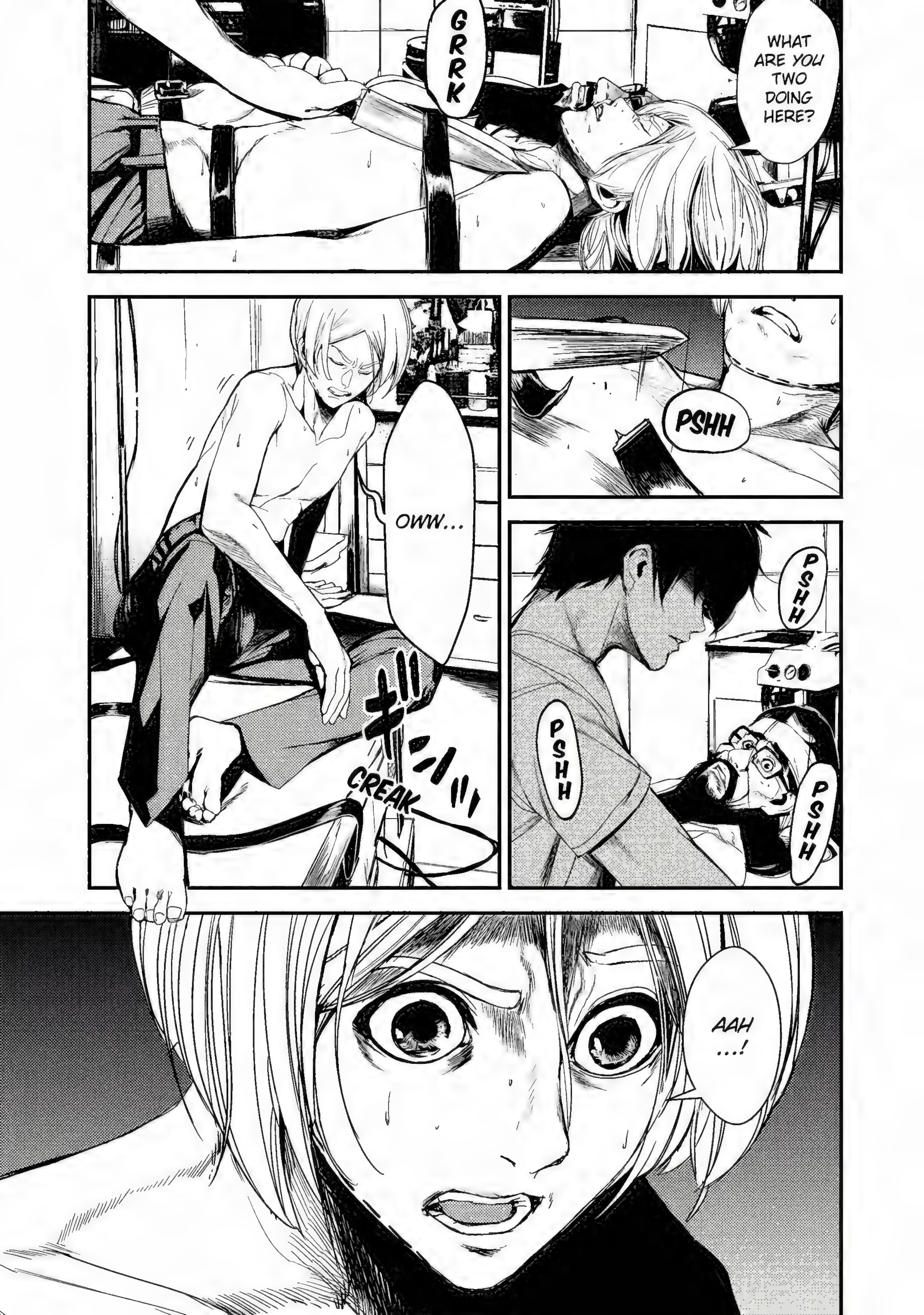

STARVING ANONYMOUS
WELL,
THAT'S THAT...
AM I...
...GOING TO DIE?
NO, WAIT ...
...I'M HAVING... SURGERY ...

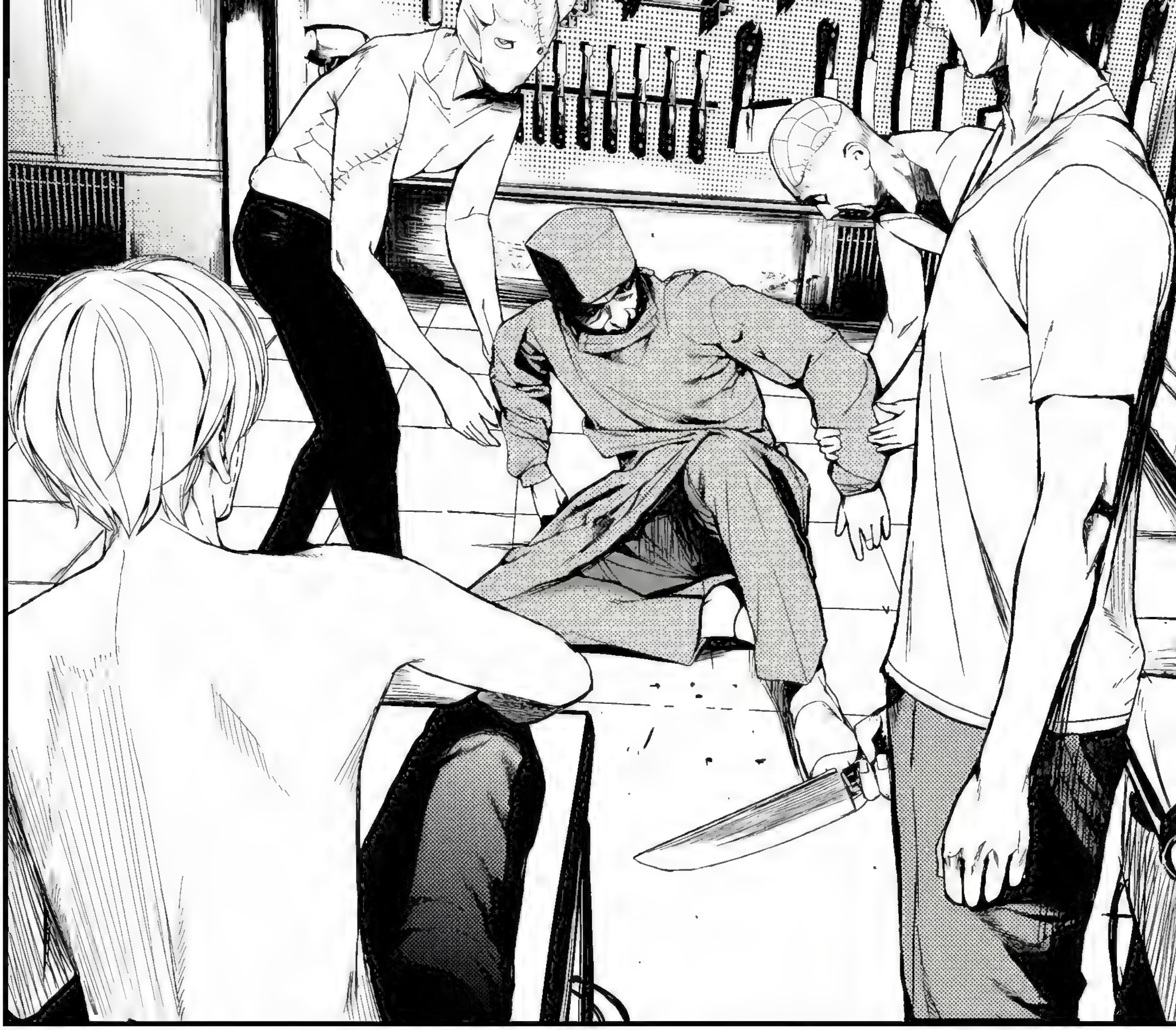

HUH...? WHAT'S THAT?
A BLADE?!
OH, OF COURSE!
THE SCALPEL!!
I'M SO SCARED...
I DON'T WANNA BE CUT OPEN!!
OH, MY GOD...IT'S DIGGING INTO MY CHEEK!!
IT'S SO COLD!!
WAIT... THIS ISN'T A SCALPEL.
WHAT IS IT?!

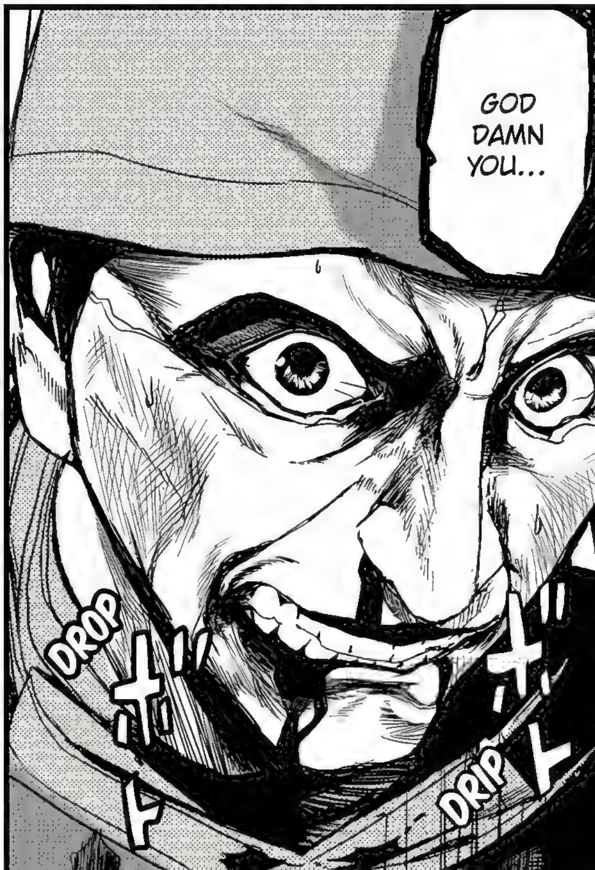
Chapter 26

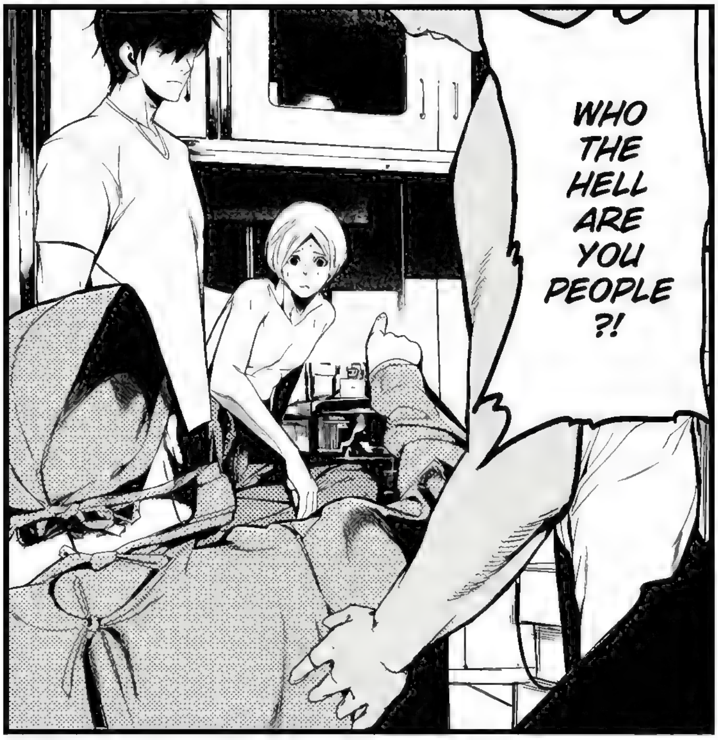


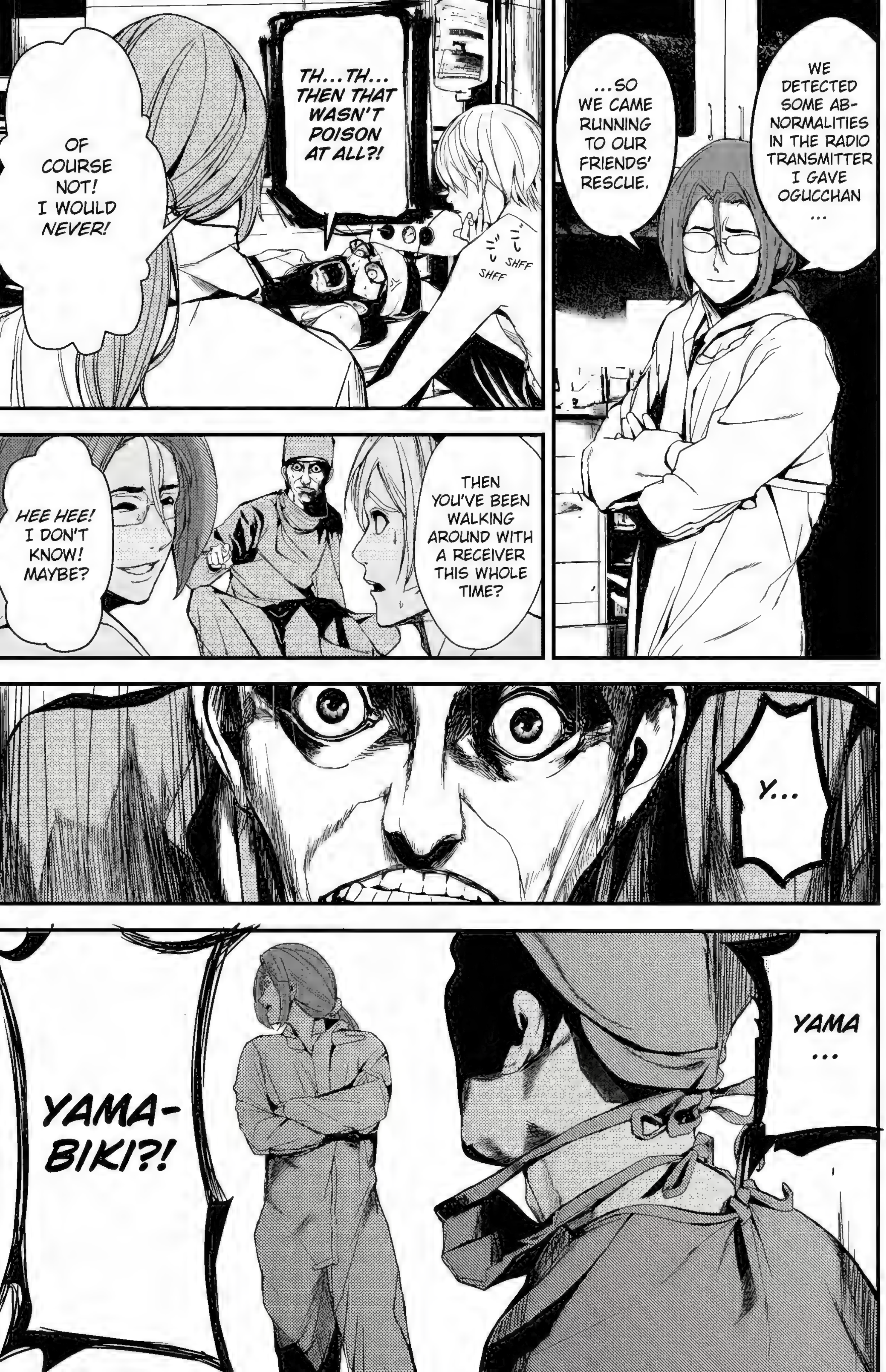

NA...
NATSUNE-KUN?
PEEK
YAMABIKI-KUN?!

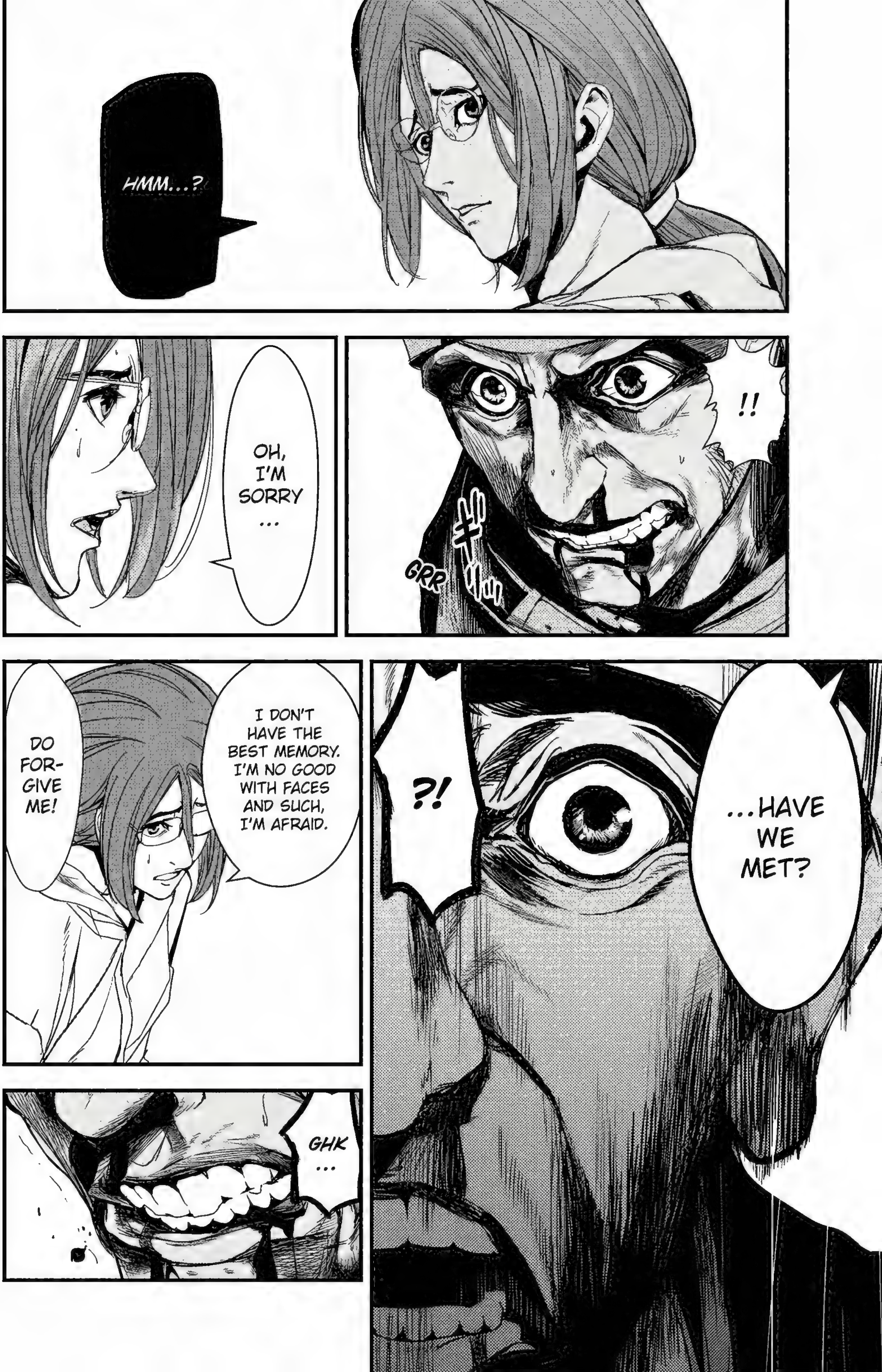

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE?
GRRK
PSHH
PSHH
PSHH
PSHH
OWW...
ギシ
CREAK
AAH ...!

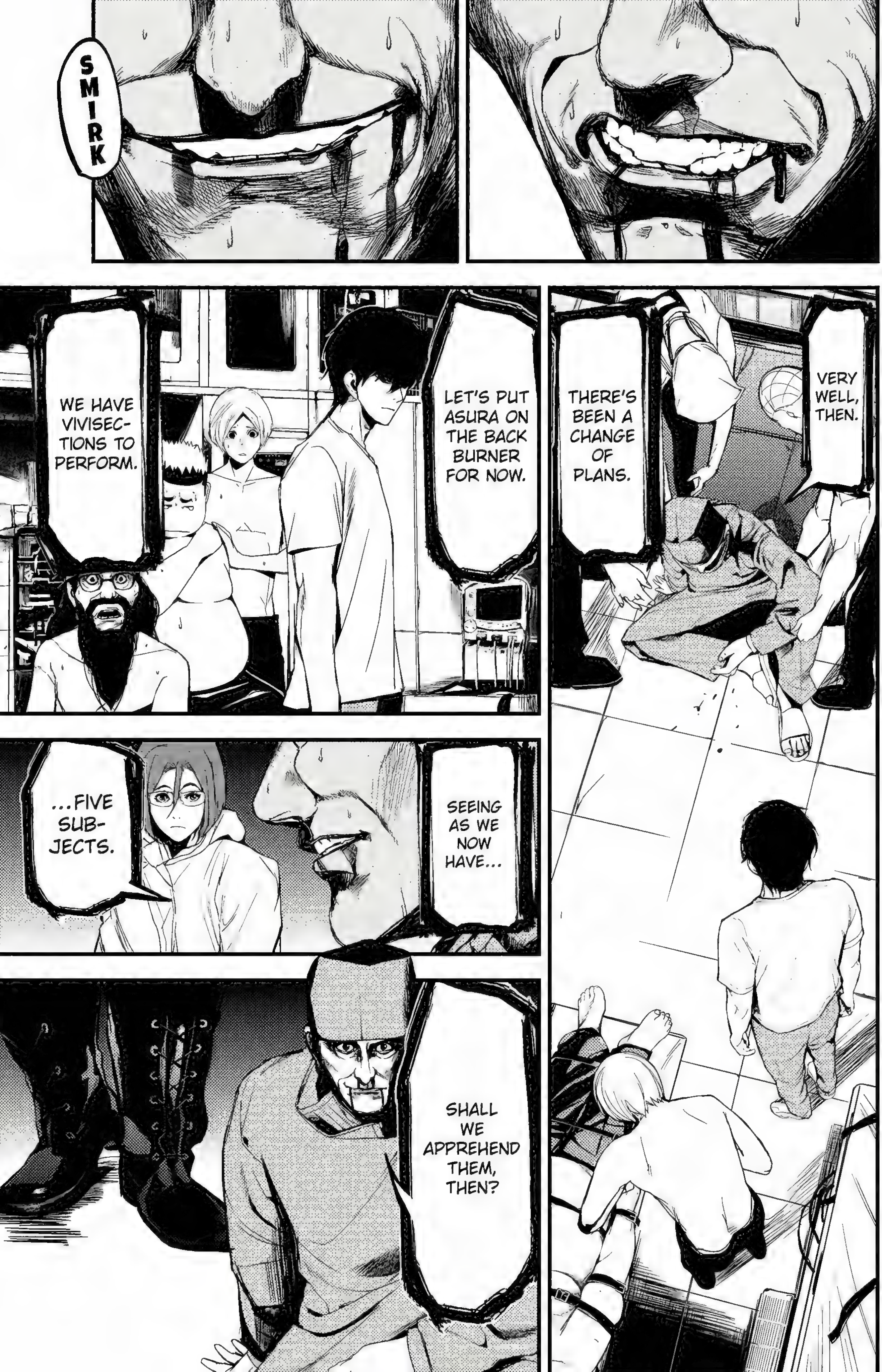


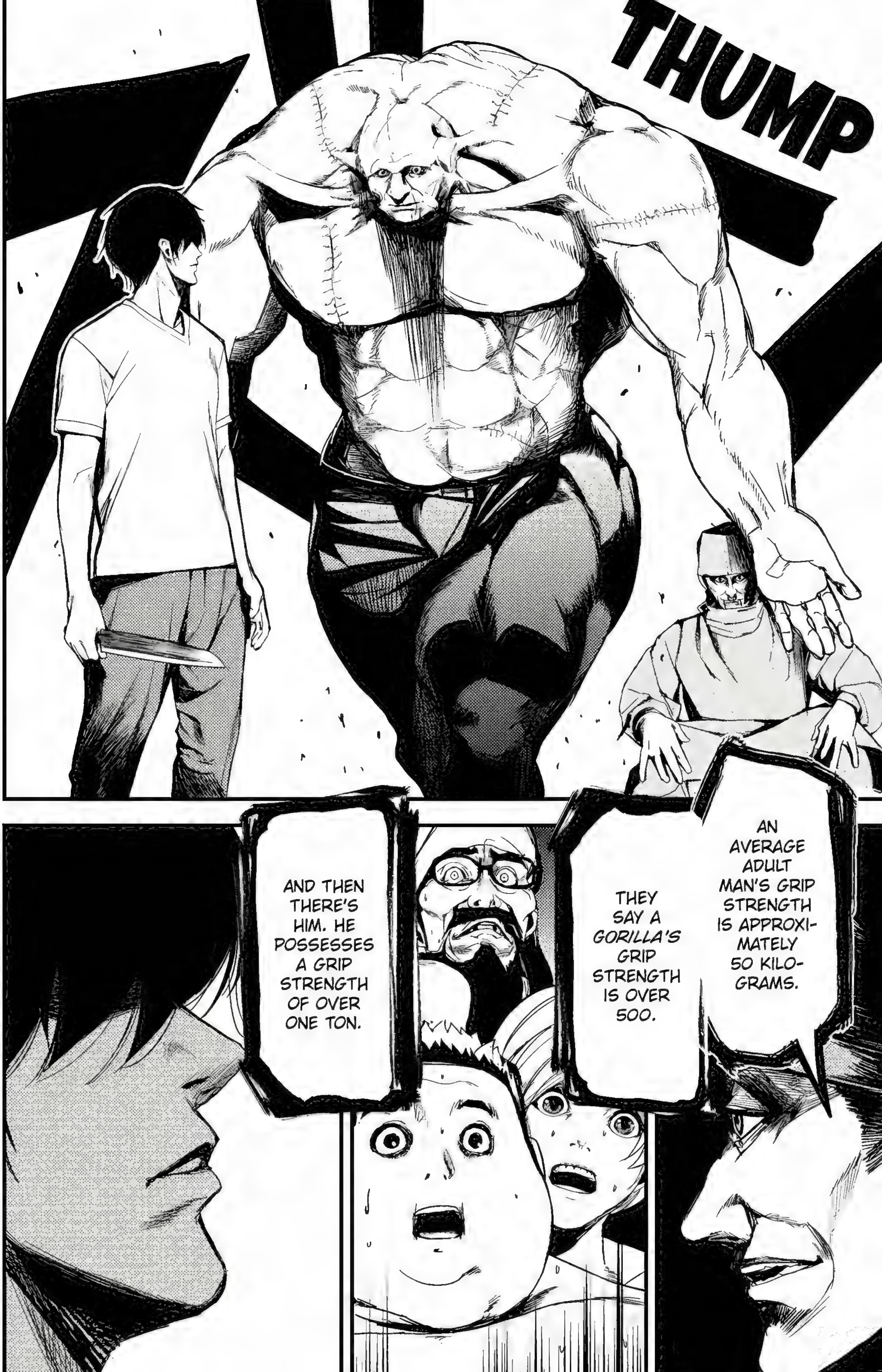

GOD DAMN YOU...
DROP
DRIP

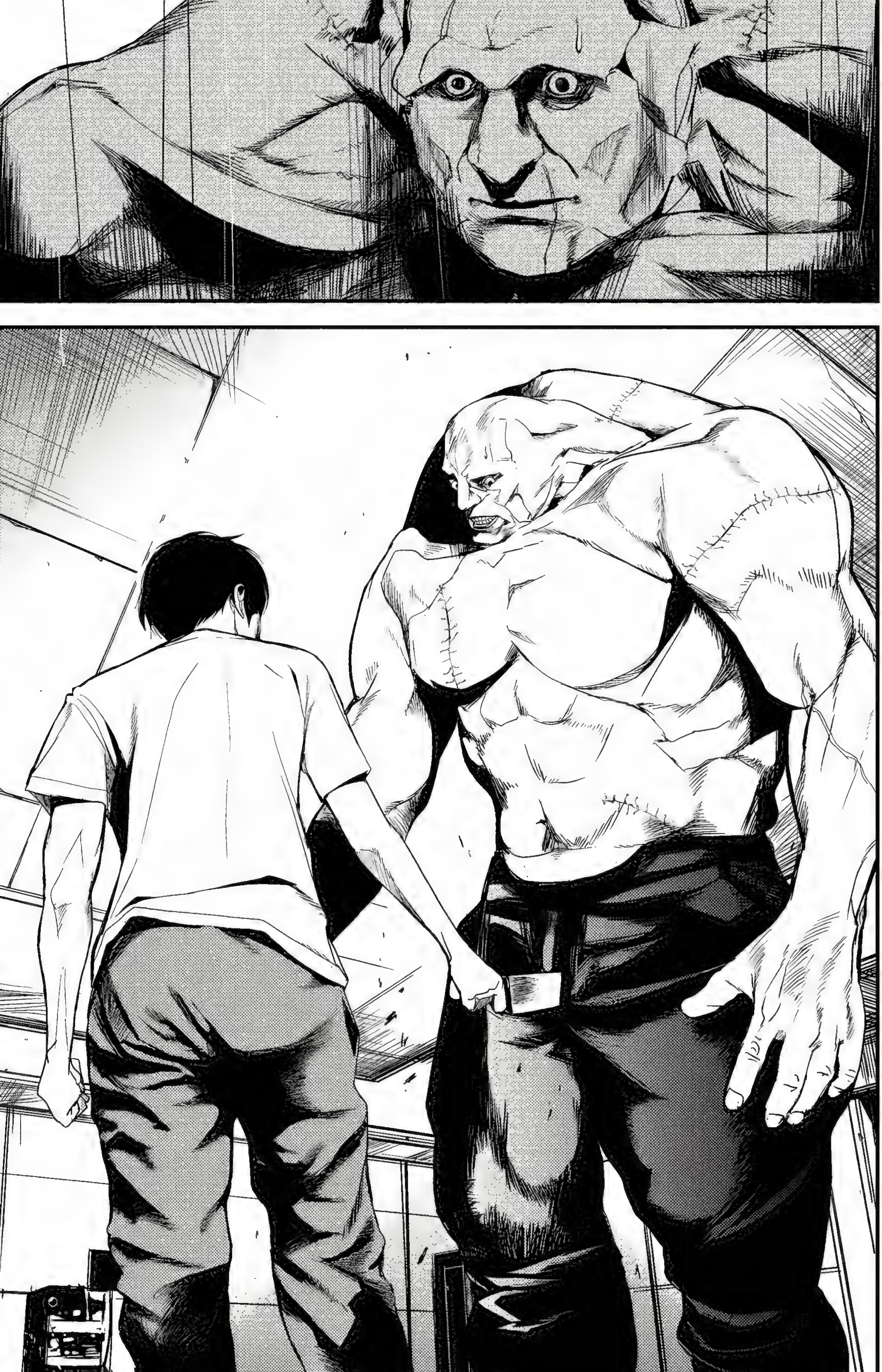

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU PEOPLE?!

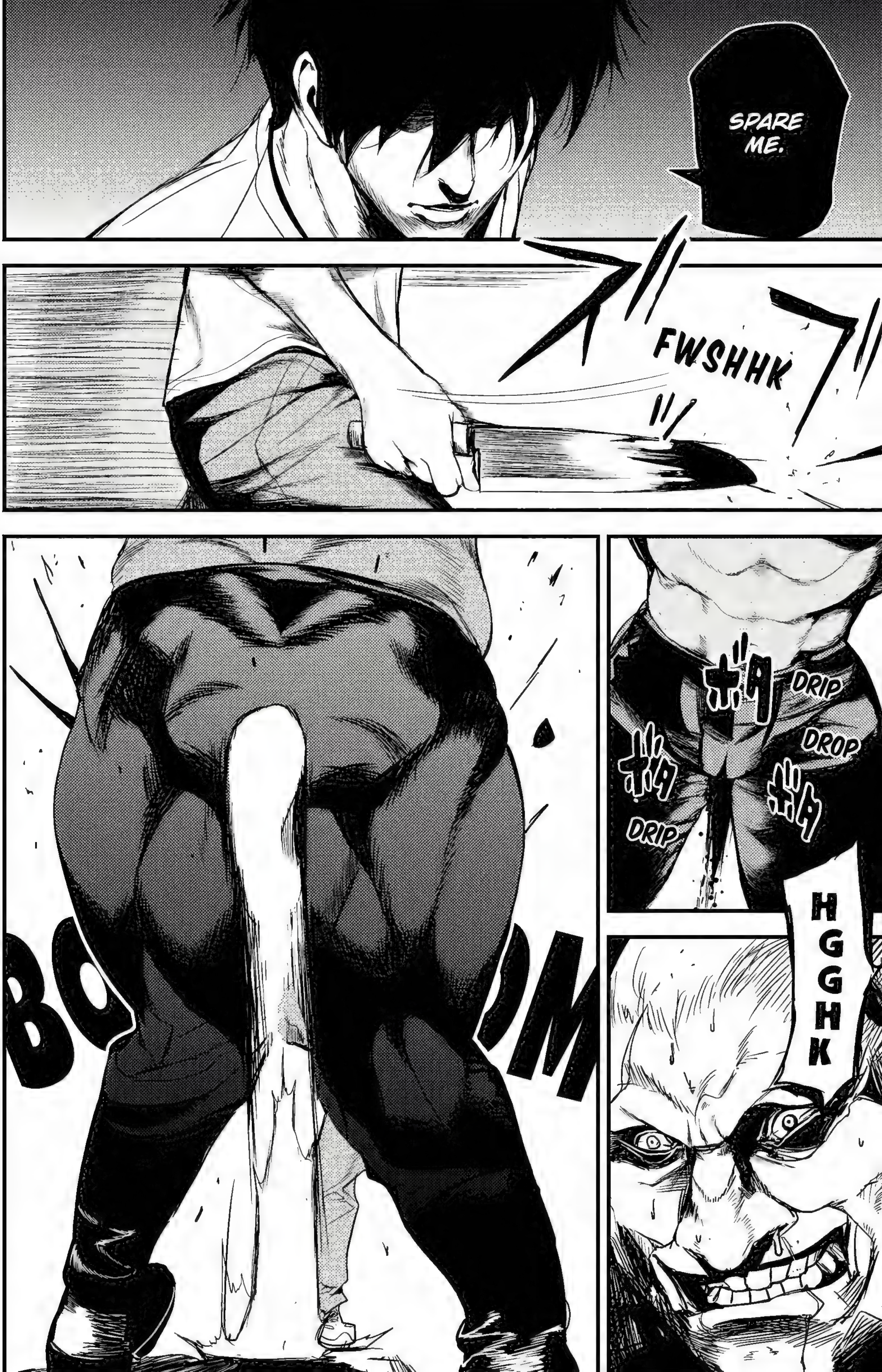

WE DETECTED SOME ABNORMALITIES IN THE RADIO TRANSMITTER I GAVE OGUCCHAN...
...SO WE CAME RUNNING TO OUR FRIENDS' RESCUE.
TH...TH... THEN THAT WASN'T POISON AT ALL?!
SHFF SHFF
OF COURSE NOT! I WOULD NEVER!
THEN YOU'VE BEEN WALKING AROUND WITH A RECEIVER THIS WHOLE TIME?
HEE HEE! I DON'T KNOW! MAYBE?
Y...
YAMA...
YAMABIKI?!

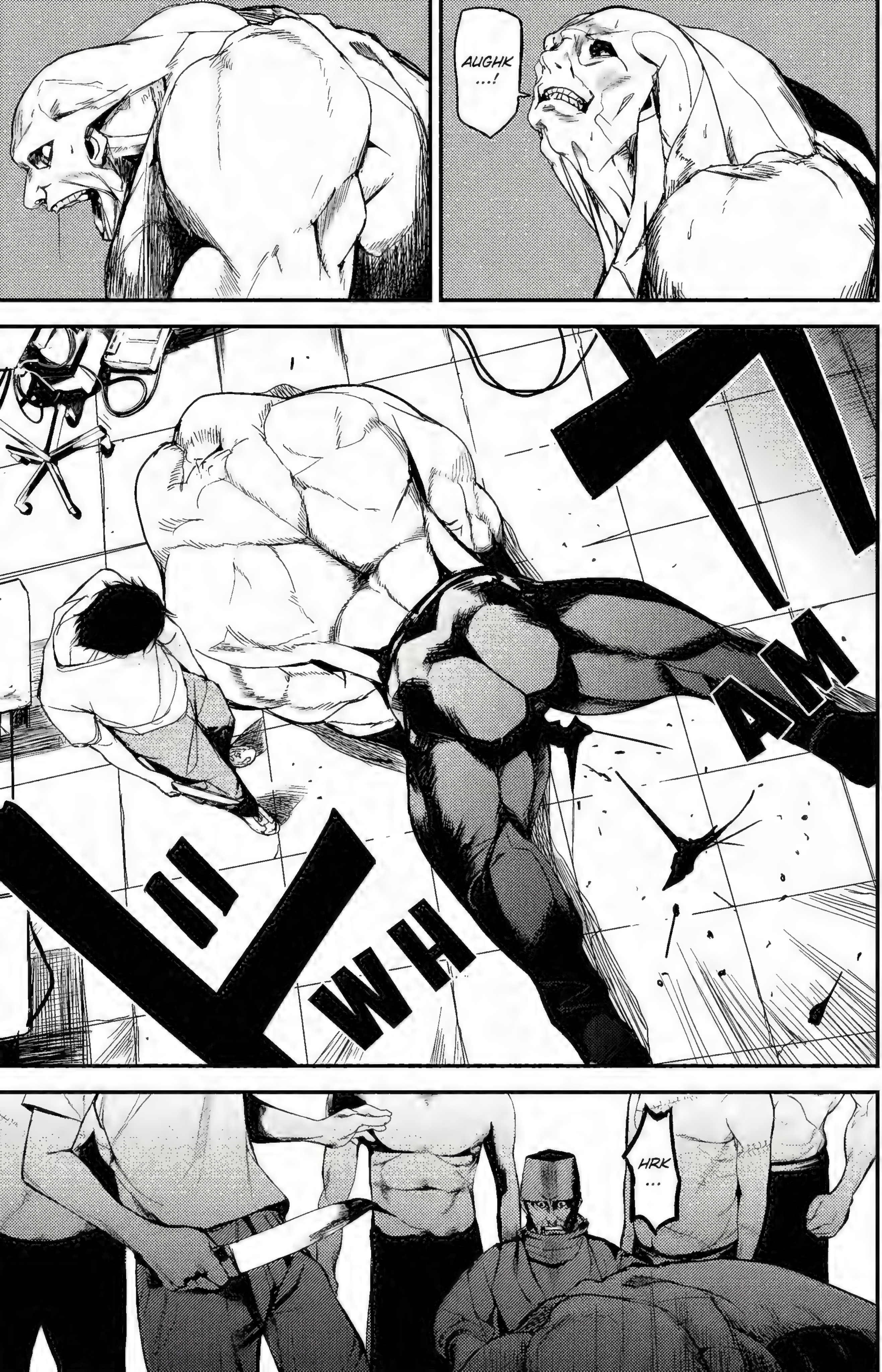

HMM...?
!!
GRR
OH, I'M SORRY...
...HAVE WE MET?
?!
I DON'T HAVE THE BEST MEMORY. I'M NO GOOD WITH FACES AND SUCH, I'M AFRAID.
DO FORGIVE ME!
GHK...

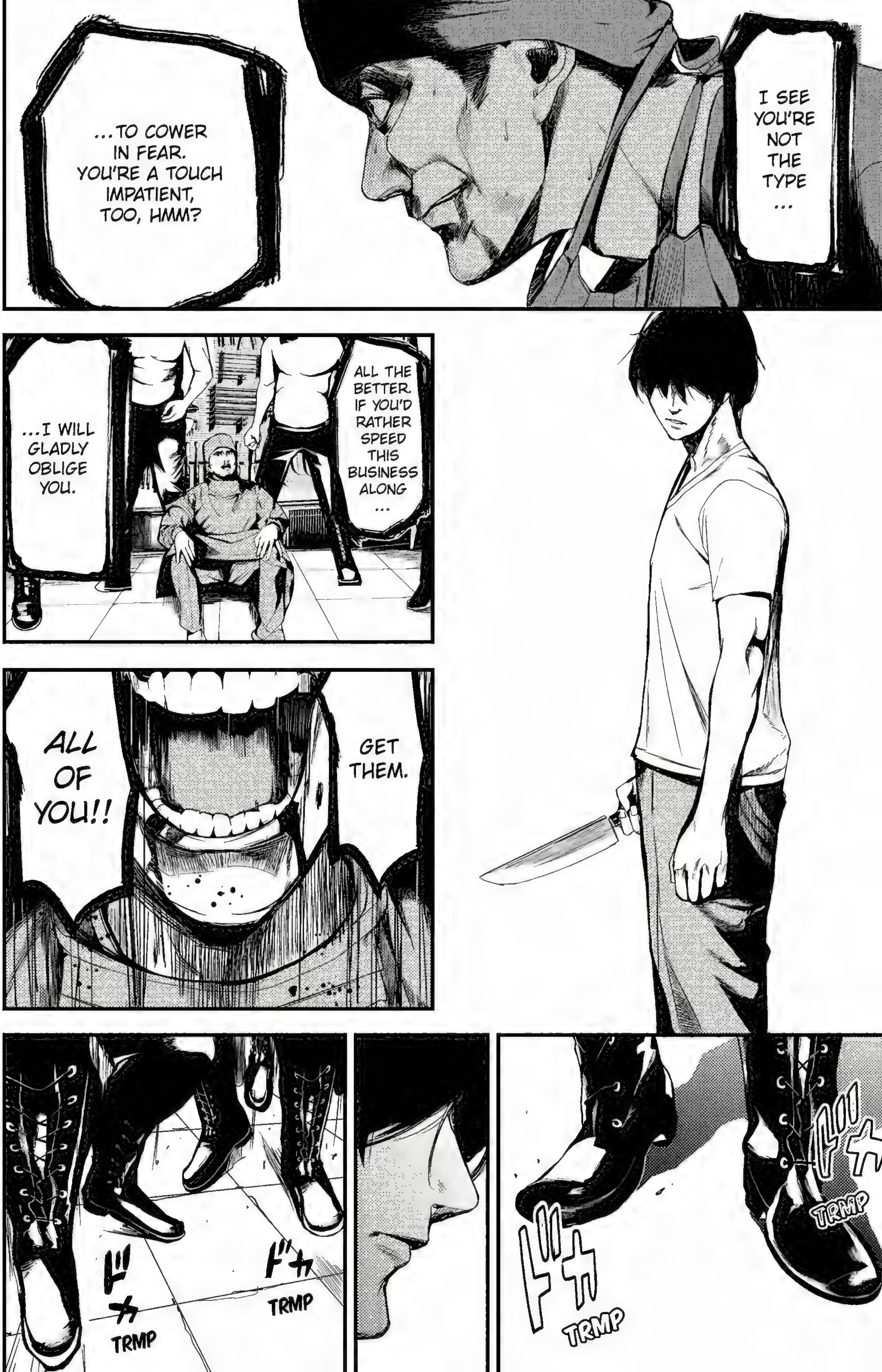

SMIRK
VERY WELL, THEN.
THERE'S BEEN A CHANGE OF PLANS.
LET'S PUT ASURA ON THE BACK BURNER FOR NOW.
WE HAVE VIVISECTIONS TO PERFORM.
SEEING AS WE NOW HAVE...
...FIVE SUBJECTS.
SHALL WE APPREHEND THEM, THEN?

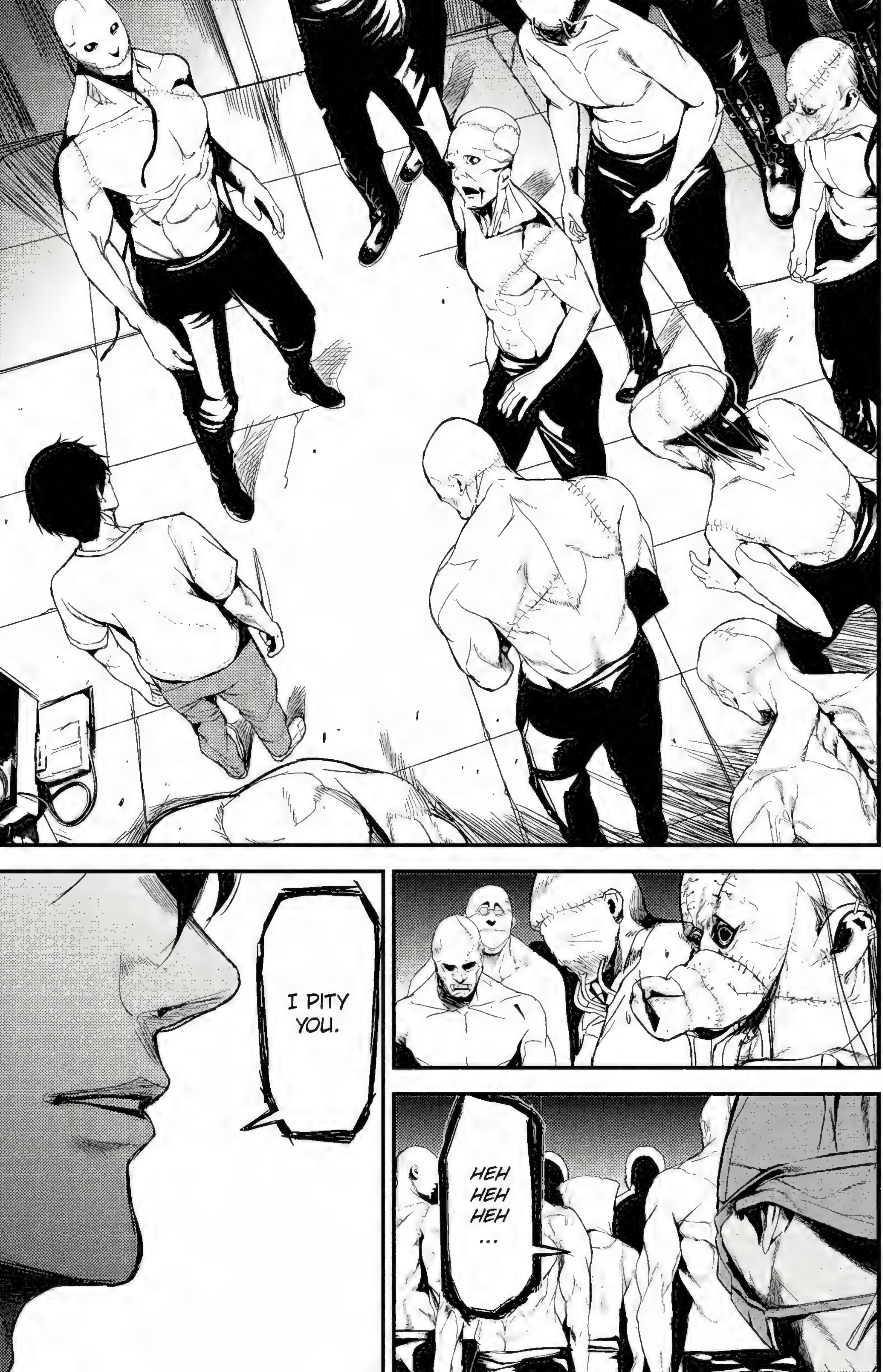

THUMP
AN AVERAGE ADULT MAN'S GRIP STRENGTH IS APPROXIMATELY 50 KILOGRAMS.
THEY SAY A *GORILLA'S* GRIP STRENGTH IS OVER 500.
AND THEN THERE'S HIM. HE POSSESSES A GRIP STRENGTH OF OVER ONE TON.

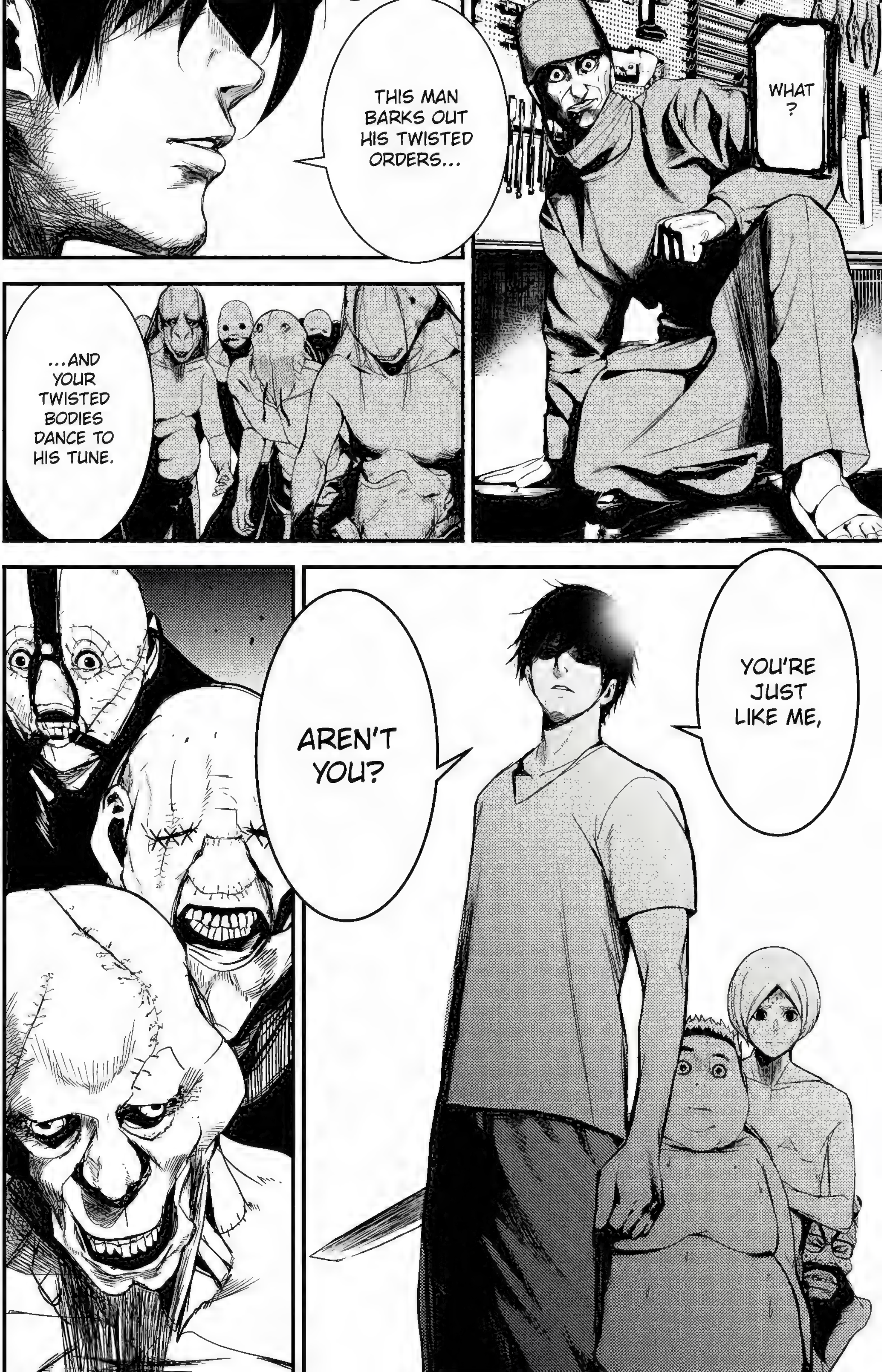


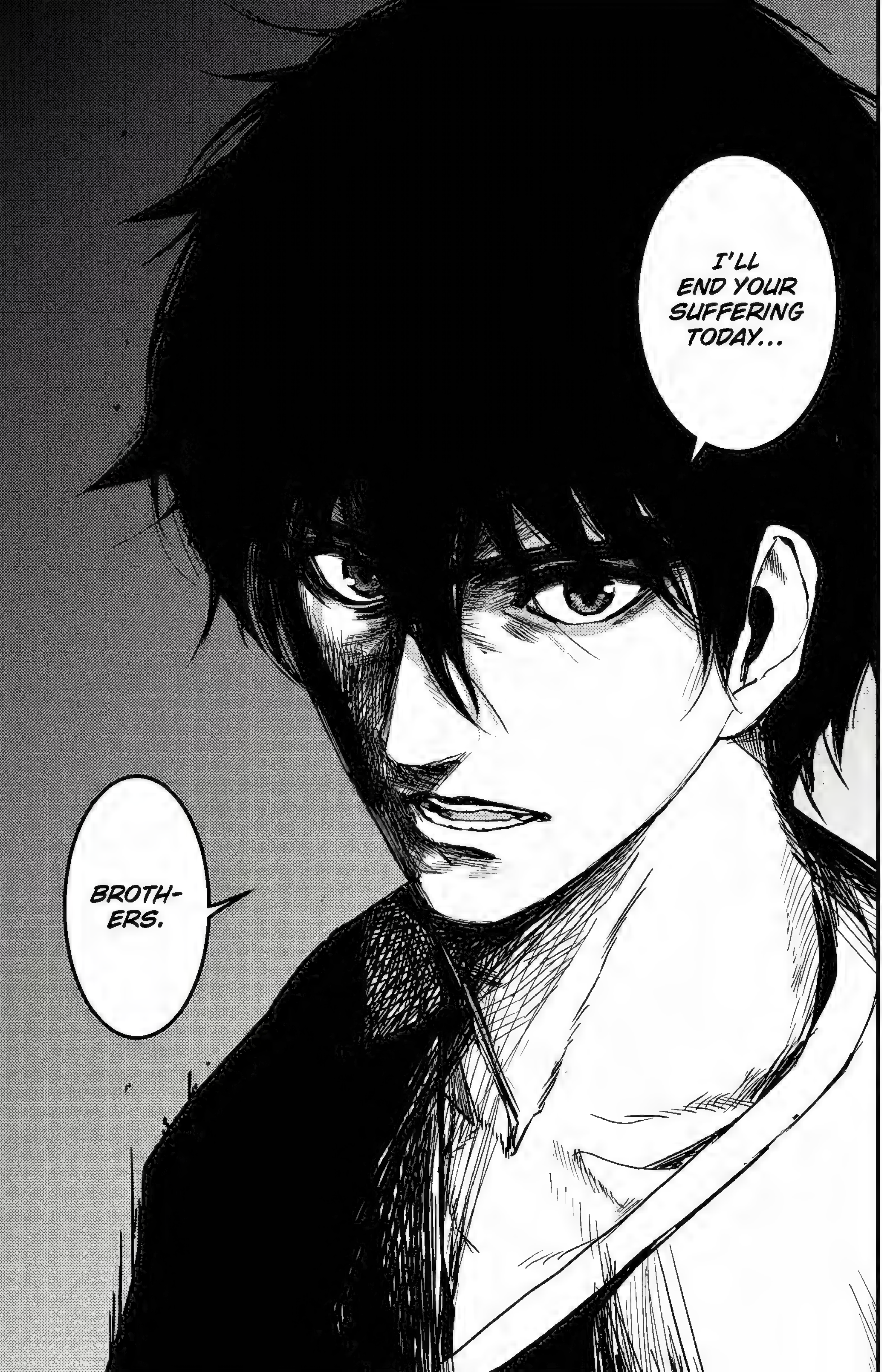

SPARE ME.
FWSHHK
BOOM
DRIP
DROP
DRIP
HGGHK


AUGHK
...!
WHAM!!
HRK
...

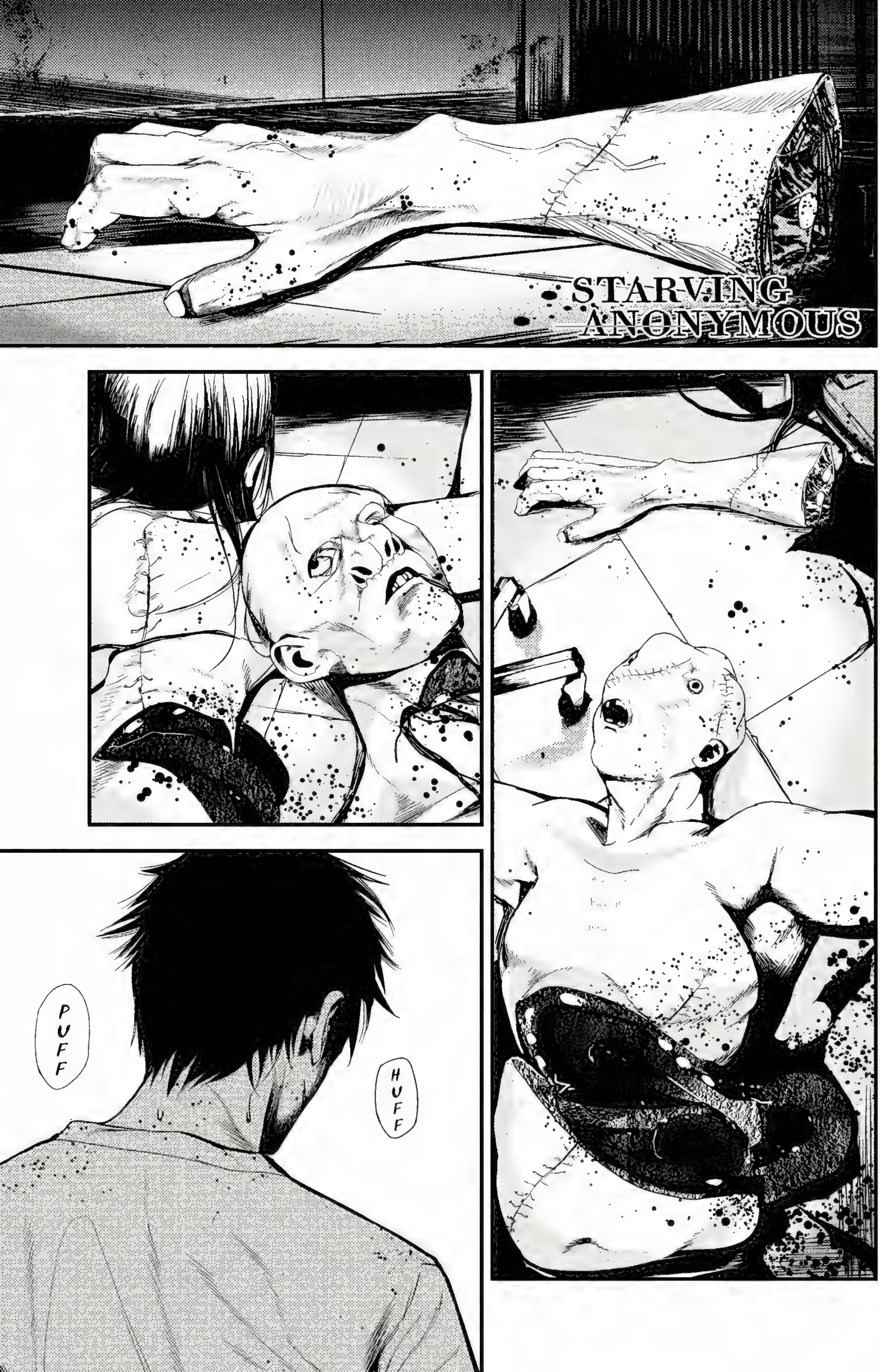

I SEE YOU'RE NOT THE TYPE ...
...TO COWER IN FEAR. YOU'RE A TOUCH IMPATIENT, TOO, HMM?
ALL THE BETTER. IF YOU'D RATHER SPEED THIS BUSINESS ALONG ...
...I WILL GLADLY OBLIGE YOU.
GET THEM.
ALL OF YOU!!
ドッ
TRMP
ドッ
TRMP
ドカ
TRMP
ドカ
TRMP


I PITY YOU.
HEH HEH HEH …

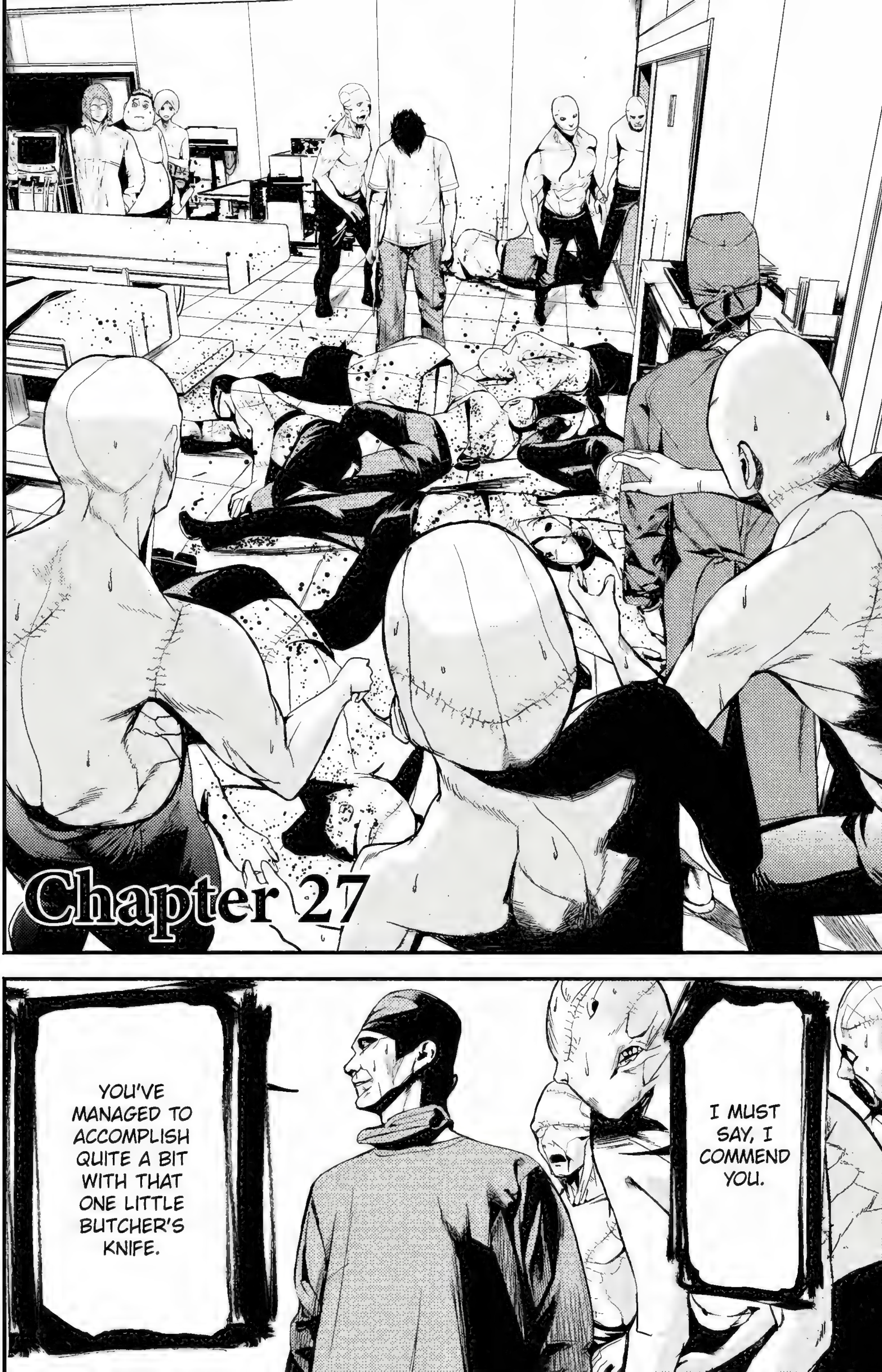

WHAT ?
THIS MAN BARKS OUT HIS TWISTED ORDERS...
...AND YOUR TWISTED BODIES DANCE TO HIS TUNE.
YOU'RE JUST LIKE ME,
AREN'T YOU?

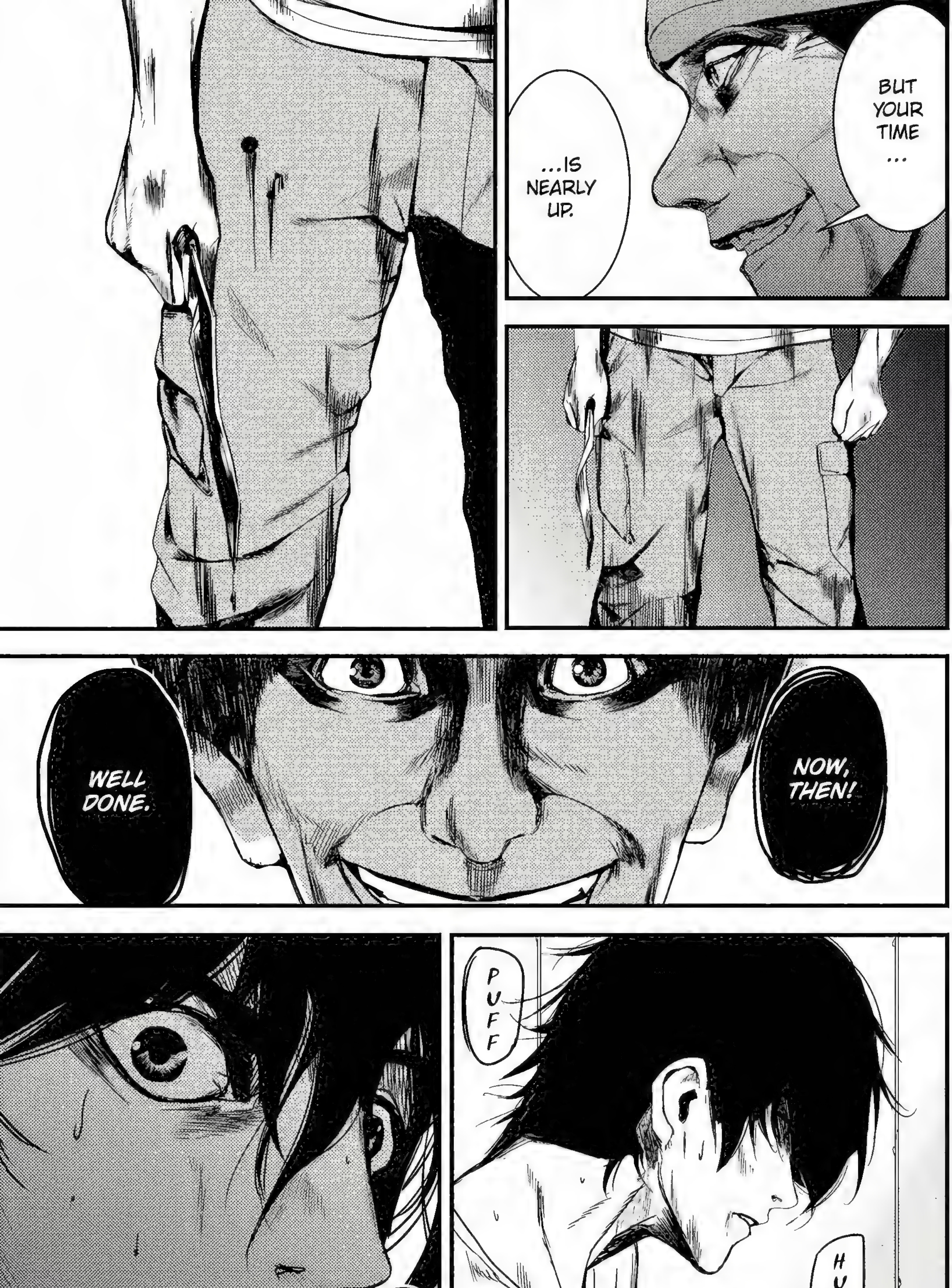

I'LL END YOUR SUFFERING TODAY...
BROTHERS.

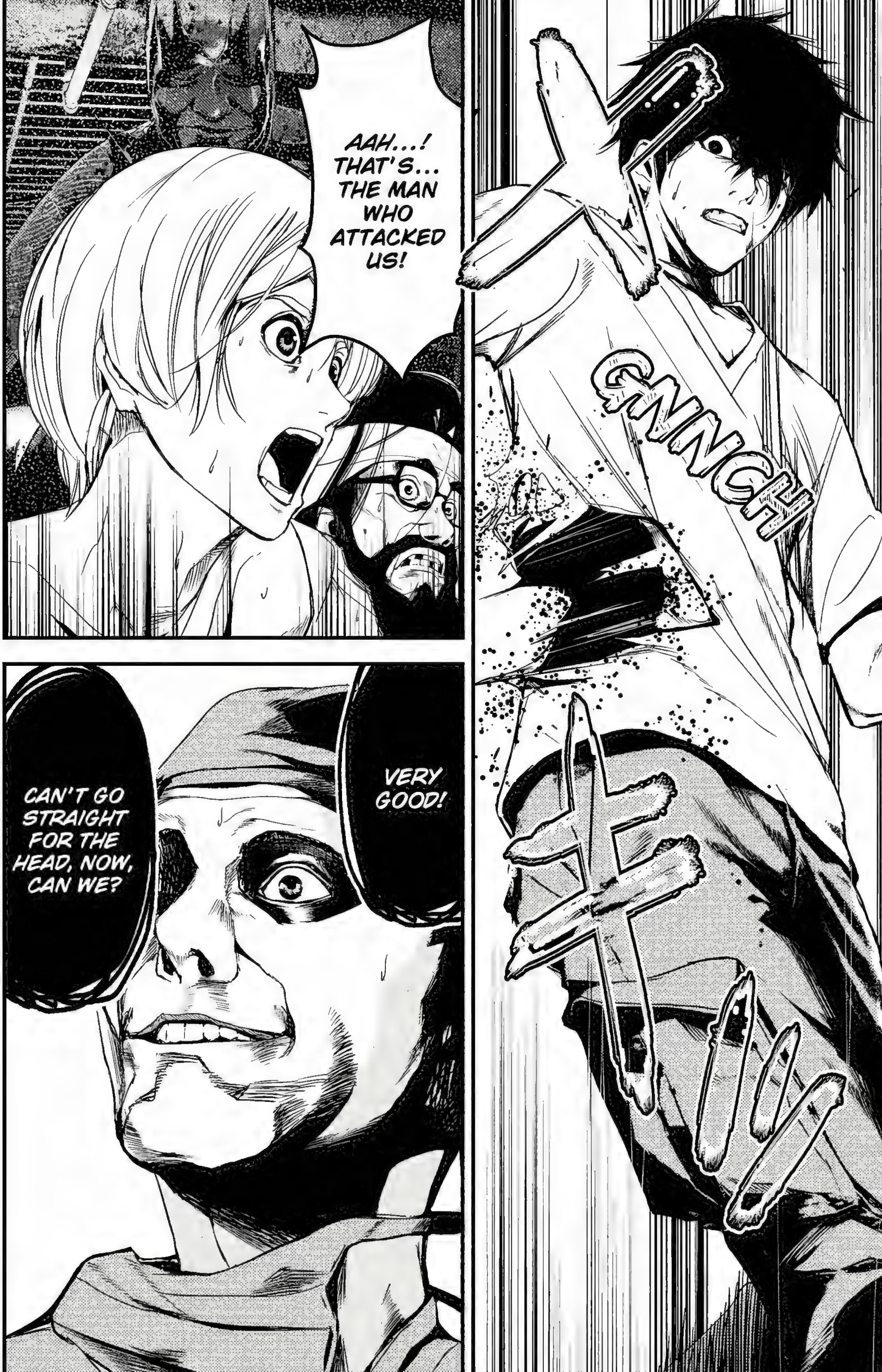
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

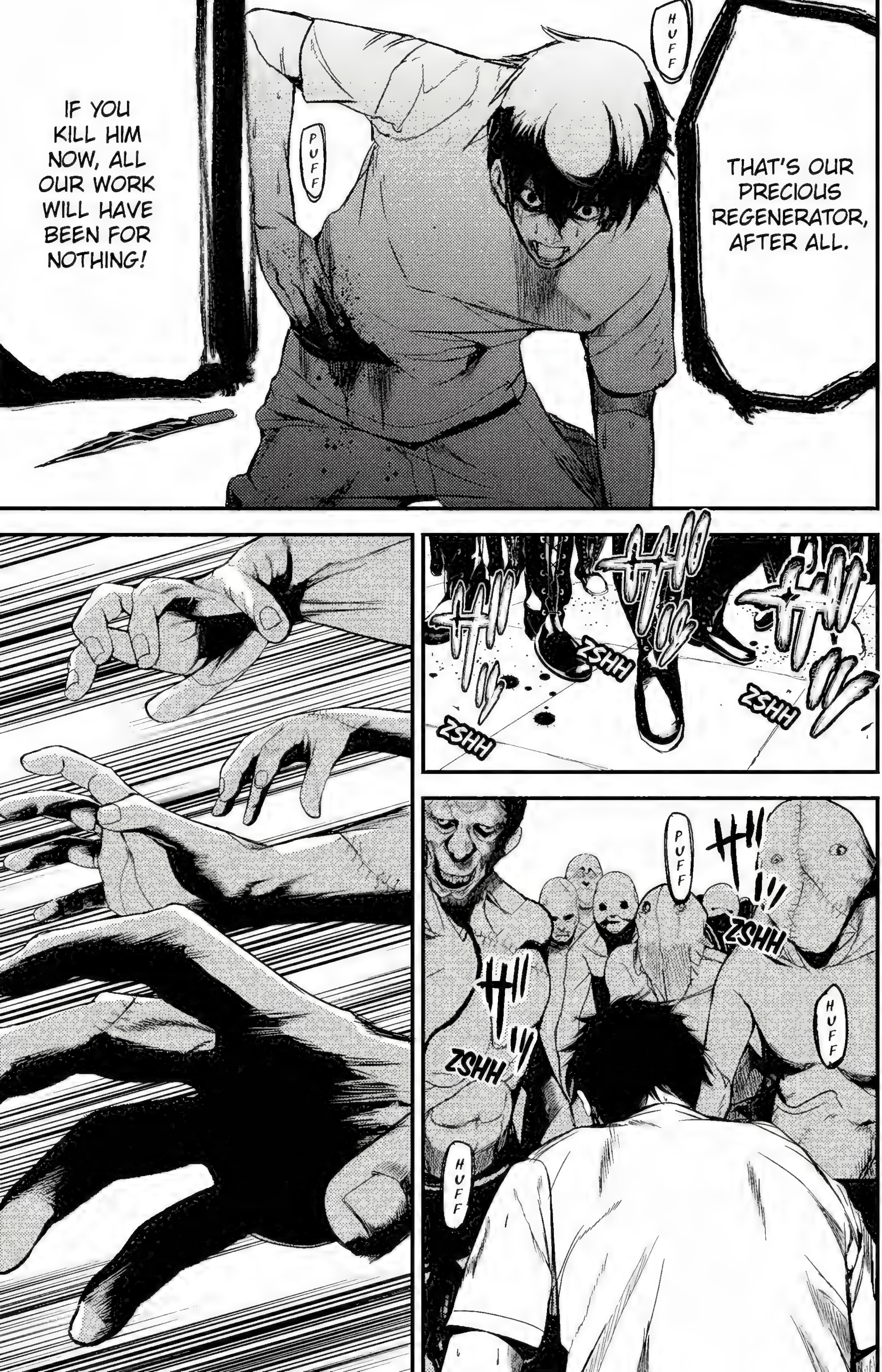

STARVING ANONYMOUS
HUFF
PUFF

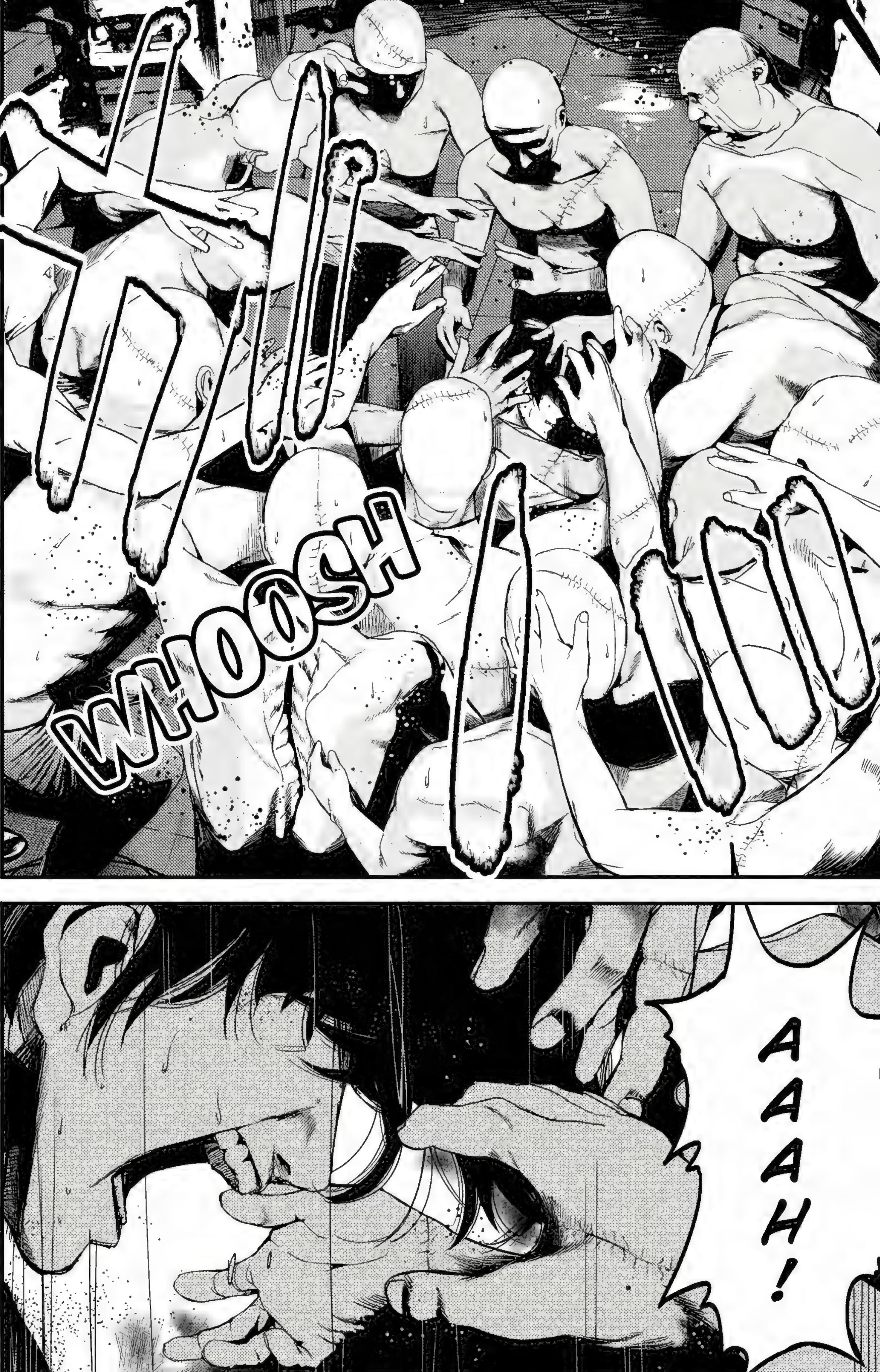
Chapter 27

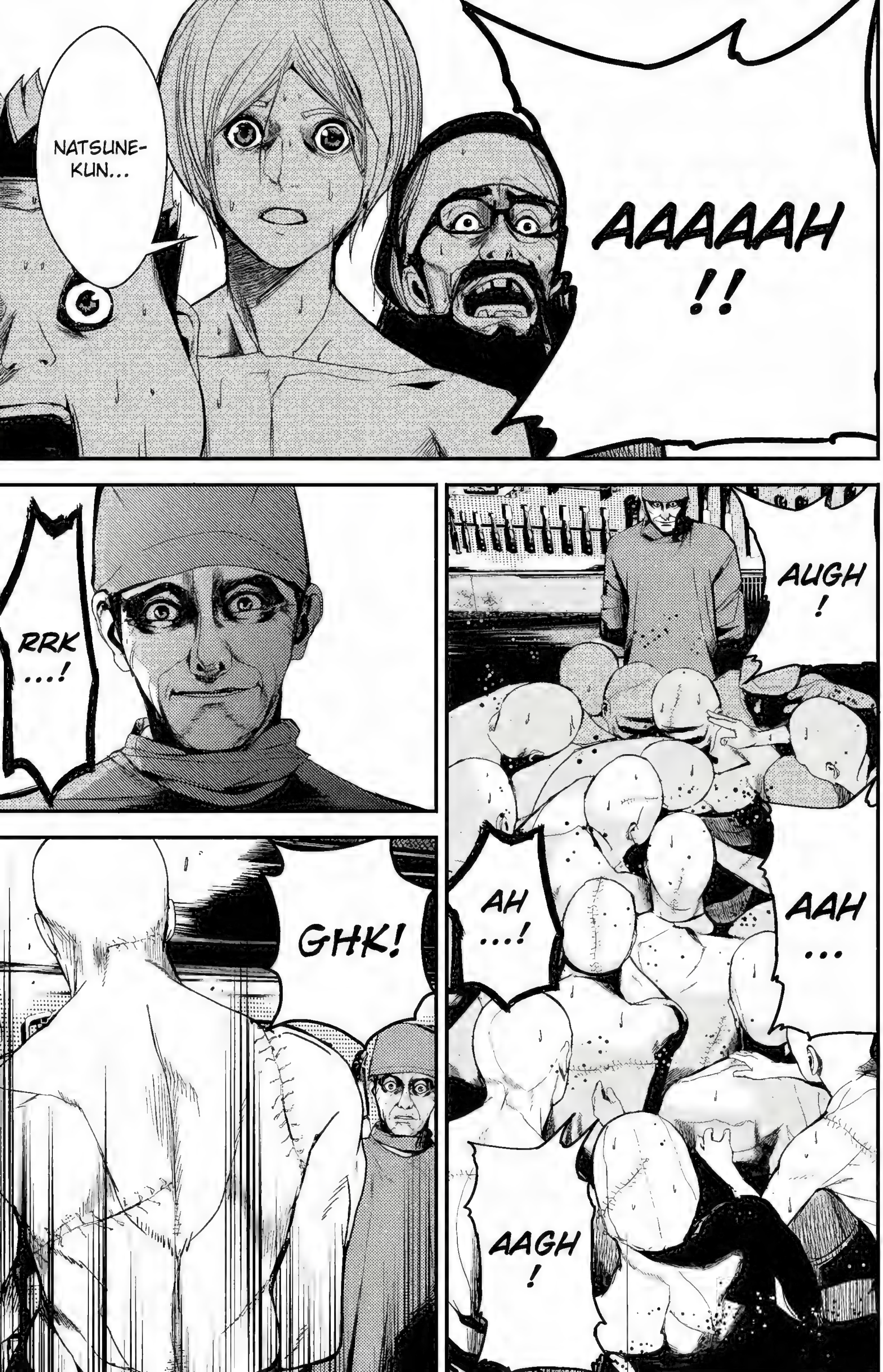

I MUST SAY, I COMMEND YOU.
YOU'VE MANAGED TO ACCOMPLISH QUITE A BIT WITH THAT ONE LITTLE BUTCHER'S KNIFE.

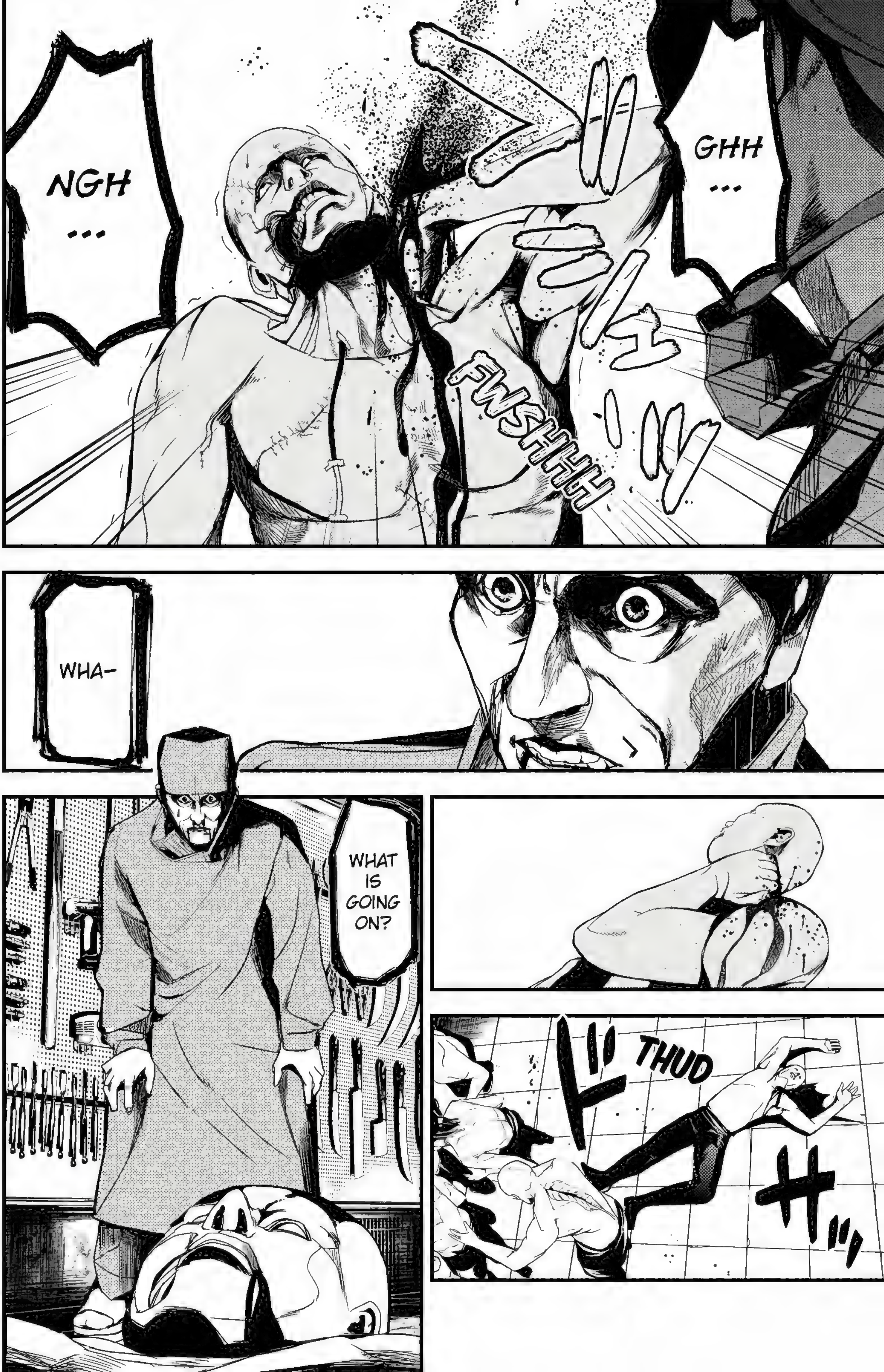

BUT YOUR TIME …
…IS NEARLY UP.
NOW, THEN!
WELL DONE.
PUFF
HUFF
HUFF

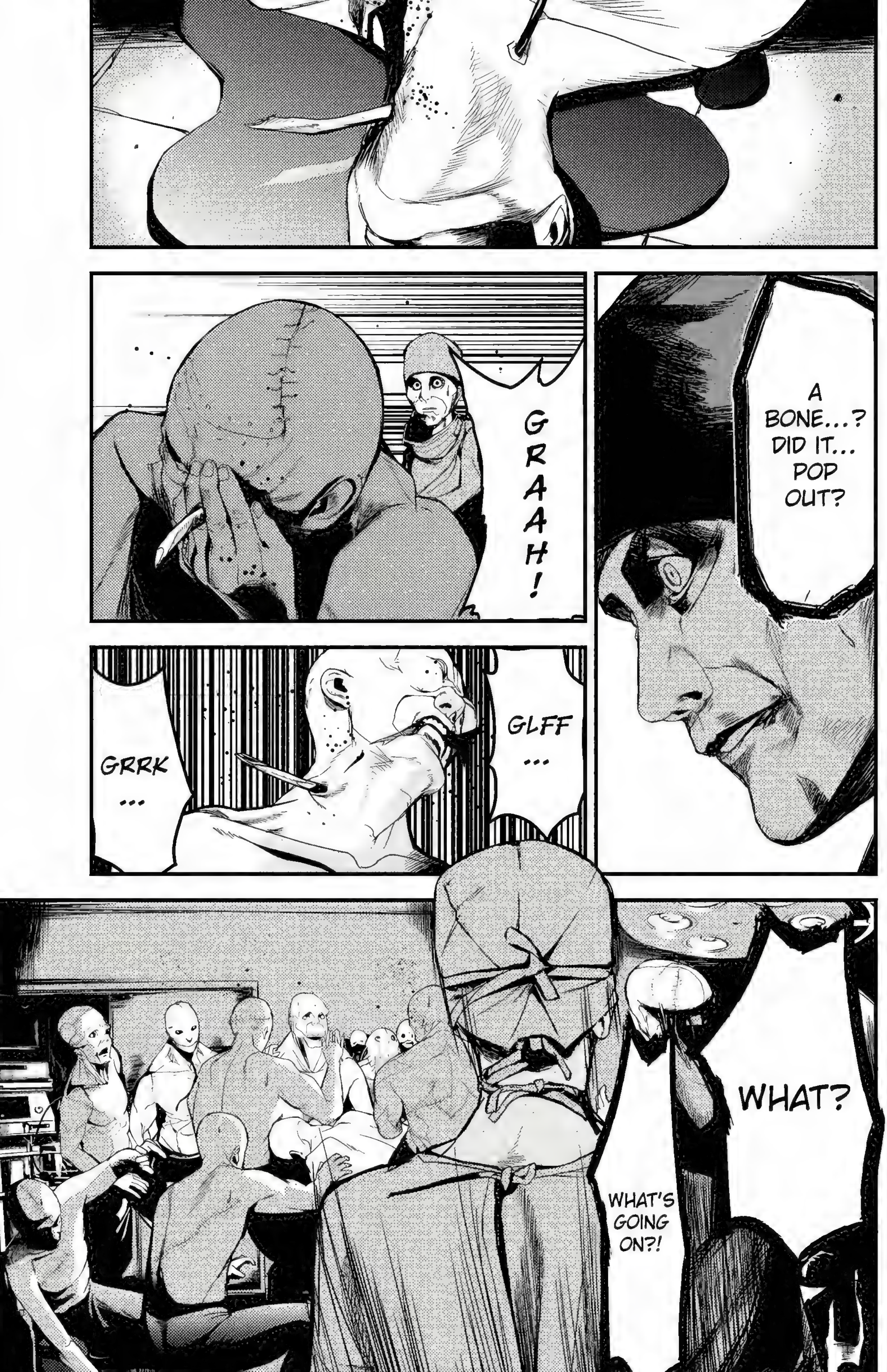

GNNCH
AAH...! THAT'S... THE MAN WHO ATTACKED US!
VERY GOOD!
CAN'T GO STRAIGHT FOR THE HEAD, NOW, CAN WE?

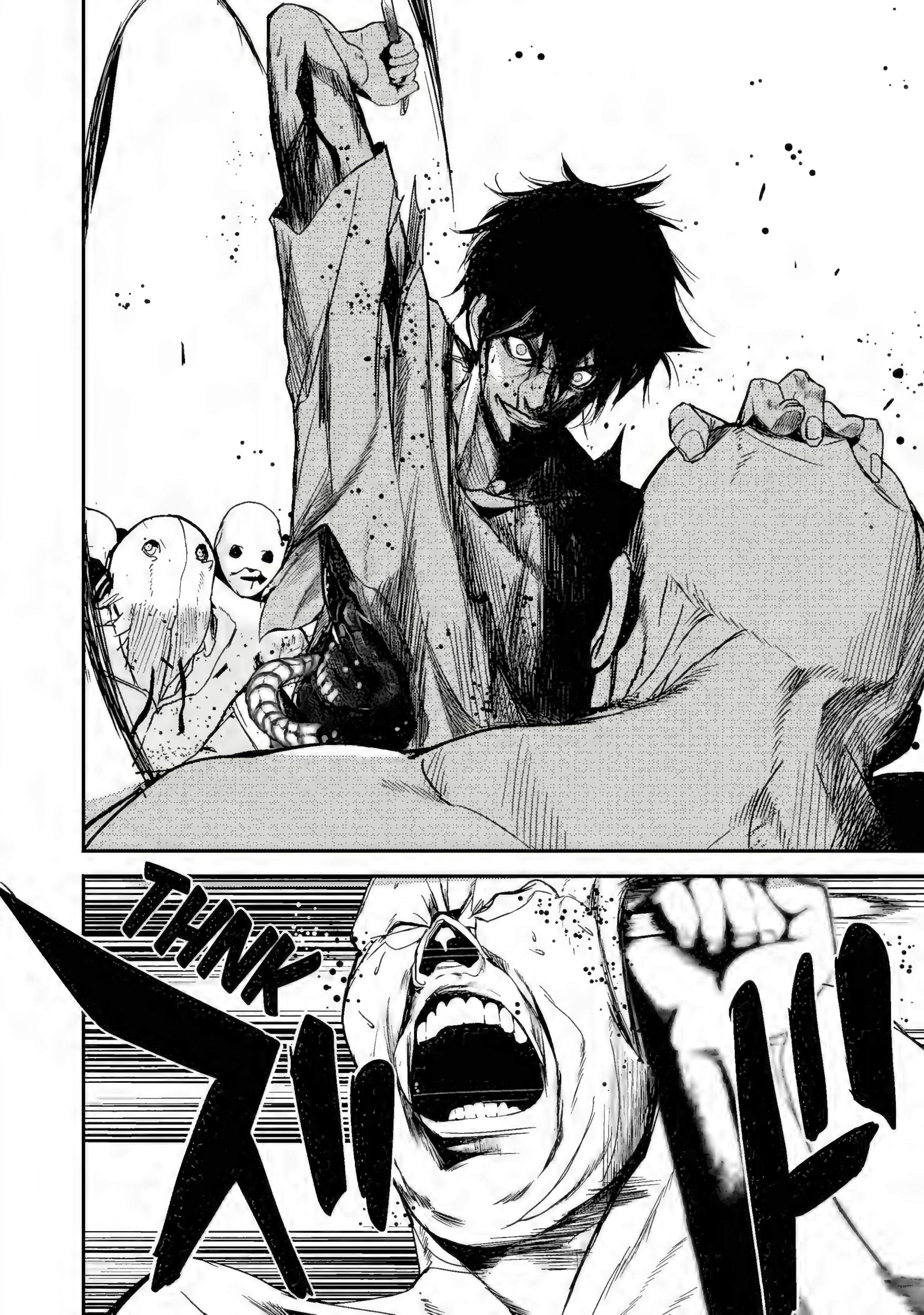

THAT'S OUR PRECIOUS REGENERATOR, AFTER ALL.
HUFF
PUFF
IF YOU KILL HIM NOW, ALL OUR WORK WILL HAVE BEEN FOR NOTHING!
ZSHH
ZSHH
ZSHH
PUFF
ZSHH
HUFF
ZSHH
HUFF

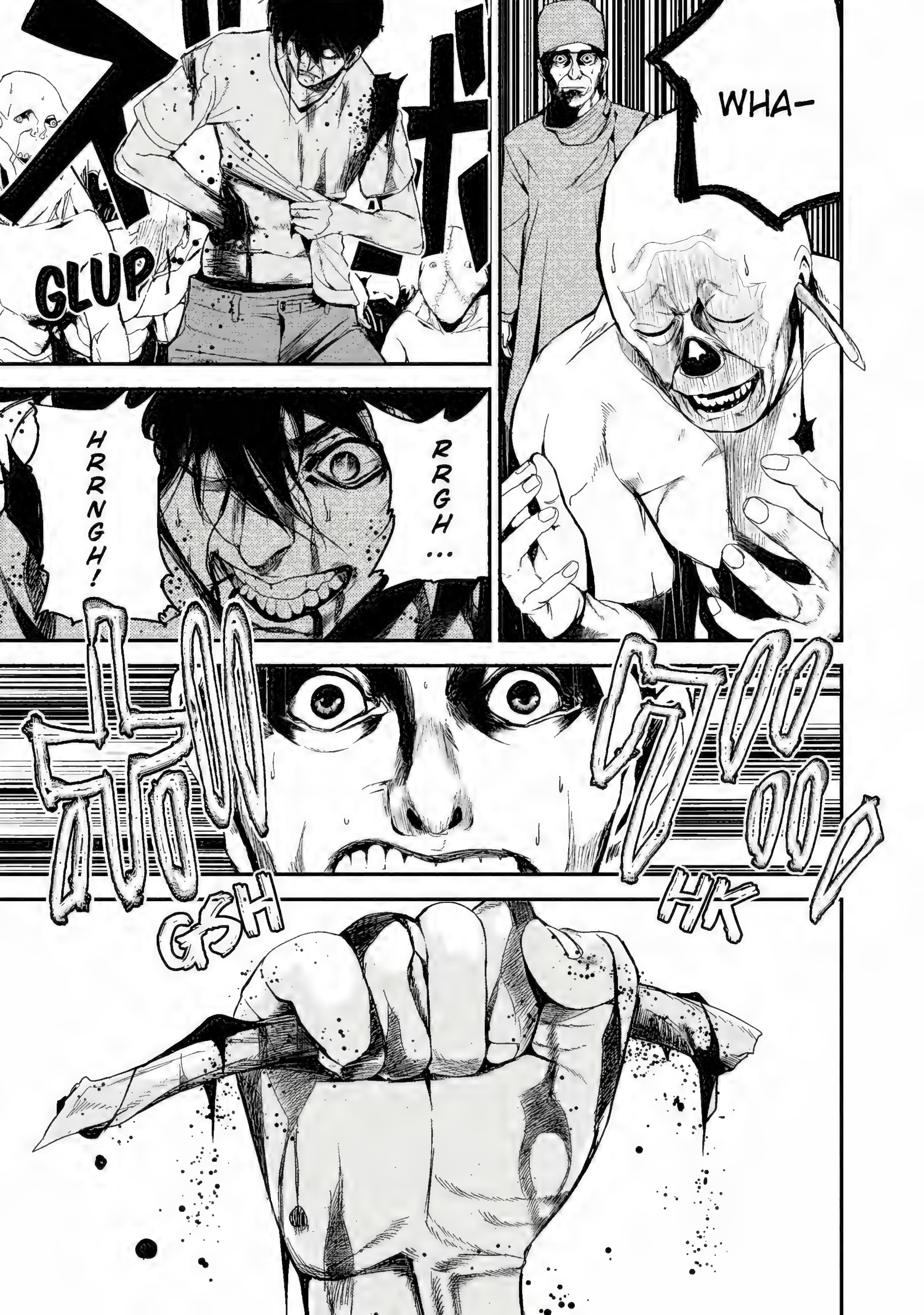

WHOOSH
AAAAH!

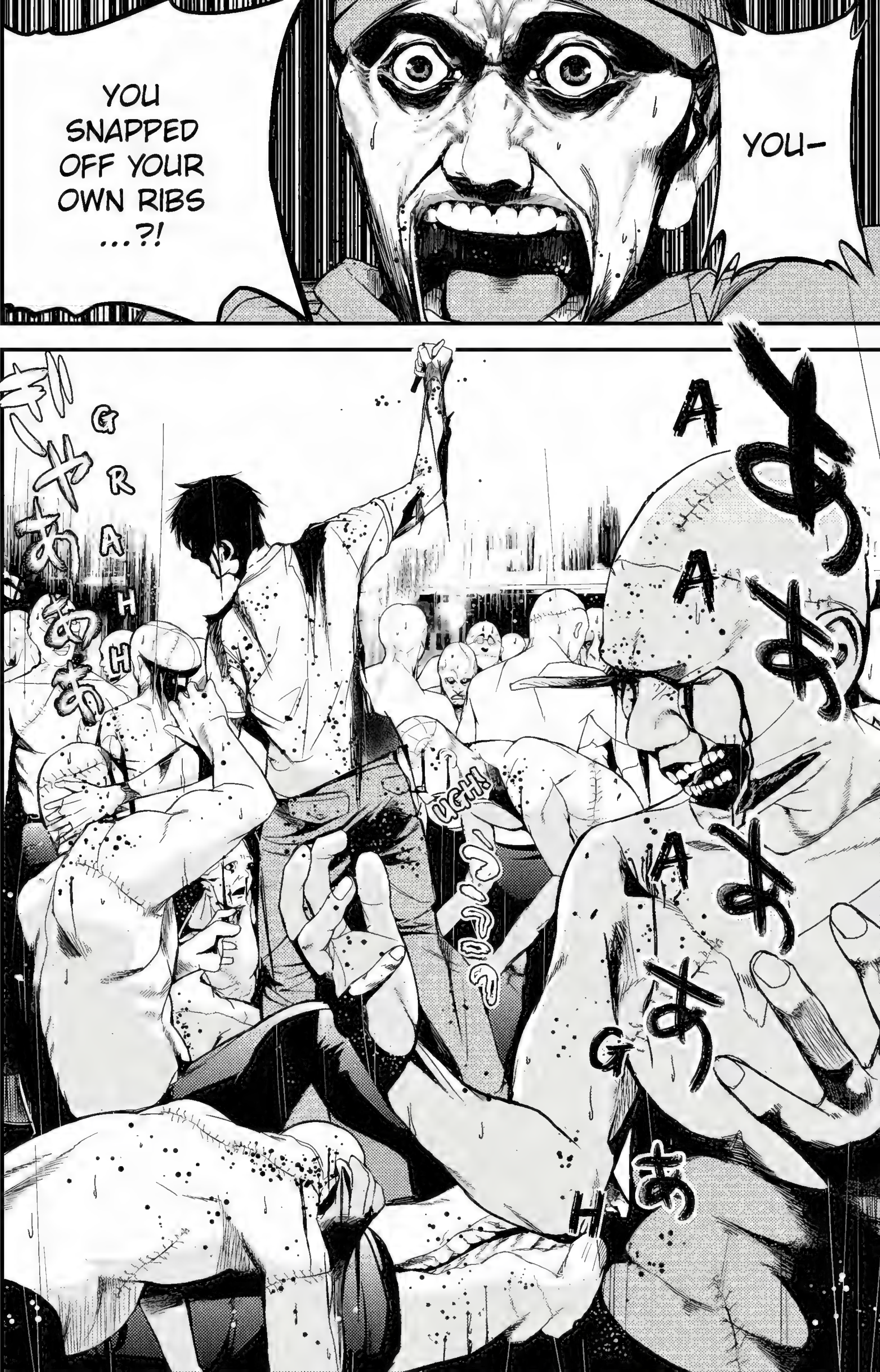

AAAAAH!!
NATSUNE-KUN...
AUGH!
AAH...
AH...!
AAGH!
RRK...!
GHK!

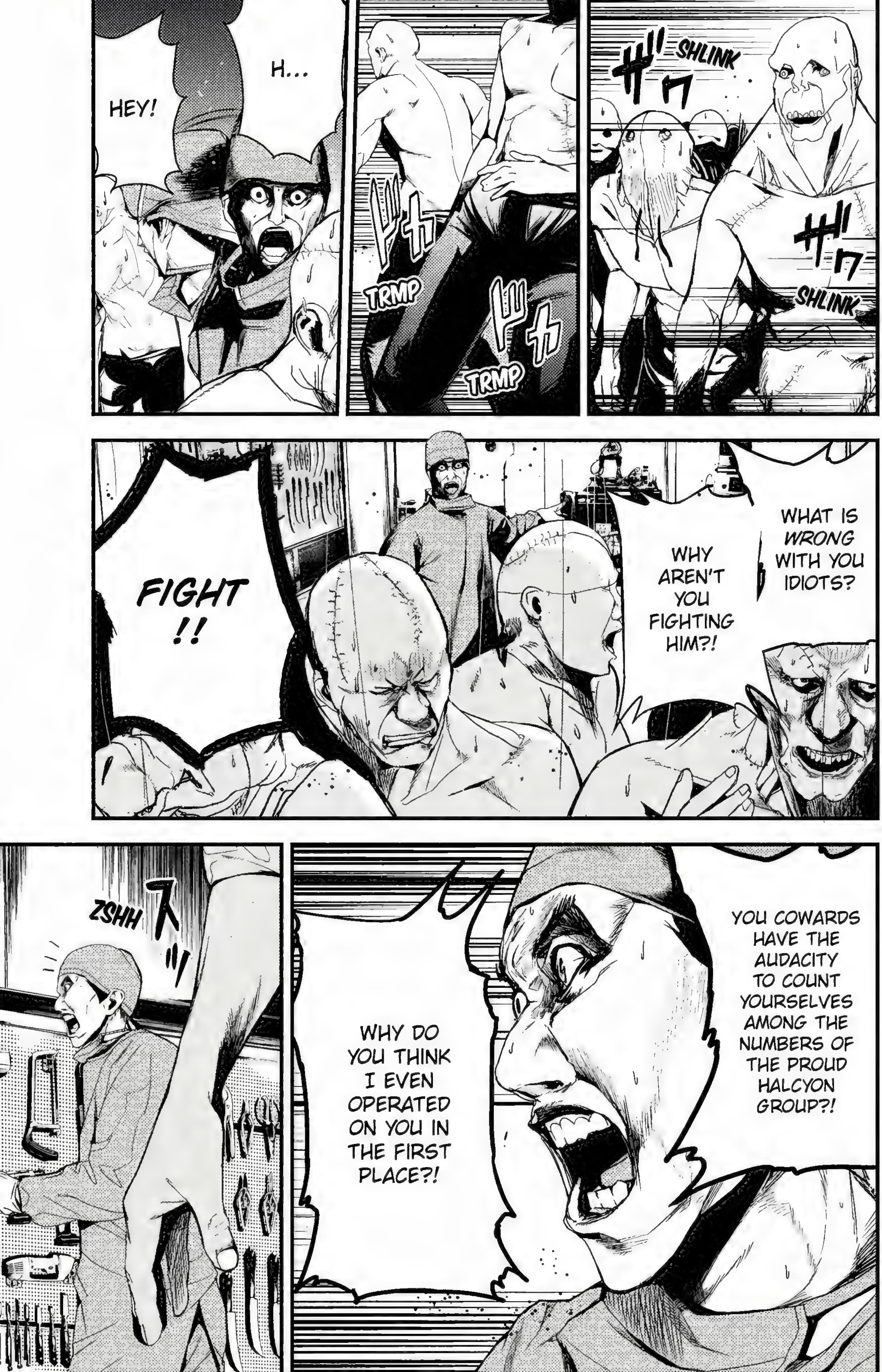

GHH ...
ブシューッ
FWSHHH
NGH ...
WHA-
ドサッ
THUD
WHAT IS GOING ON?

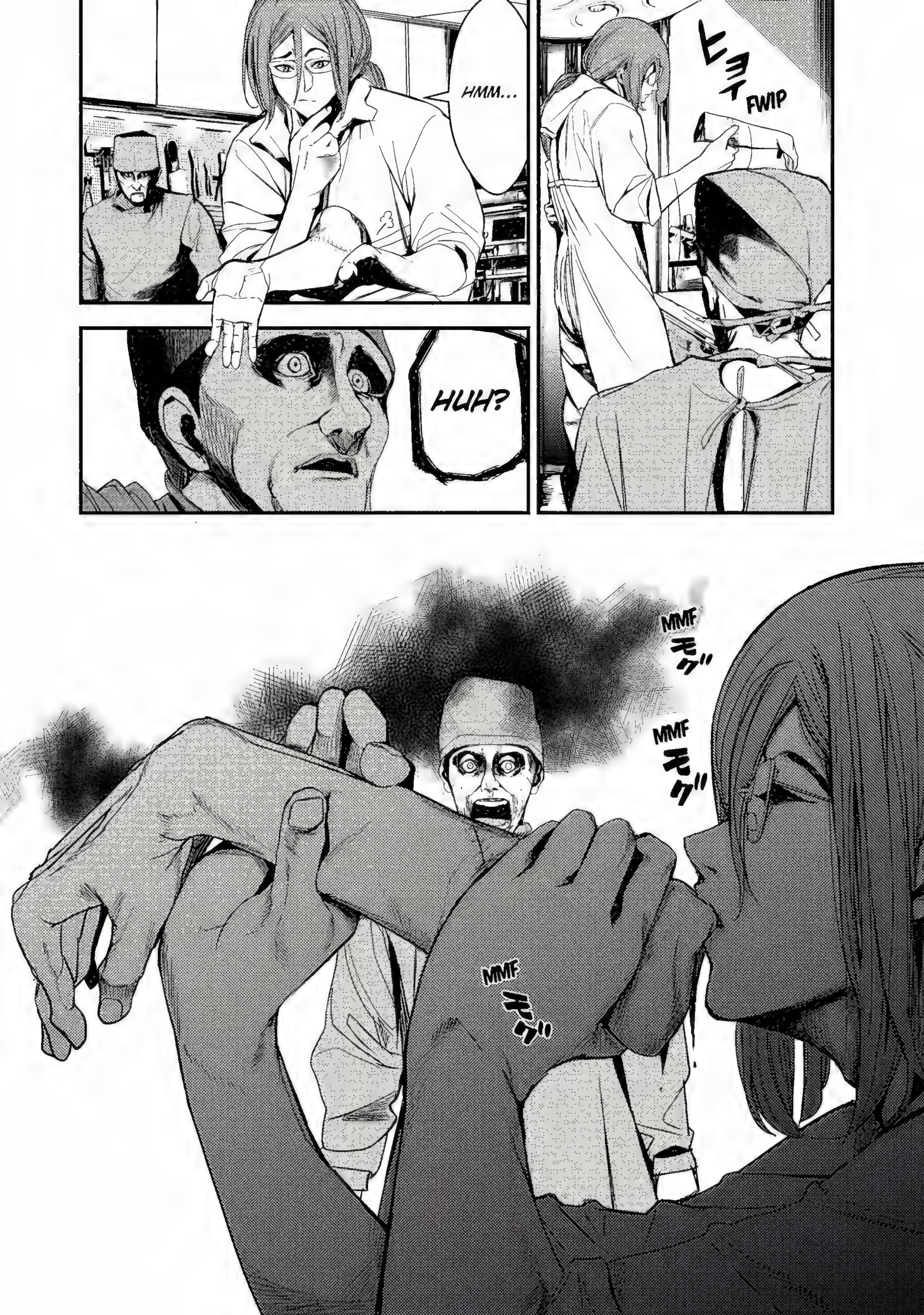

A BONE...? DID IT... POP OUT?
GRAAAH!
GLFF...
GRRK...
WHAT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

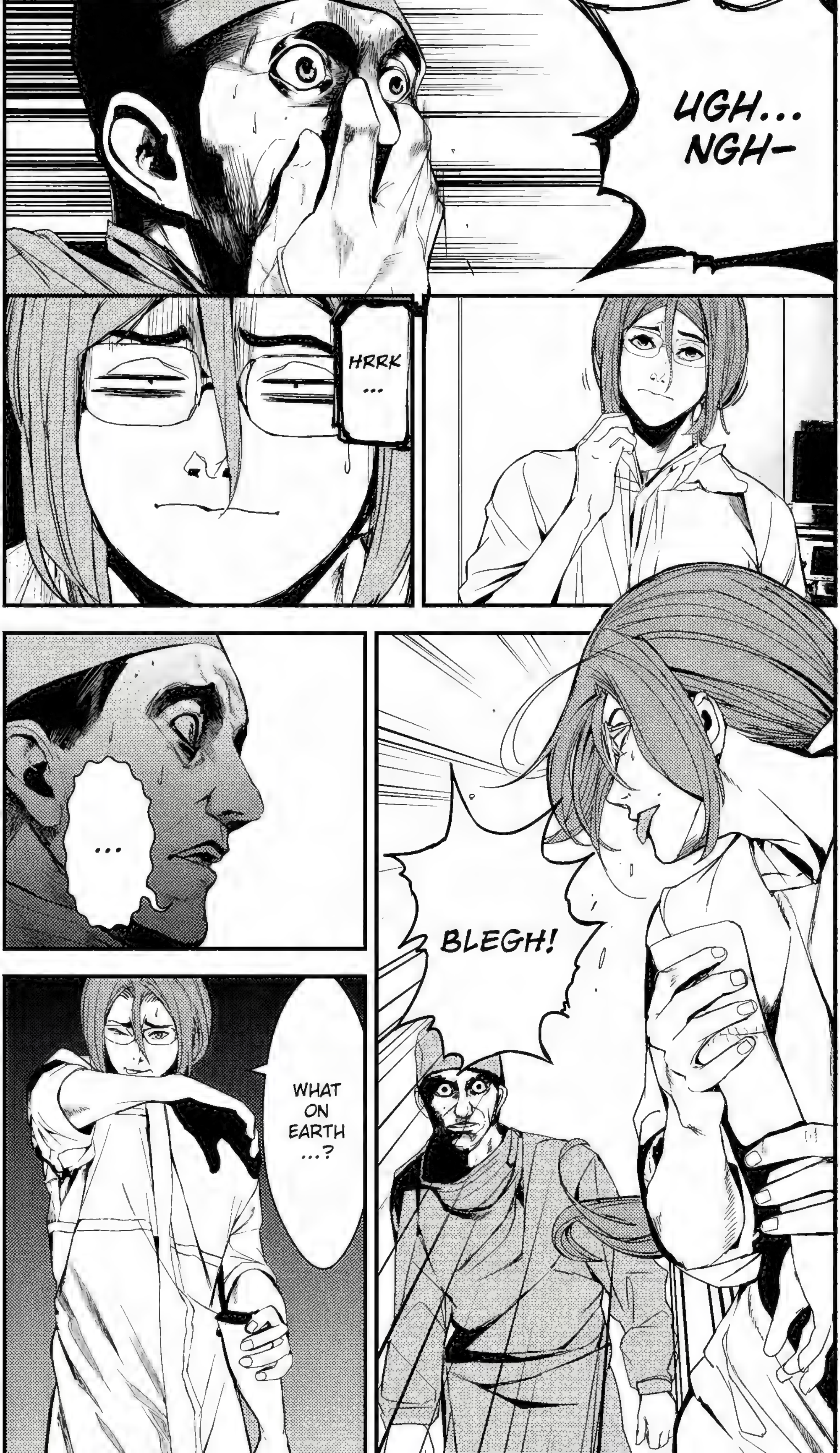

THNK

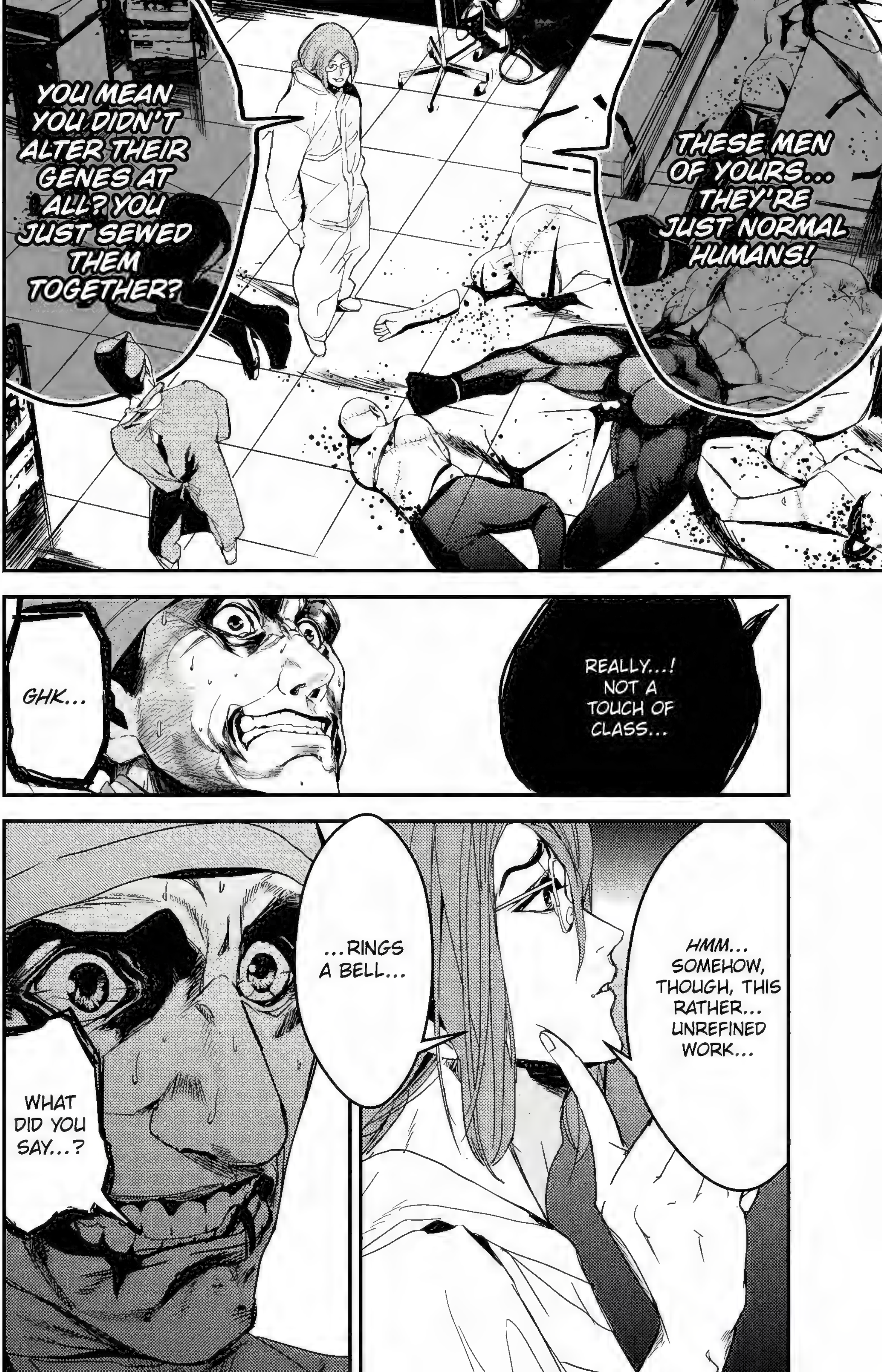

WHA-
GLUP
RRGH...
HRRNGH!
HK
GSH

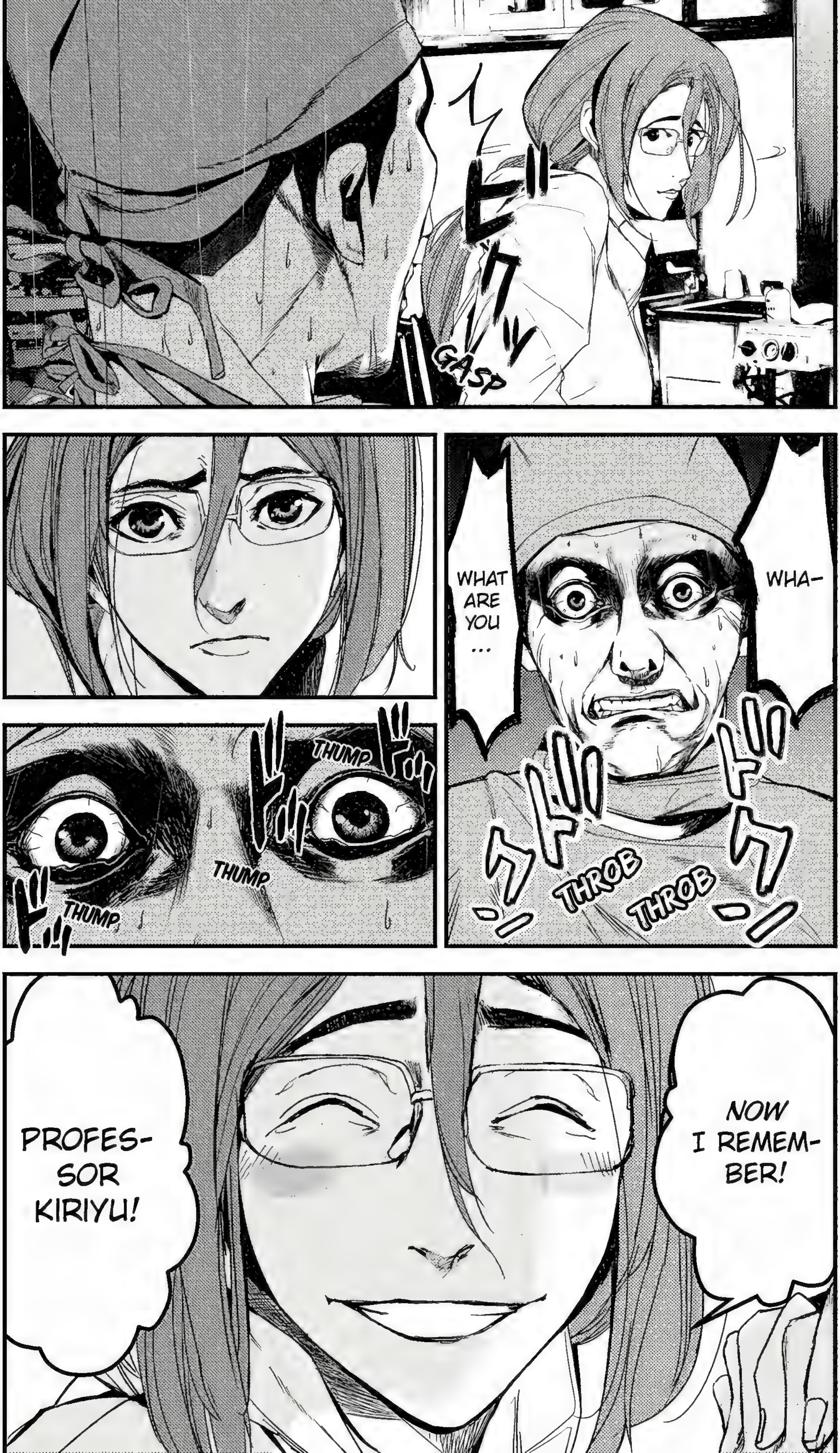

YOU-
YOU SNAPPED OFF YOUR OWN RIBS ...?!
AAAGH
UGH!
GRAHH

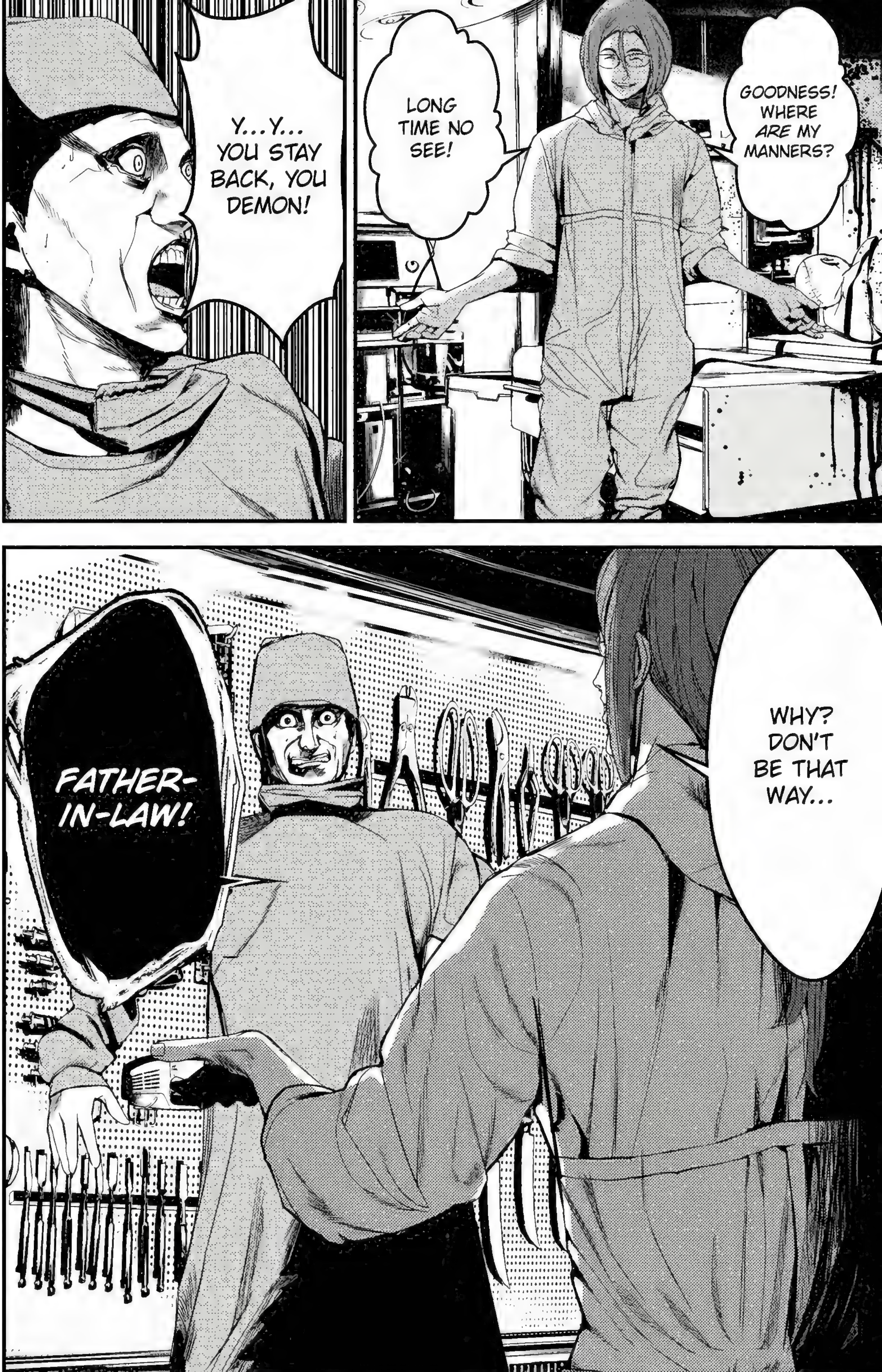

ザッ
SHLINK
ザッ
SHLINK
ドッ カ
TRMP
ドッ カ
TRMP
H...
HEY!
WHAT IS *WRONG* WITH YOU IDIOTS?
WHY AREN'T YOU FIGHTING HIM?!
FIGHT !!
YOU COWARDS HAVE THE AUDACITY TO COUNT YOURSELVES AMONG THE NUMBERS OF THE PROUD HALCYON GROUP?!
WHY DO YOU THINK I EVEN OPERATED ON YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE?!
ZSHH
スッ

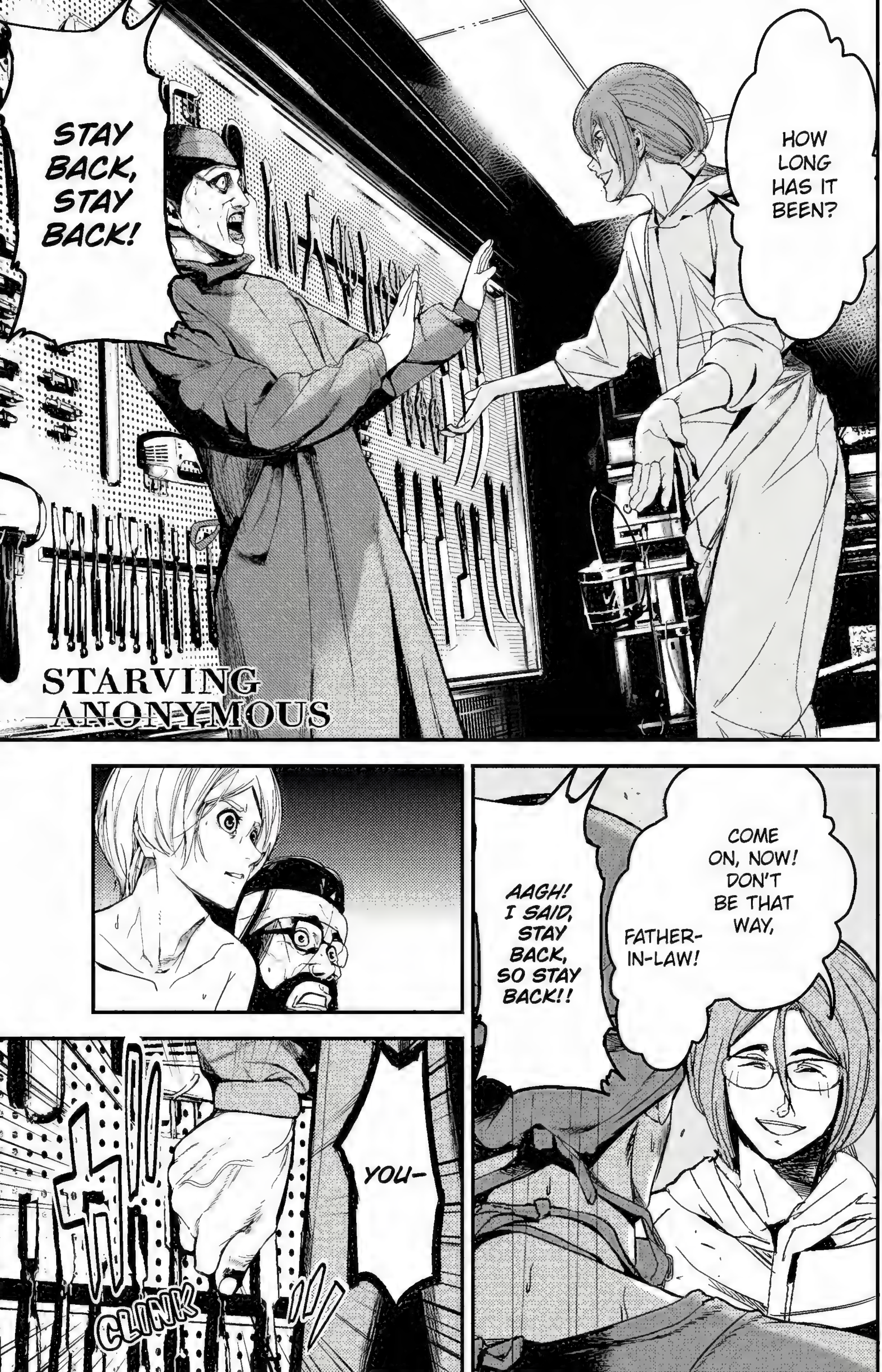

ヒョイ
FWIP
HMM...
HUH?
MMF
モグ
MMF
モグ
MMF
モグ


UGH... NGH-
HRRK ...
...
BLEGH!
WHAT ON EARTH ...?

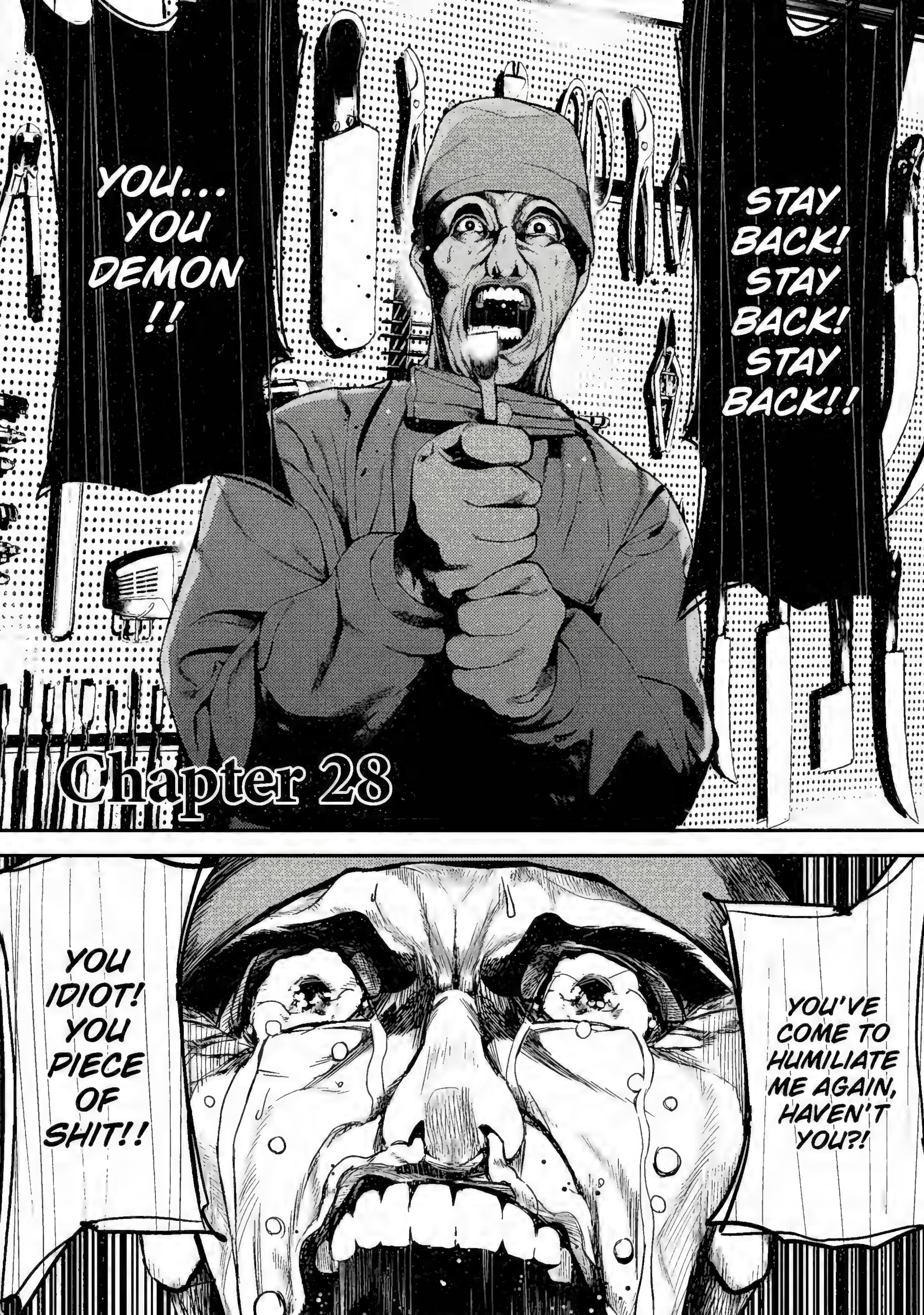

THESE MEN OF YOURS... THEY'RE JUST NORMAL HUMANS!
YOU MEAN YOU DIDN'T ALTER THEIR GENES AT ALL? YOU JUST SEWED THEM TOGETHER?
REALLY...! NOT A TOUCH OF CLASS...
GHK...
HMM... SOMEHOW, THOUGH, THIS RATHER... UNREFINED WORK...
...RINGS A BELL...
WHAT DID YOU SAY...?

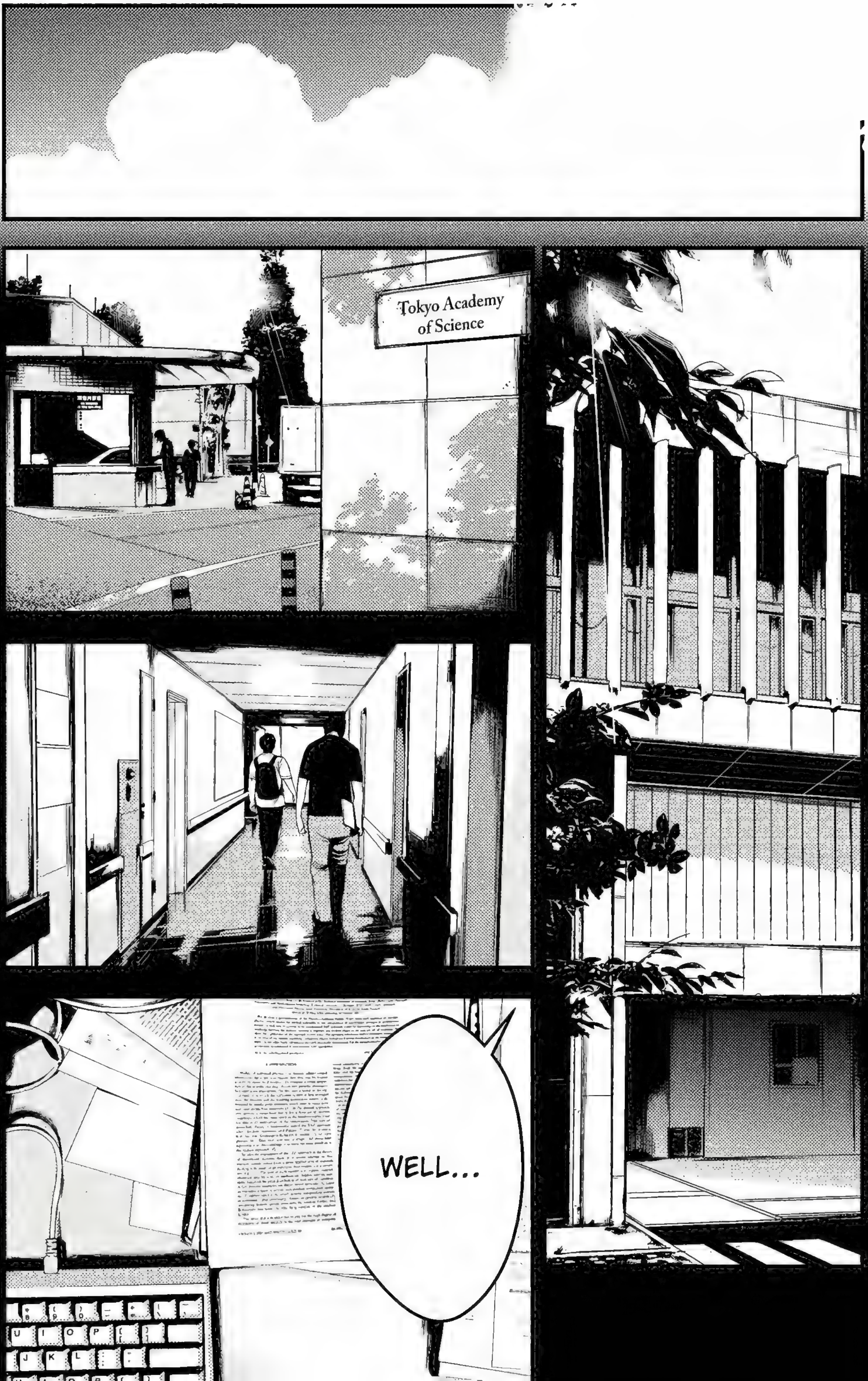

ビクッ
GASP
WHA-
WHAT ARE YOU ...
ドッ
THUMP
ドッ
THUMP
ドッ
THUMP
ドクン
THROB
ドクン
THROB
NOW I REMEMBER!
PROFESSOR KIRIYU!

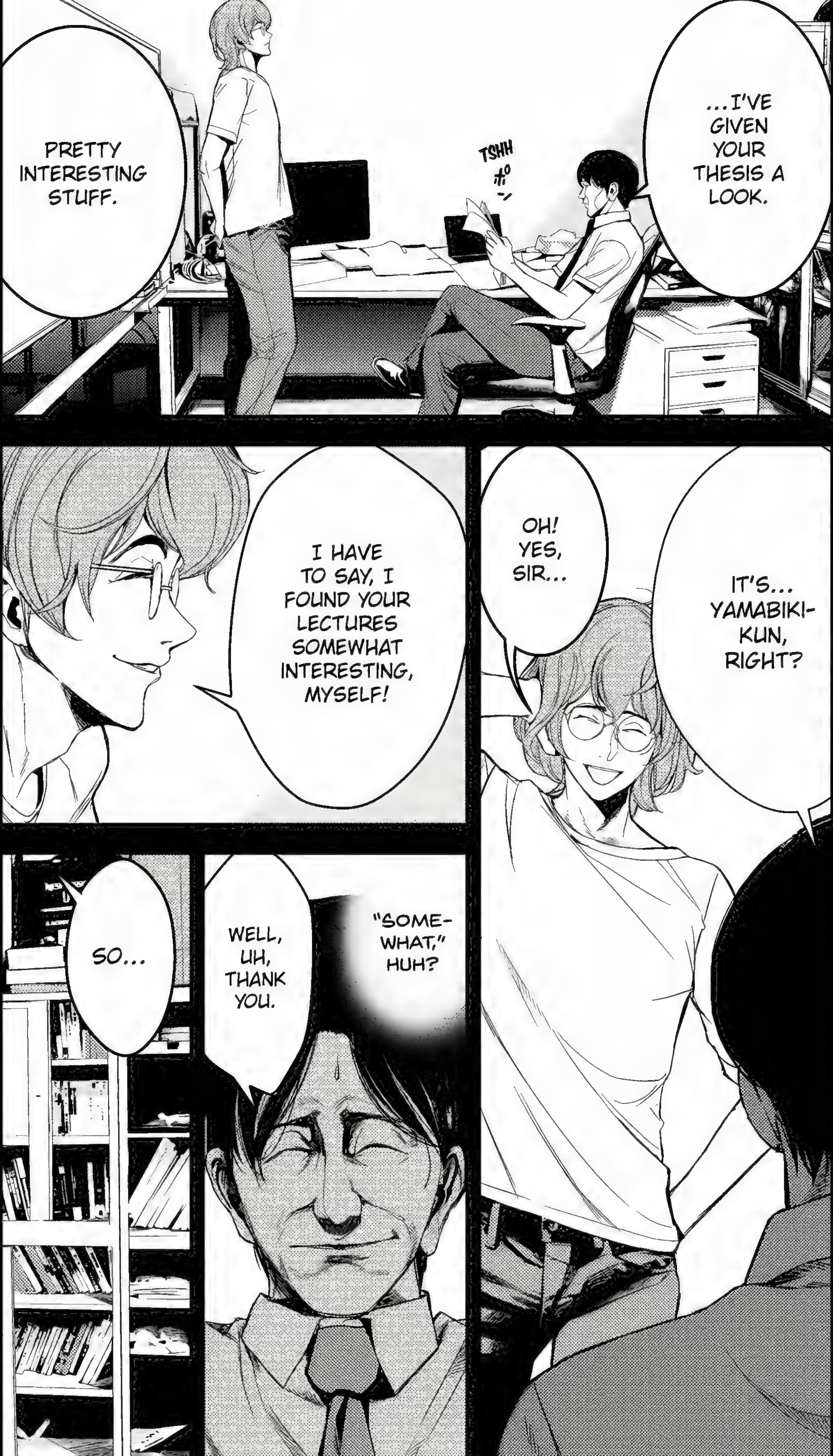

GOODNESS! WHERE *ARE* MY MANNERS?
LONG TIME NO SEE!
Y…Y… YOU STAY BACK, YOU DEMON!
WHY? DON'T BE THAT WAY…
FATHER-IN-LAW!

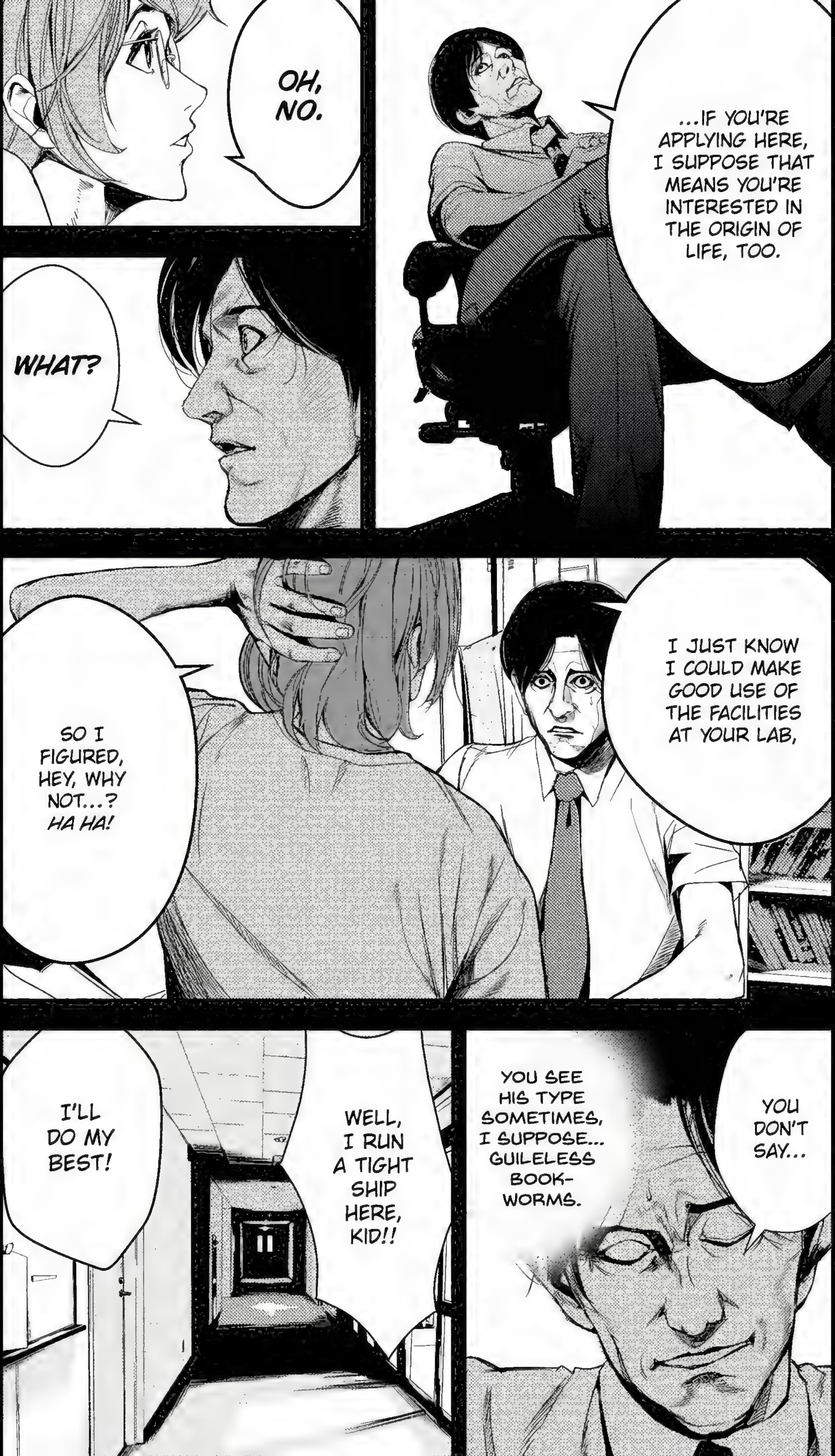

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN?
STAY BACK, STAY BACK!
STARVING ANONYMOUS
COME ON, NOW! DON'T BE THAT WAY, FATHER-IN-LAW!
AAGH! I SAID, STAY BACK, SO STAY BACK!!
YOU-
CLINK

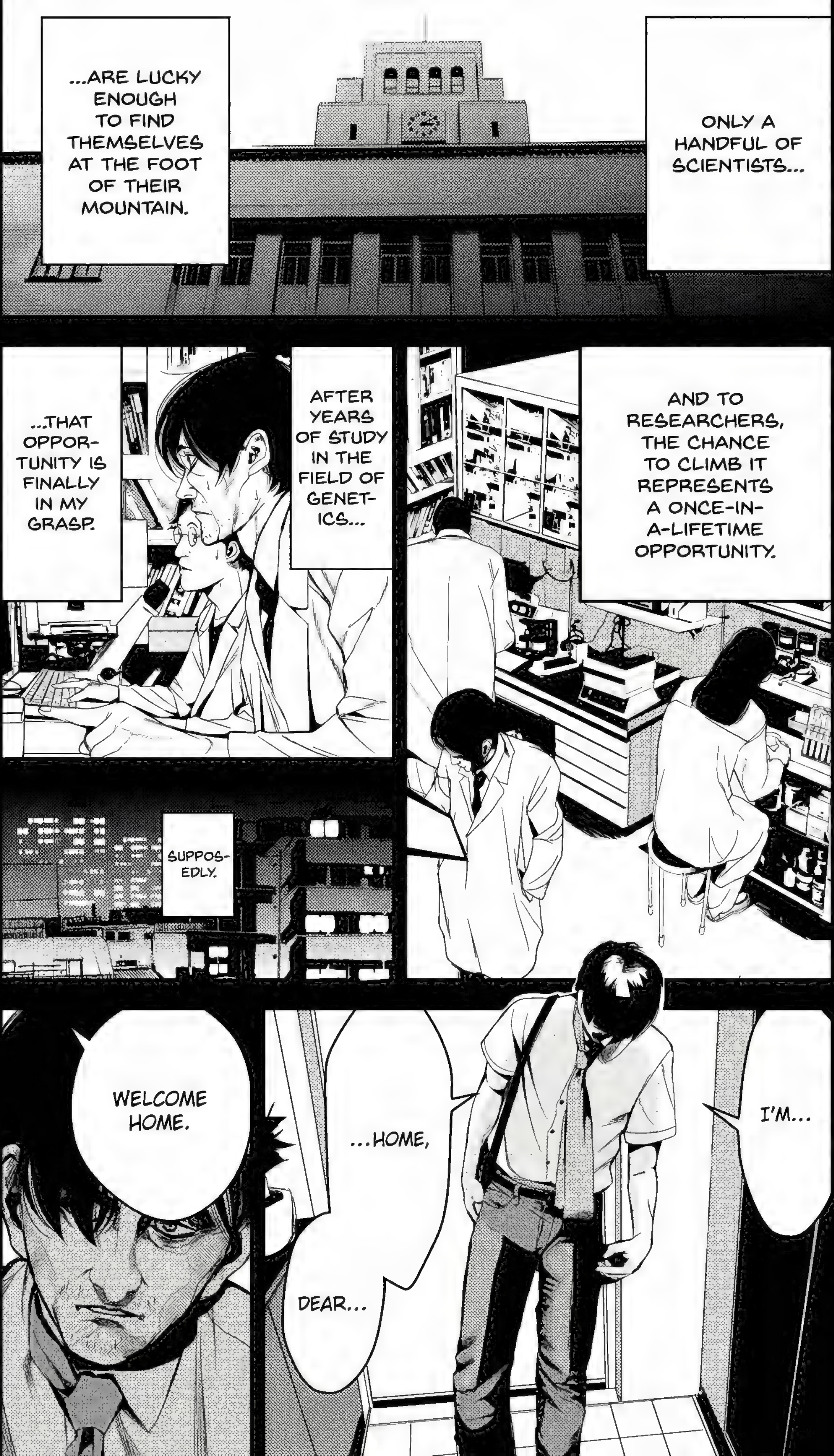
Chapter 28

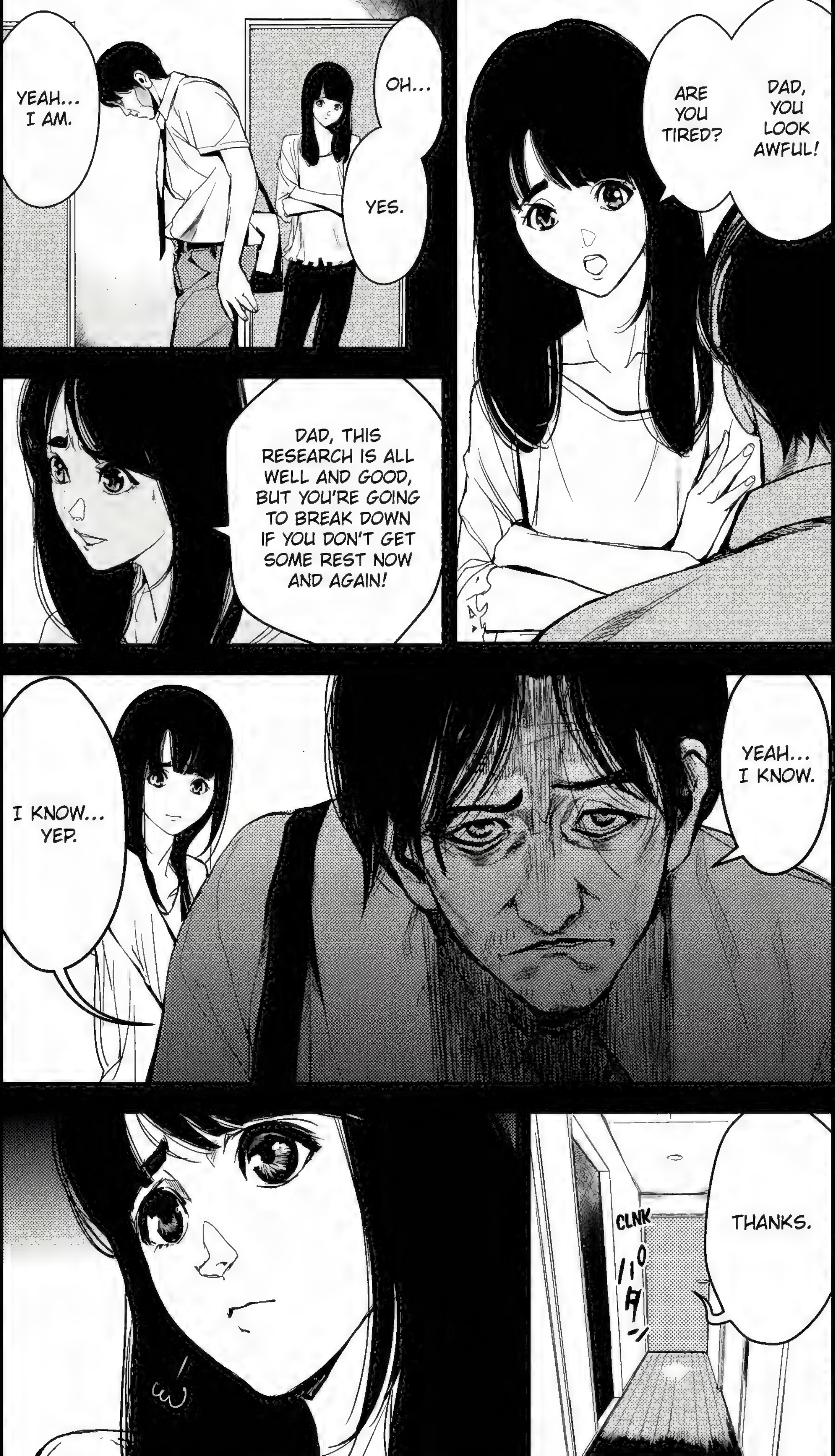

STAY BACK! STAY BACK! STAY BACK!!
YOU... YOU DEMON!!
YOU'VE COME TO HUMILIATE ME AGAIN, HAVEN'T YOU?!
YOU IDIOT! YOU PIECE OF SHIT!!

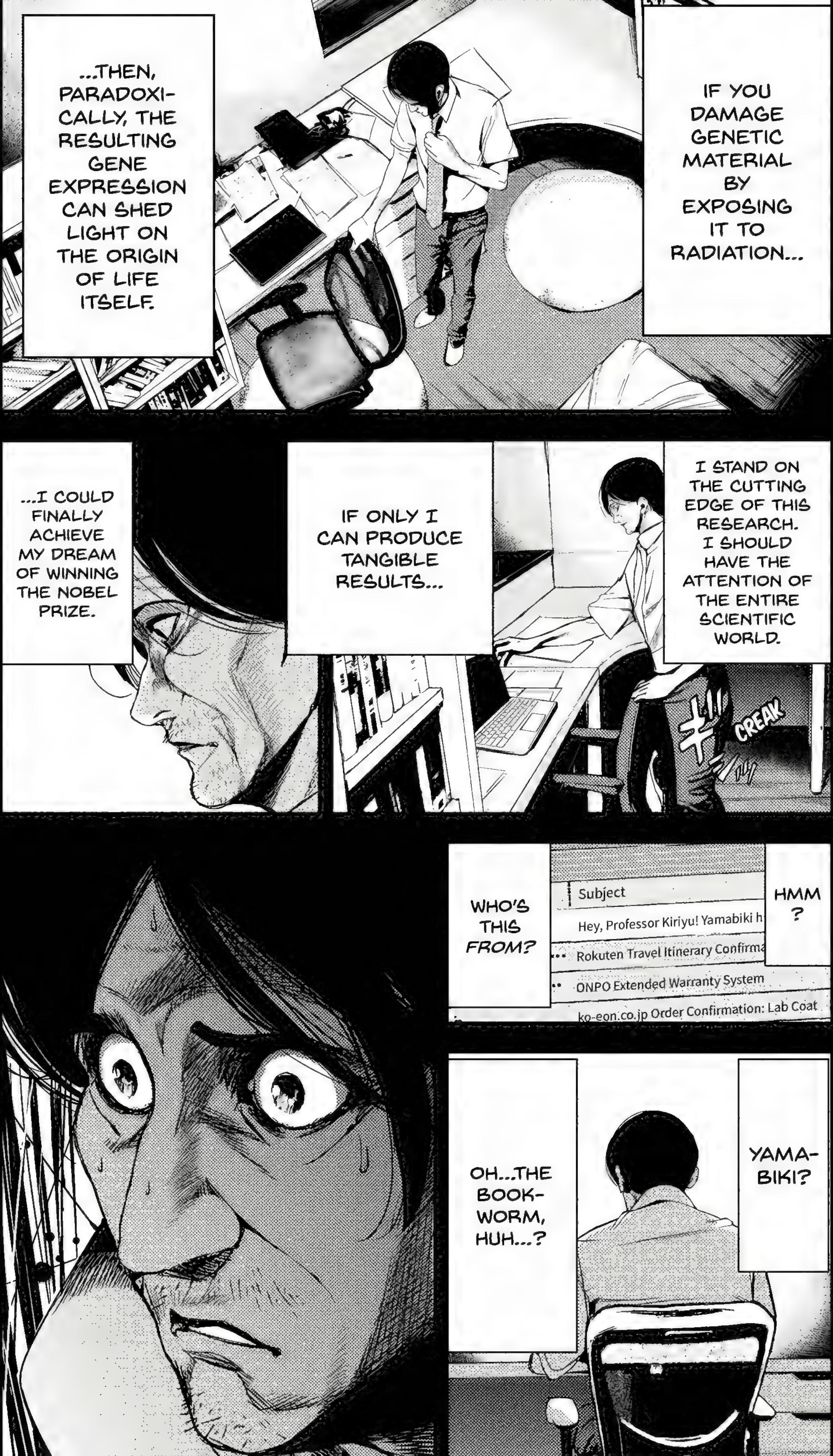

Tokyo Academy of Science
WELL...

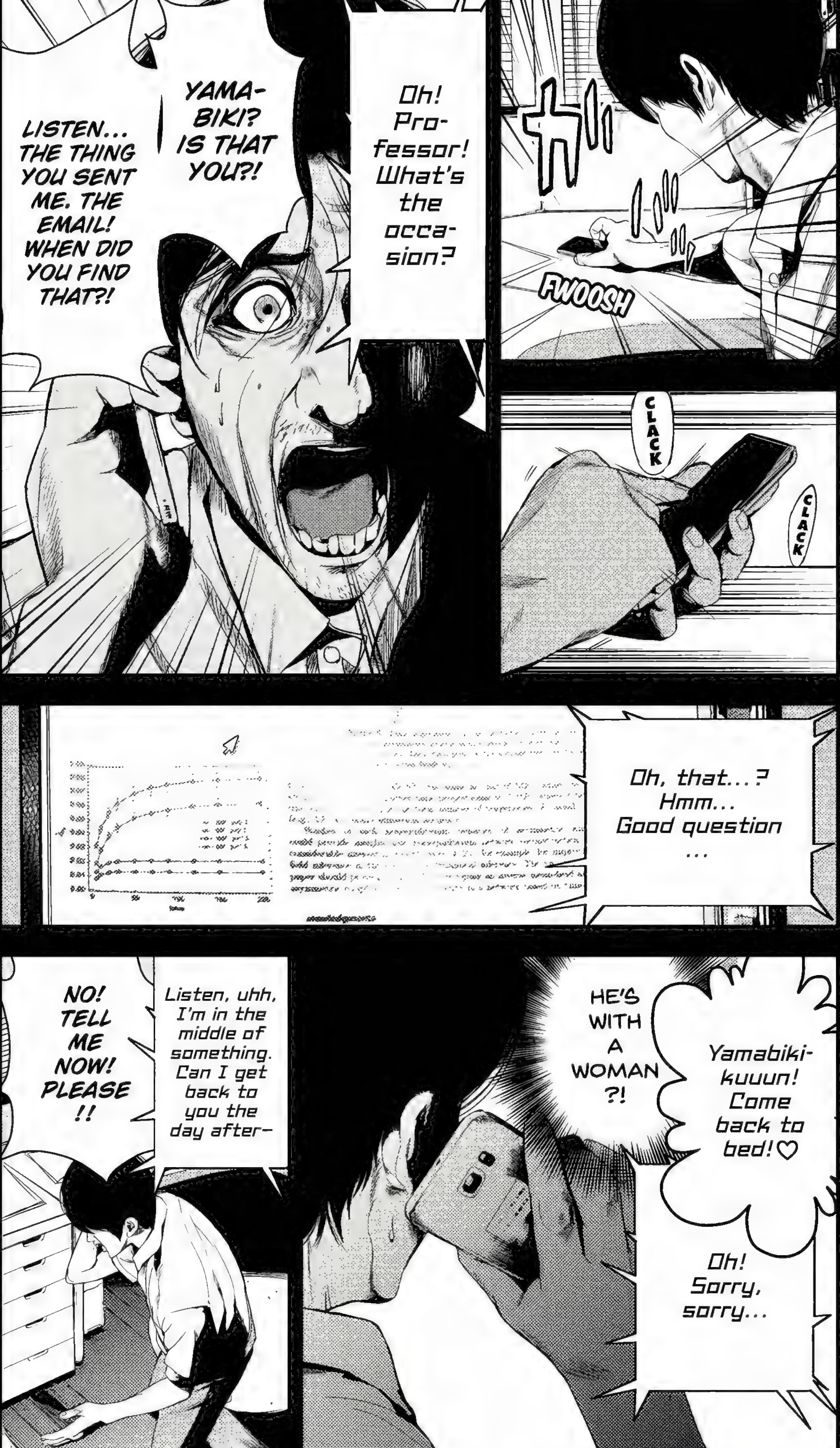

...I'VE GIVEN YOUR THESIS A LOOK.
TSHH
PRETTY INTERESTING STUFF.
IT'S... YAMABIKI-KUN, RIGHT?
OH! YES, SIR...
I HAVE TO SAY, I FOUND YOUR LECTURES SOMEWHAT INTERESTING, MYSELF!
"SOMEWHAT," HUH?
WELL, UH, THANK YOU.
SO...

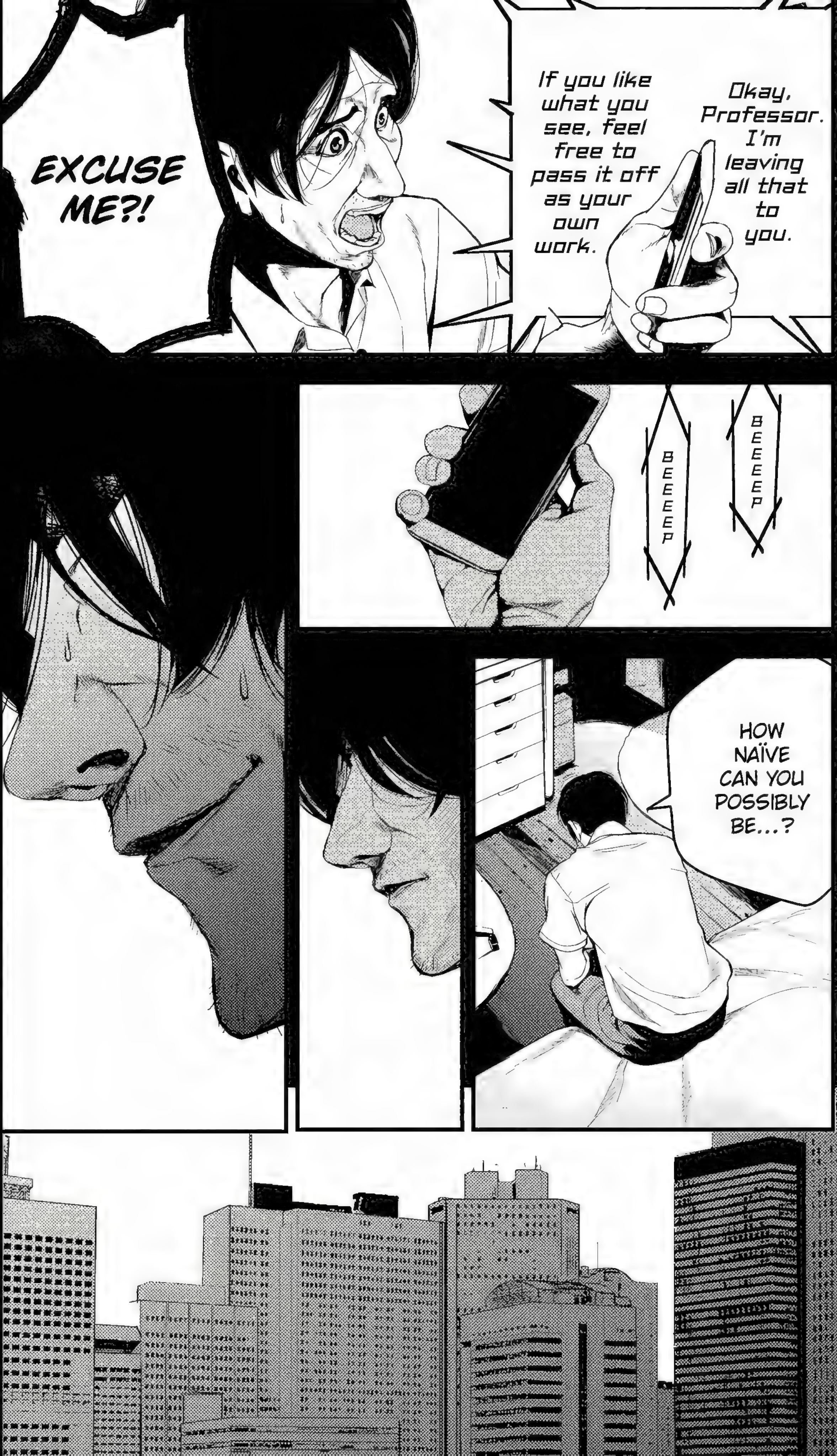

...IF YOU'RE APPLYING HERE, I SUPPOSE THAT MEANS YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THE ORIGIN OF LIFE, TOO.
OH, NO.
WHAT?
I JUST KNOW I COULD MAKE GOOD USE OF THE FACILITIES AT YOUR LAB,
SO I FIGURED, HEY, WHY NOT...? HA HA!
YOU DON'T SAY...
YOU SEE HIS TYPE SOMETIMES, I SUPPOSE... GUILELESS BOOKWORMS.
WELL, I RUN A TIGHT SHIP HERE, KID!!
I'LL DO MY BEST!

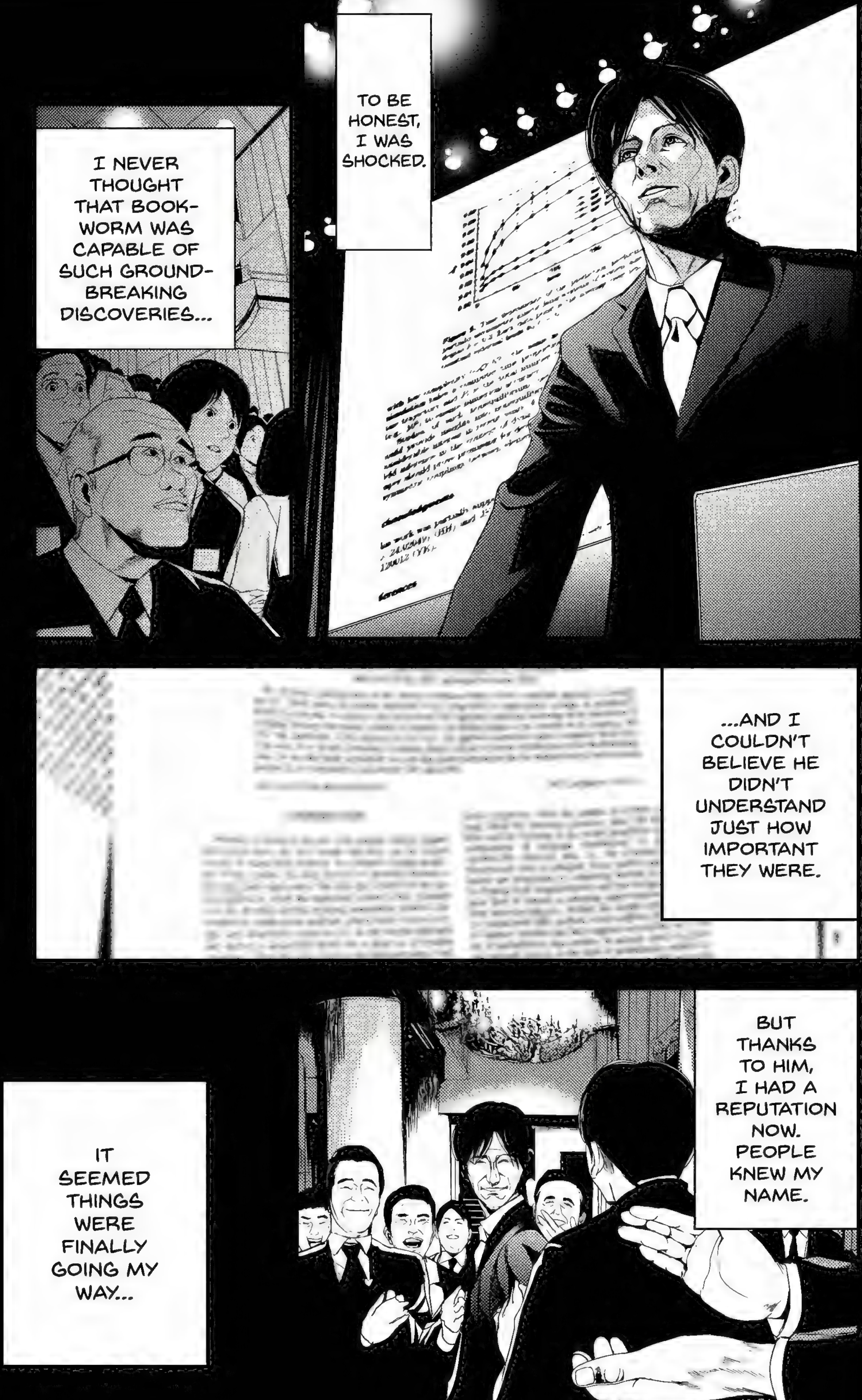

ONLY A HANDFUL OF SCIENTISTS...
...ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO FIND THEMSELVES AT THE FOOT OF THEIR MOUNTAIN.
AND TO RESEARCHERS, THE CHANCE TO CLIMB IT REPRESENTS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY.
AFTER YEARS OF STUDY IN THE FIELD OF GENETICS...
...THAT OPPORTUNITY IS FINALLY IN MY GRASP.
SUPPOSEDLY.
I'M...
...HOME,
DEAR...
WELCOME HOME.

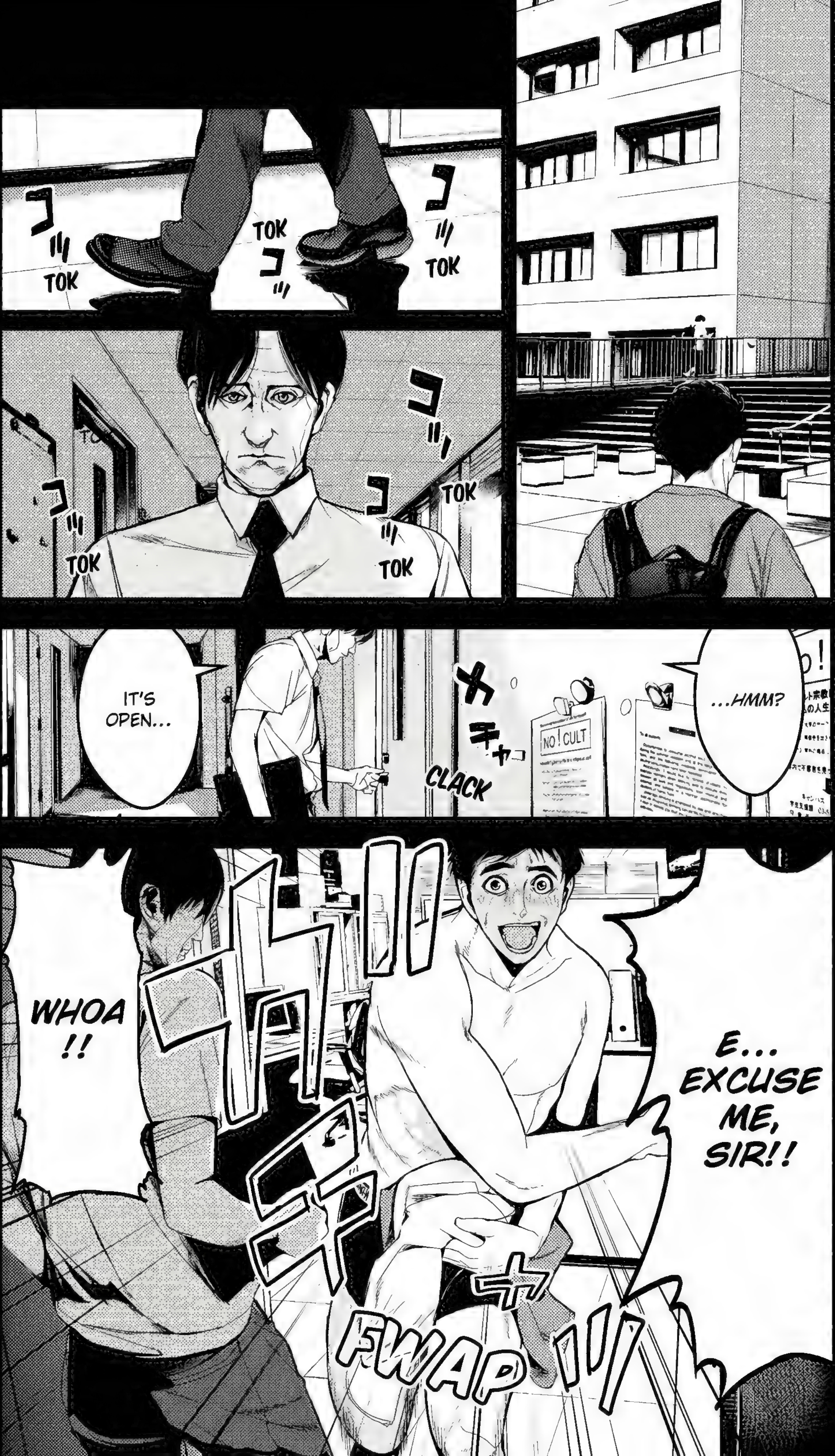

DAD, YOU LOOK AWFUL!
ARE YOU TIRED?
OH...
YES.
YEAH... I AM.
DAD, THIS RESEARCH IS ALL WELL AND GOOD, BUT YOU'RE GOING TO BREAK DOWN IF YOU DON'T GET SOME REST NOW AND AGAIN!
YEAH... I KNOW.
I KNOW... YEP.
THANKS.
CLNK

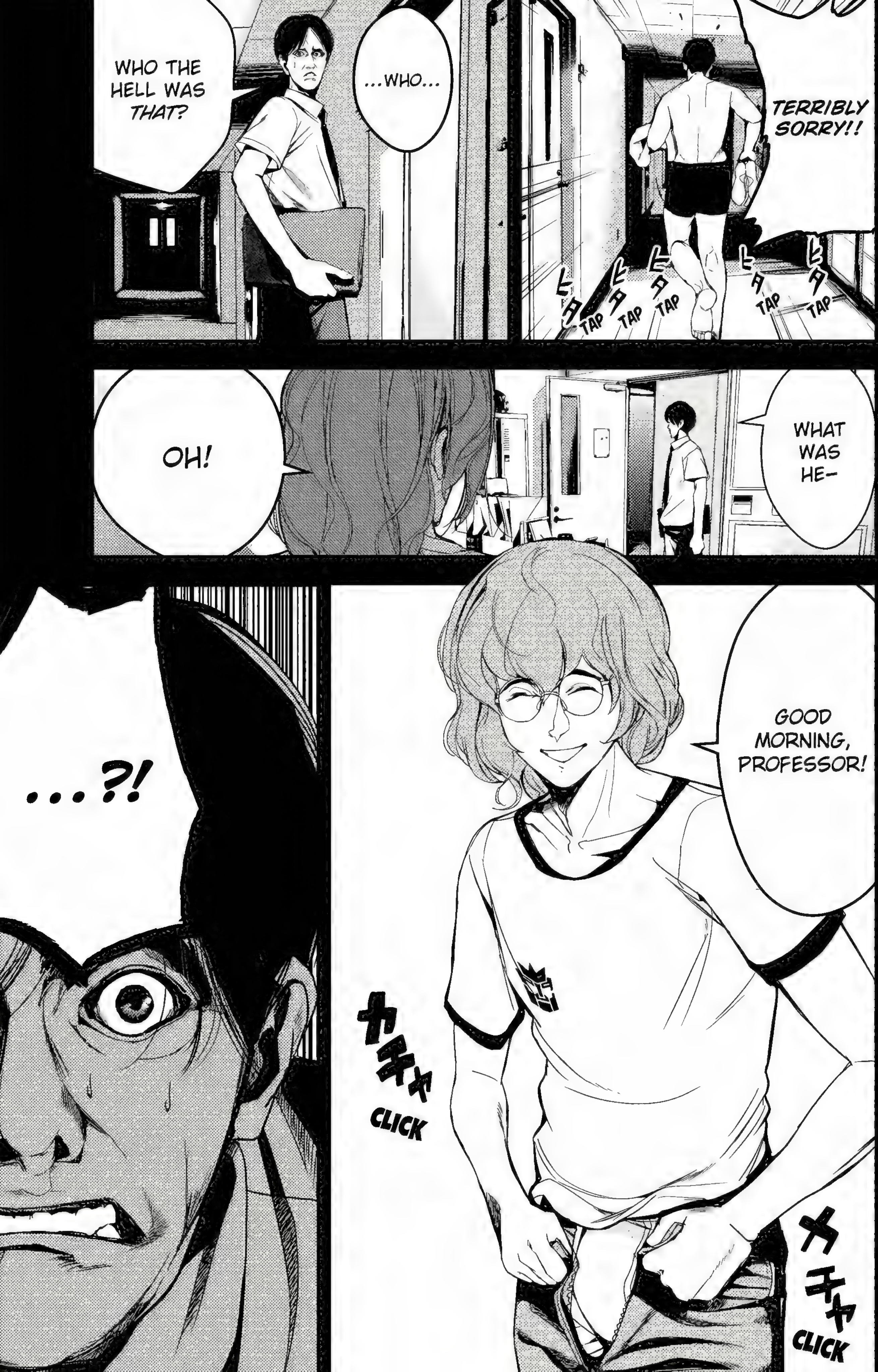

IF YOU DAMAGE GENETIC MATERIAL BY EXPOSING IT TO RADIATION...
...THEN, PARADOXICALLY, THE RESULTING GENE EXPRESSION CAN SHED LIGHT ON THE ORIGIN OF LIFE ITSELF.
I STAND ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF THIS RESEARCH. I SHOULD HAVE THE ATTENTION OF THE ENTIRE SCIENTIFIC WORLD.
CREAK
IF ONLY I CAN PRODUCE TANGIBLE RESULTS...
...I COULD FINALLY ACHIEVE MY DREAM OF WINNING THE NOBEL PRIZE.
HMM?
Subject
Hey, Professor Kiriyu! Yamabiki h
Rokuten Travel Itinerary Confirma
ONPO Extended Warranty System
ko-eon.co.jp Order Confirmation: Lab Coat
WHO'S THIS FROM?
YAMABIKI?
OH...THE BOOKWORM, HUH...?

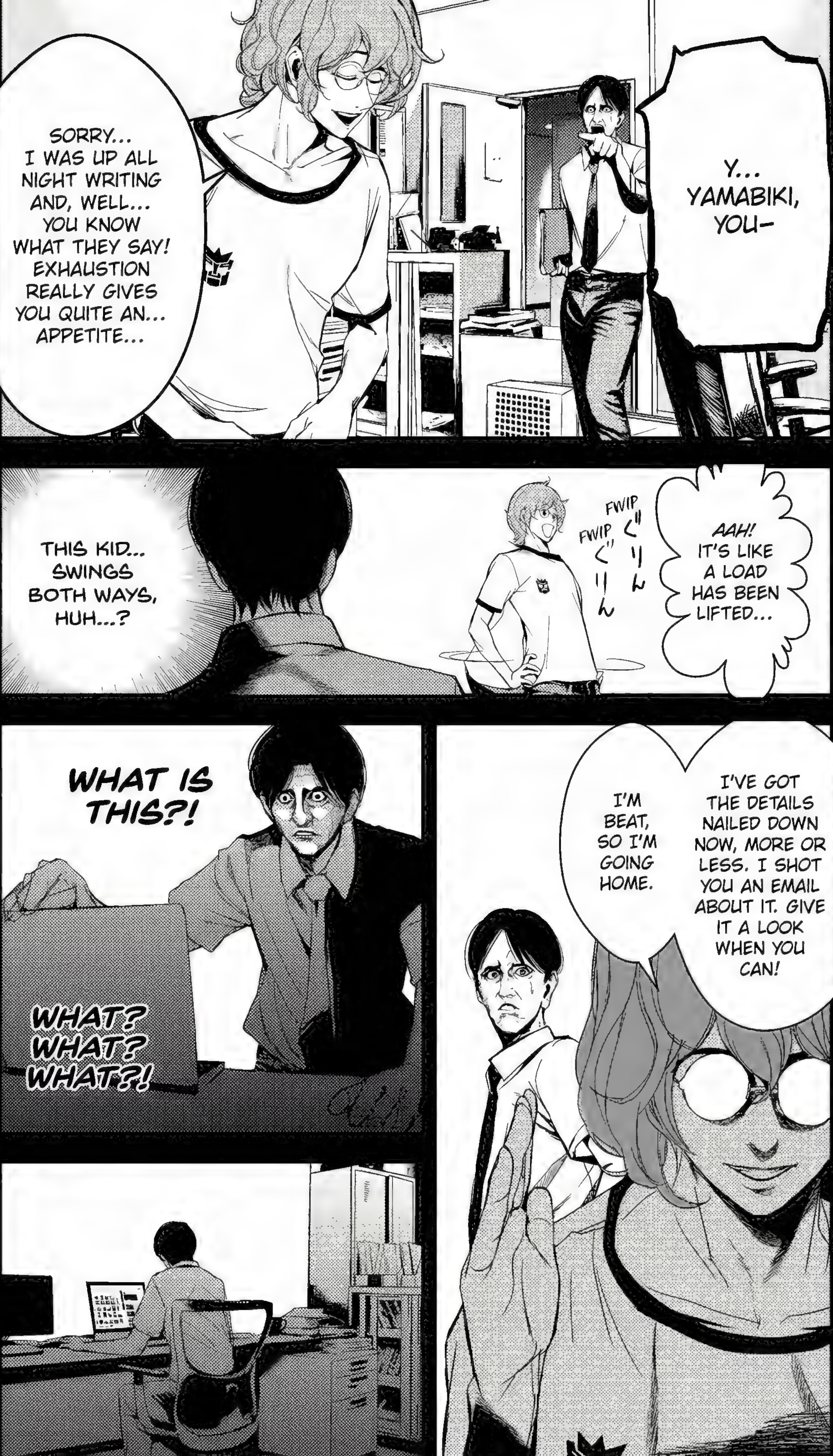

FWOOSH
Oh! Professor! What's the occasion?
YAMABIKI? IS THAT YOU?!
LISTEN... THE THING YOU SENT ME. THE EMAIL! WHEN DID YOU FIND THAT?!
CLACK
CLACK
Oh, that...? Hmm... Good question ...
Yamabiki-kuuun! Come back to bed!♡
Oh! Sorry, sorry...
HE'S WITH A WOMAN ?!
Listen, uhh, I'm in the middle of something. Can I get back to you the day after-
NO! TELL ME NOW! PLEASE !!

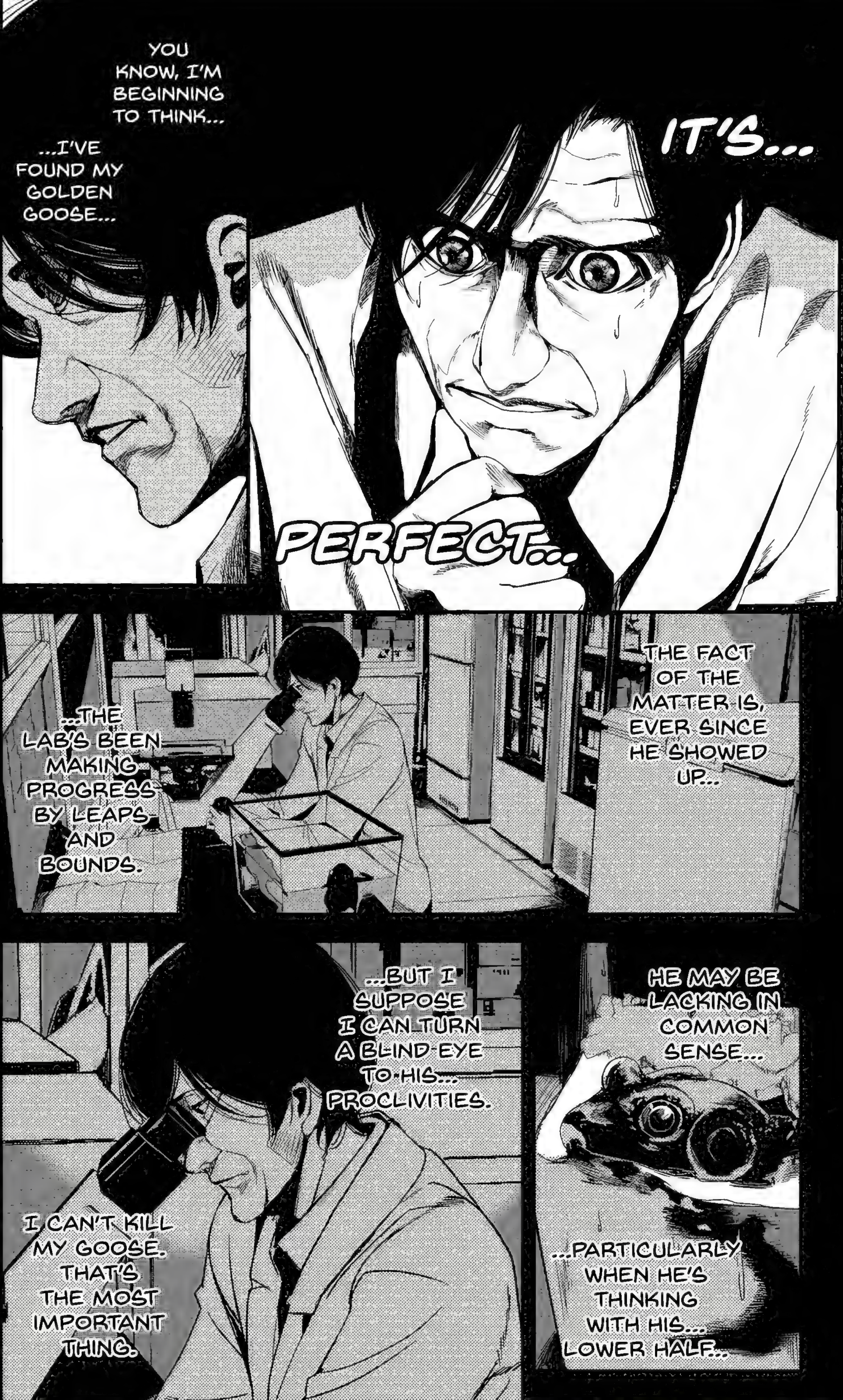

Okay, Professor. I'm leaving all that to you.
If you like what you see, feel free to pass it off as your own work.
EXCUSE ME?!
BEEEEP
BEEEEP
HOW NAÏVE CAN YOU POSSIBLY BE...?

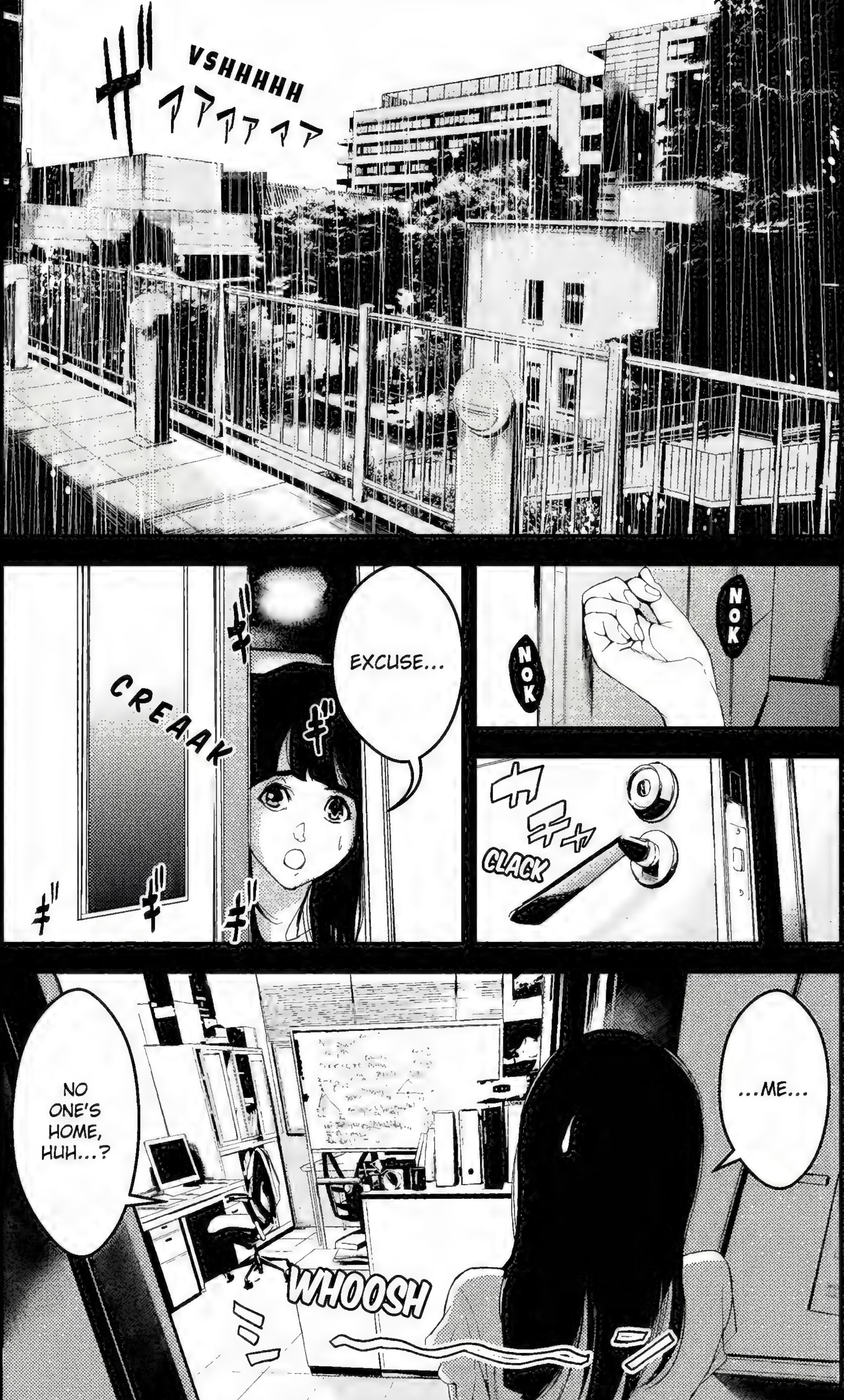

TO BE HONEST, I WAS SHOCKED.
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT BOOKWORM WAS CAPABLE OF SUCH GROUNDBREAKING DISCOVERIES...
...AND I COULDN'T BELIEVE HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND JUST HOW IMPORTANT THEY WERE.
BUT THANKS TO HIM, I HAD A REPUTATION NOW. PEOPLE KNEW MY NAME.
IT SEEMED THINGS WERE FINALLY GOING MY WAY...

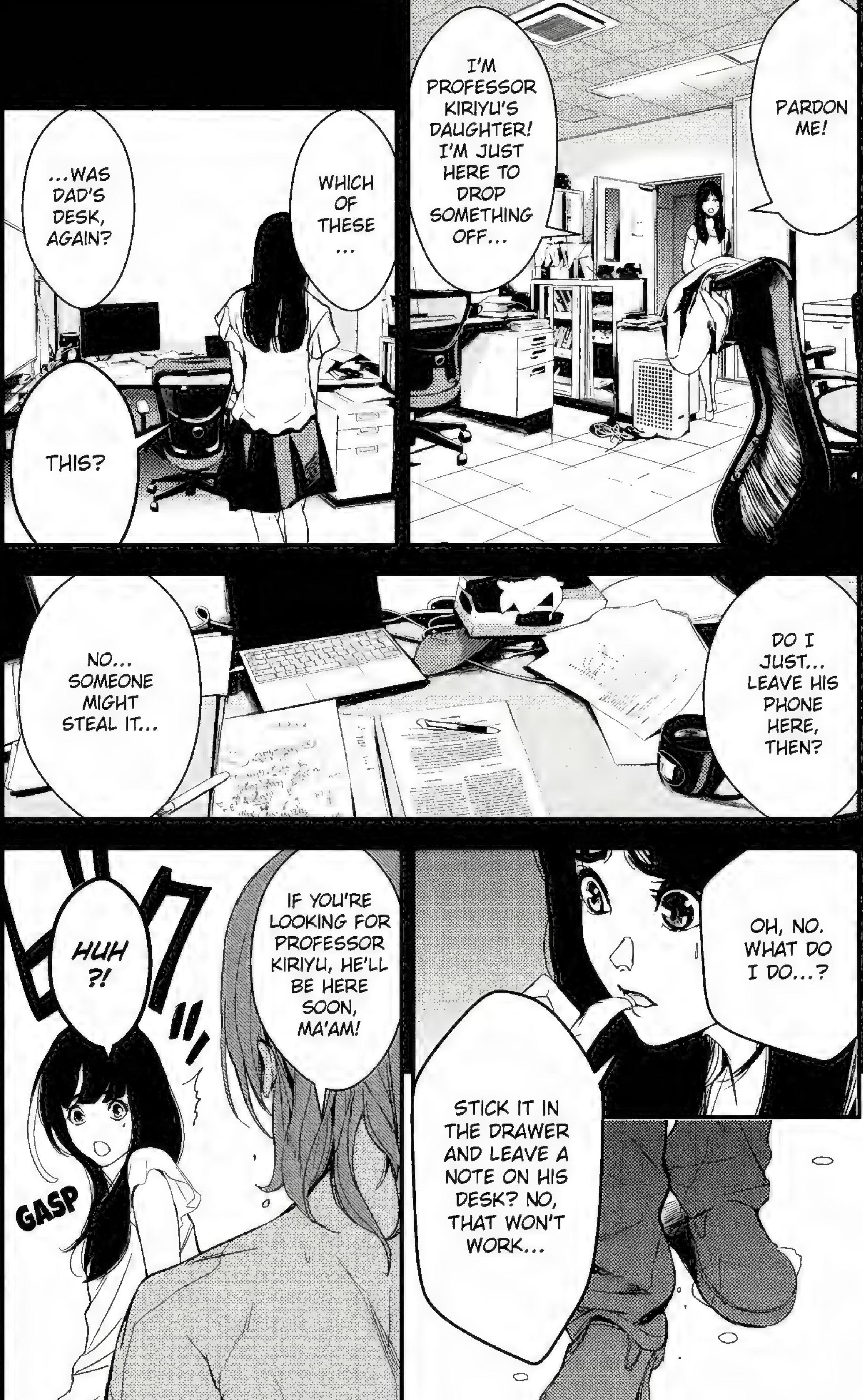

TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK
...HMM?
NO! CULT
CLACK
IT'S OPEN...
E... EXCUSE ME, SIR!!
WHOA!!
FWAP

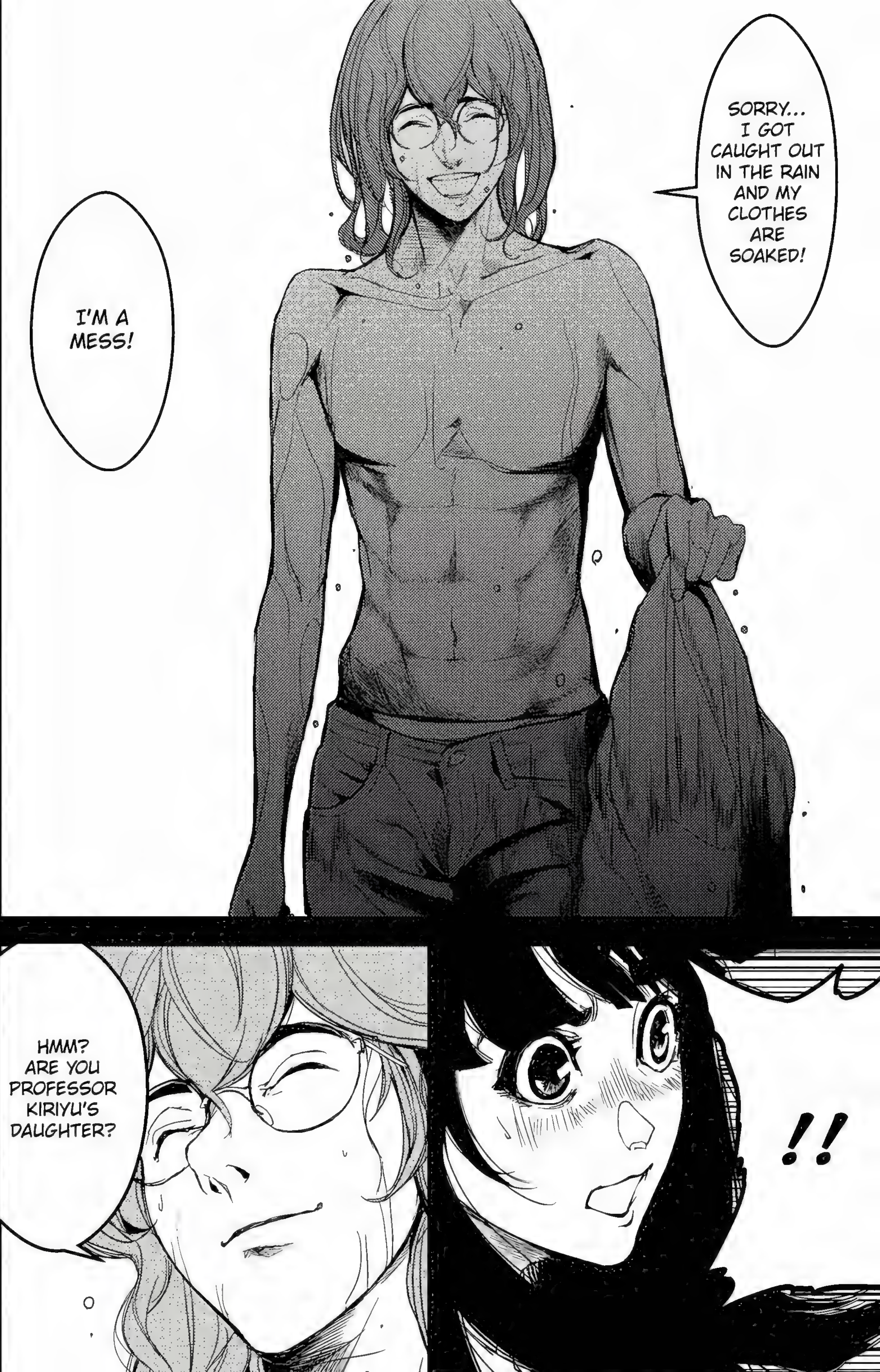

TERRIBLY SORRY!!
ヒタ TAP ヒタ TAP
ヒタ TAP ヒタ TAP ヒタ TAP
...WHO...
WHO THE HELL WAS THAT?
WHAT WAS HE-
OH!
GOOD MORNING, PROFESSOR!
カチャ CLICK
カチャ CLICK
...?!


Y... YAMABIKI, YOU-
SORRY... I WAS UP ALL NIGHT WRITING AND, WELL... YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY! EXHAUSTION REALLY GIVES YOU QUITE AN... APPETITE...
AAH! IT'S LIKE A LOAD HAS BEEN LIFTED...
FWIP ぐりん
FWIP ぐりん
THIS KID... SWINGS BOTH WAYS, HUH...?
I'VE GOT THE DETAILS NAILED DOWN NOW, MORE OR LESS. I SHOT YOU AN EMAIL ABOUT IT. GIVE IT A LOOK WHEN YOU CAN!
I'M BEAT, SO I'M GOING HOME.
WHAT IS THIS?!
WHAT? WHAT? WHAT?!

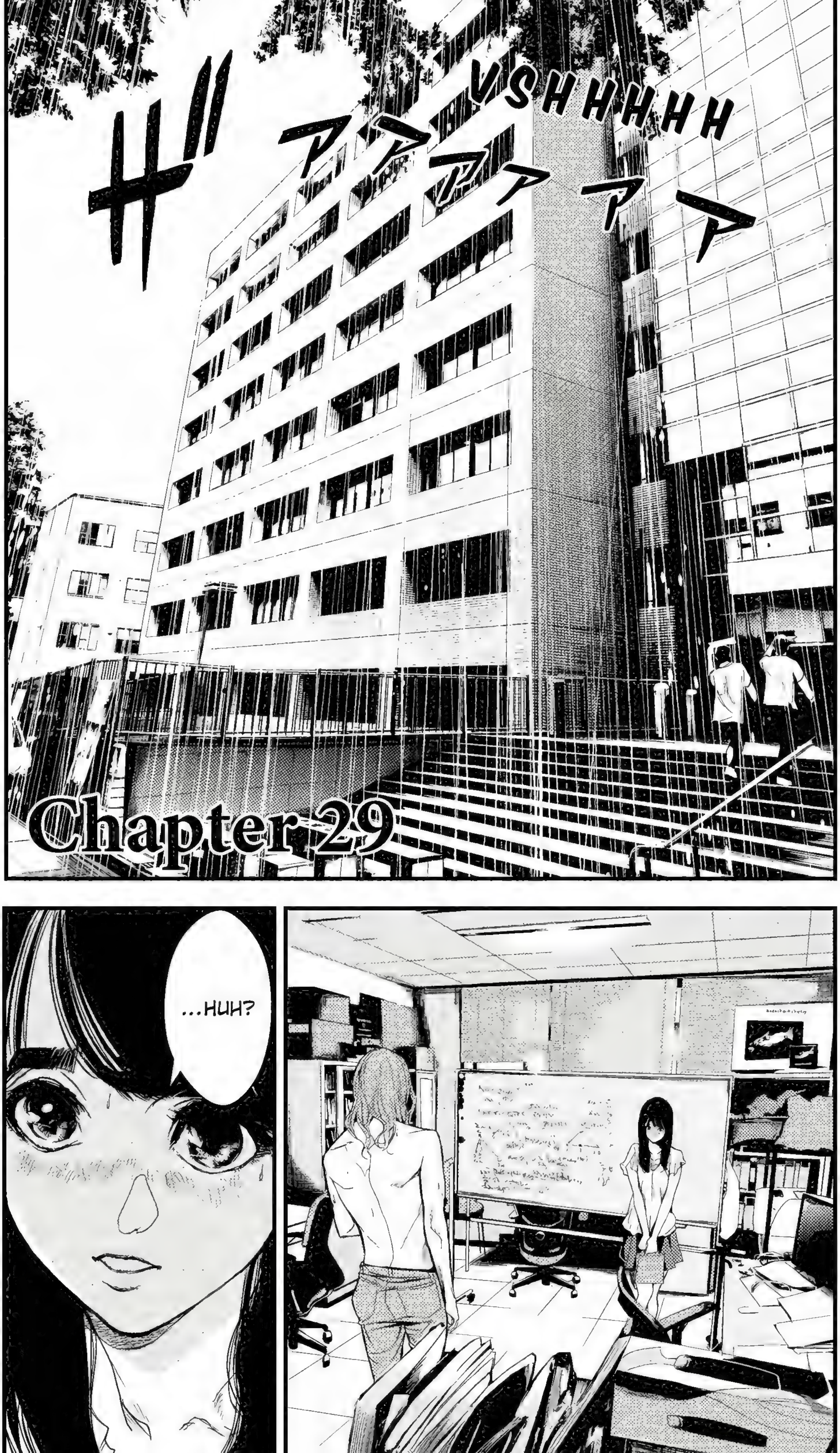

IT'S...
PERFECT...
YOU KNOW, I'M BEGINNING TO THINK...
...I'VE FOUND MY GOLDEN GOOSE...
THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS, EVER SINCE HE SHOWED UP...
...THE LAB'S BEEN MAKING PROGRESS BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS.
HE MAY BE LACKING IN COMMON SENSE...
...PARTICULARLY WHEN HE'S THINKING WITH HIS... LOWER HALF...
...BUT I SUPPOSE I CAN TURN A BLIND EYE TO HIS... PROCLIVITIES.
I CAN'T KILL MY GOOSE. THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING.

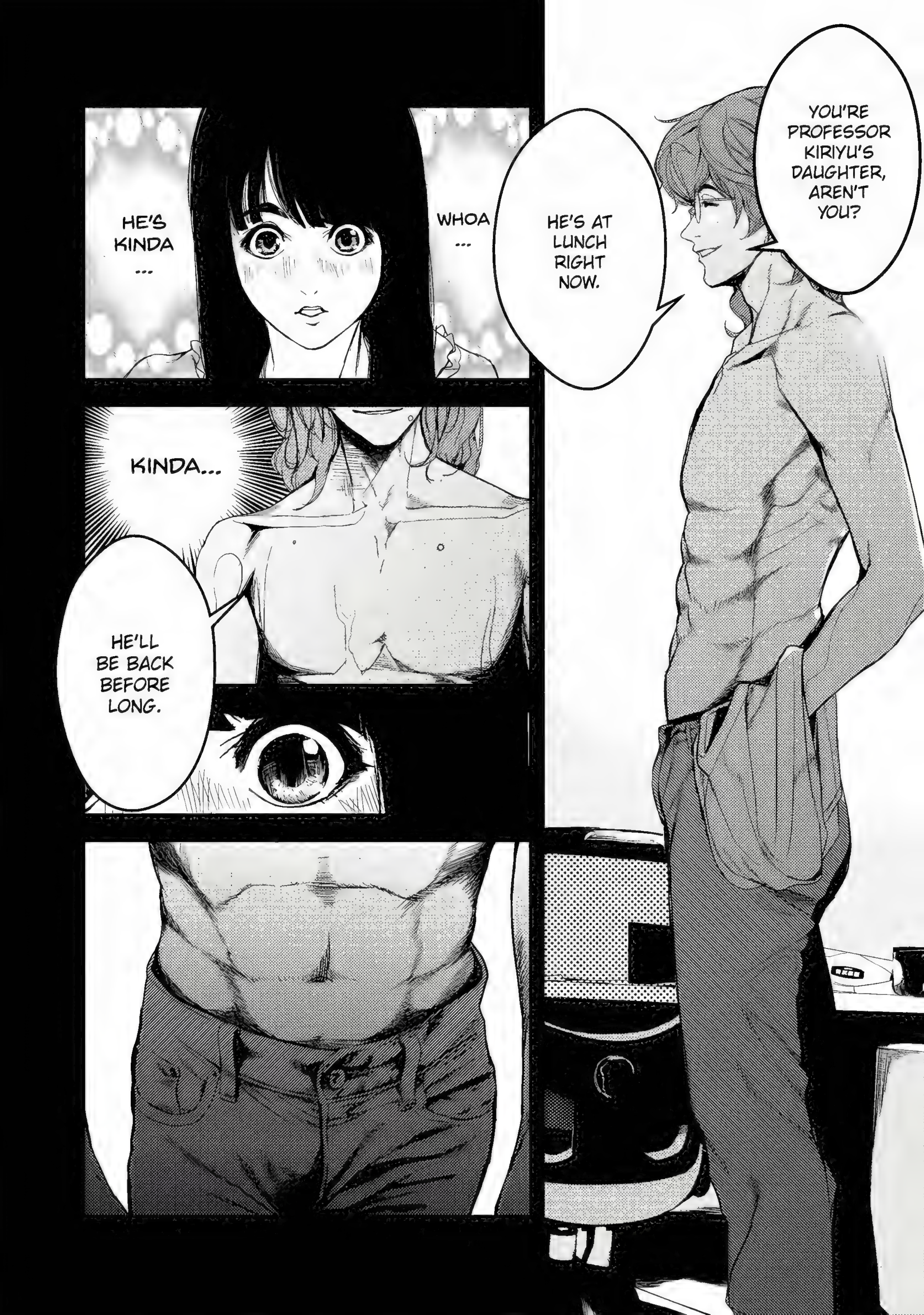

ザァァァァァ
VSHHHHH
NOK
NOK
カチャ
CLACK
CREAAK
ギ ギ ギ ギ ギ
EXCUSE…
…ME…
NO ONE'S HOME, HUH…?
WHOOSH

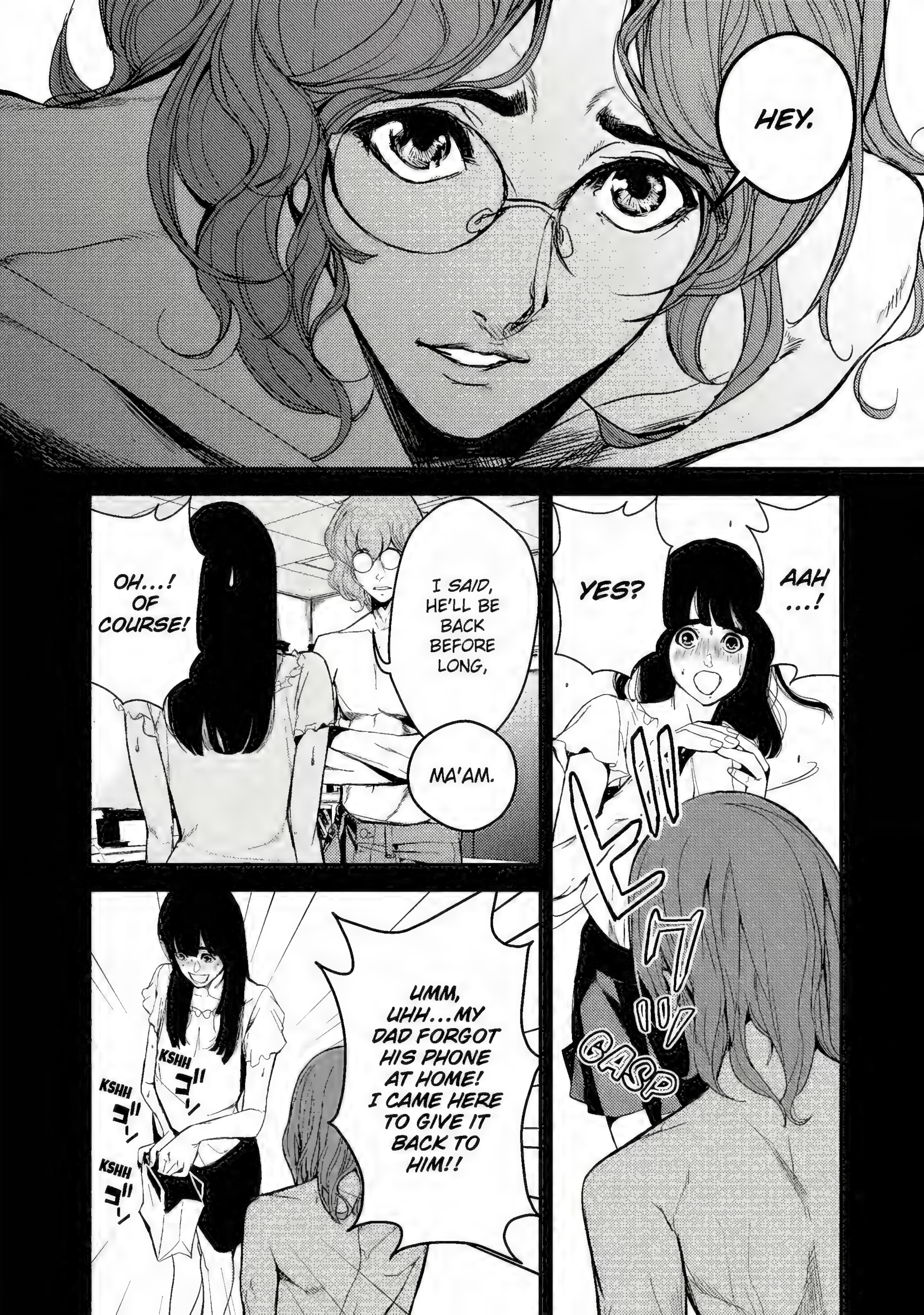

PARDON ME!
I'M PROFESSOR KIRIYU'S DAUGHTER! I'M JUST HERE TO DROP SOMETHING OFF...
WHICH OF THESE...
...WAS DAD'S DESK, AGAIN?
THIS?
DO I JUST... LEAVE HIS PHONE HERE, THEN?
NO... SOMEONE MIGHT STEAL IT...
OH, NO. WHAT DO I DO...?
STICK IT IN THE DRAWER AND LEAVE A NOTE ON HIS DESK? NO, THAT WON'T WORK...
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR PROFESSOR KIRIYU, HE'LL BE HERE SOON, MA'AM!
HUH ?!
GASP

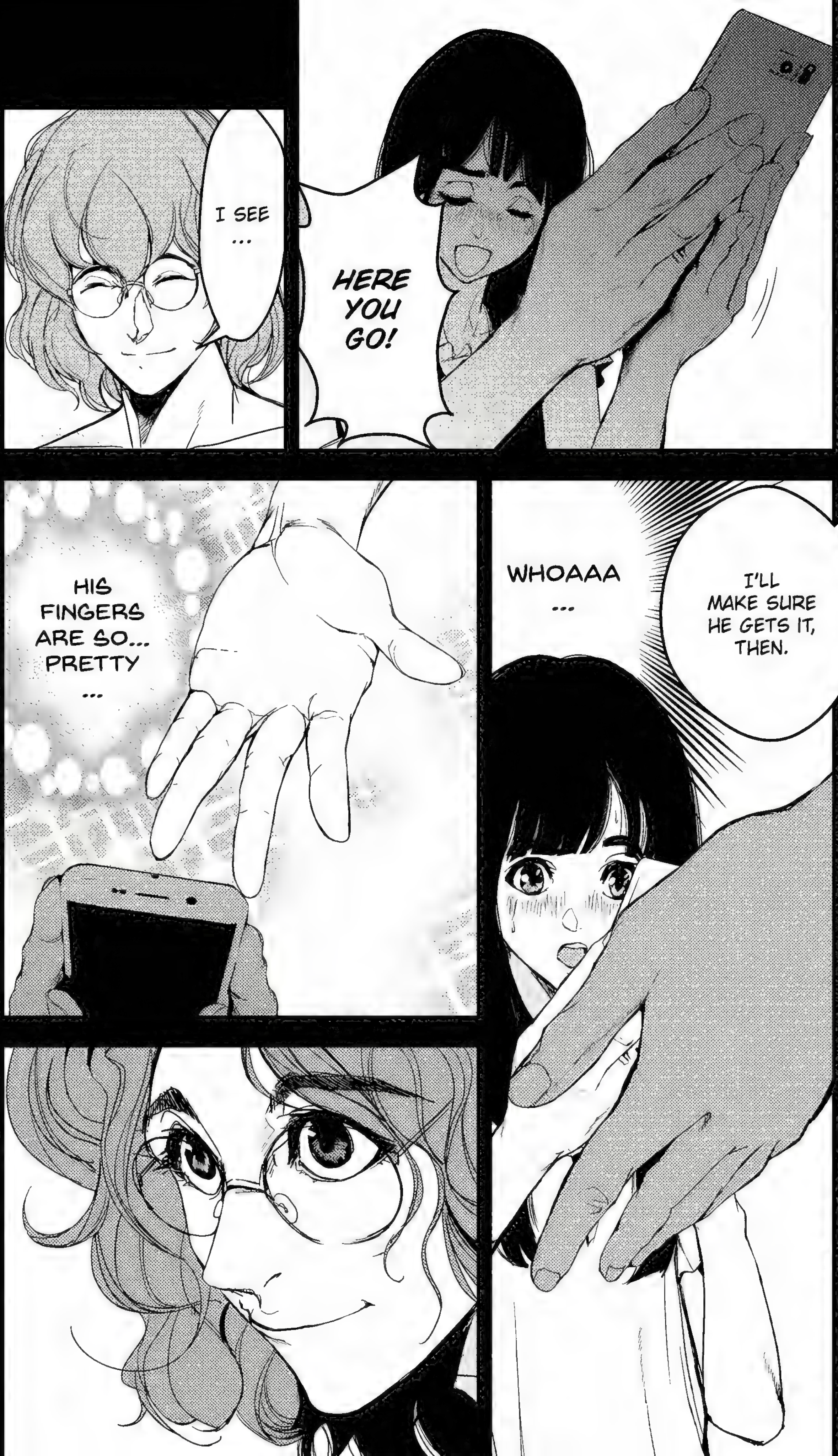

SORRY... I GOT CAUGHT OUT IN THE RAIN AND MY CLOTHES ARE SOAKED!
I'M A MESS!
!!
HMM? ARE YOU PROFESSOR KIRIYU'S DAUGHTER?

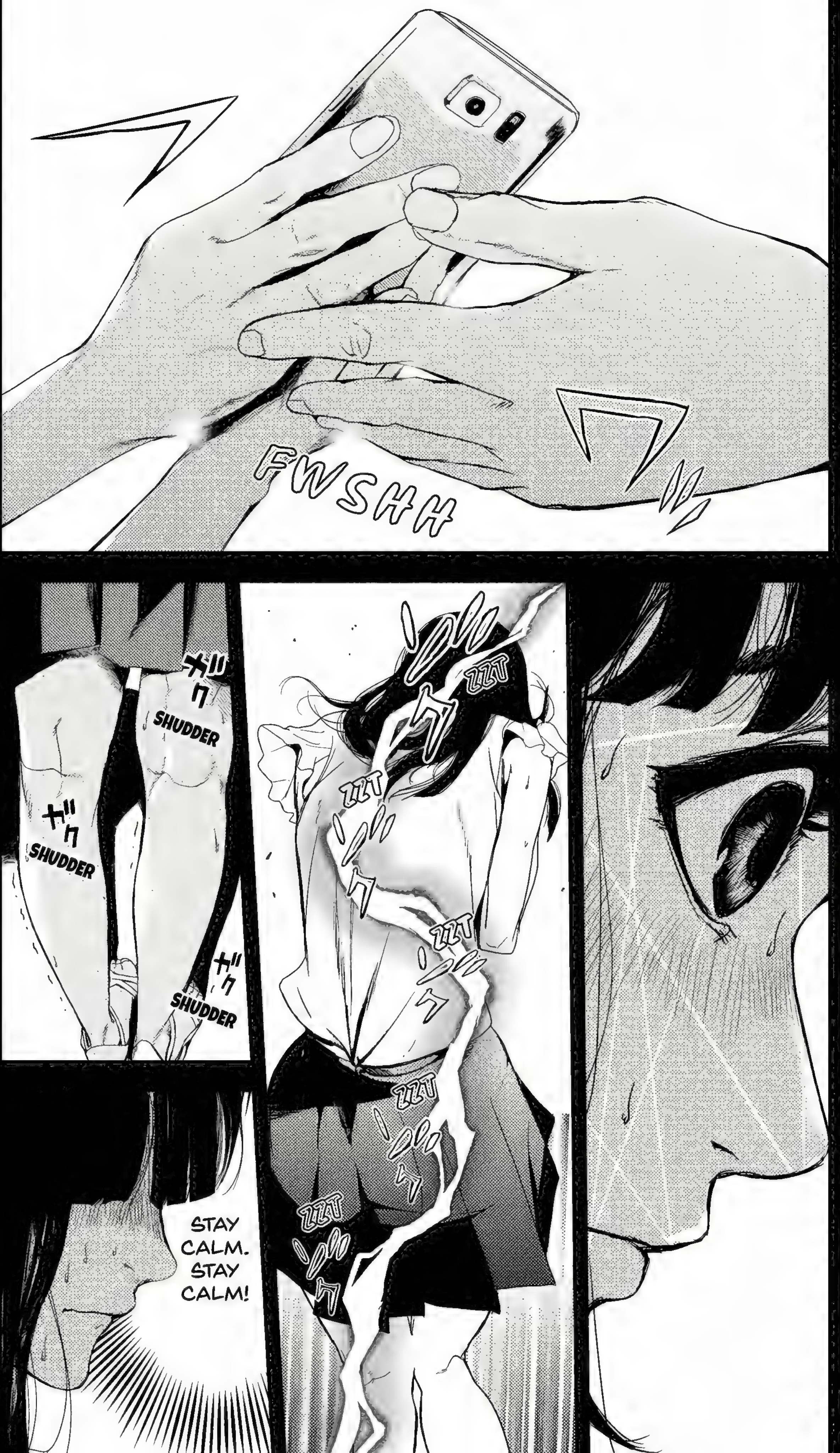
Chapter 29

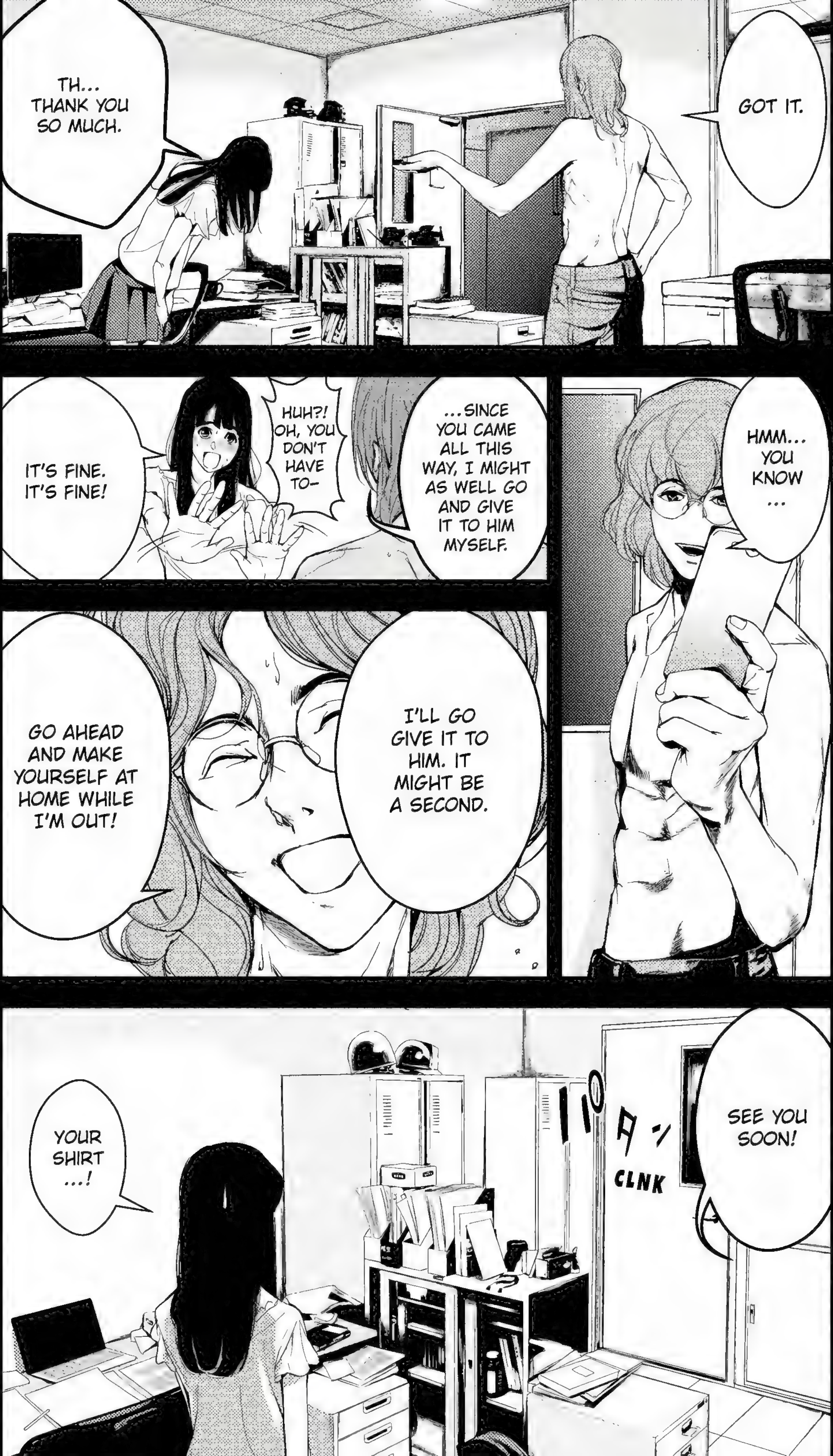

ザァァァァァ
VSHHHHHH
...HUH?

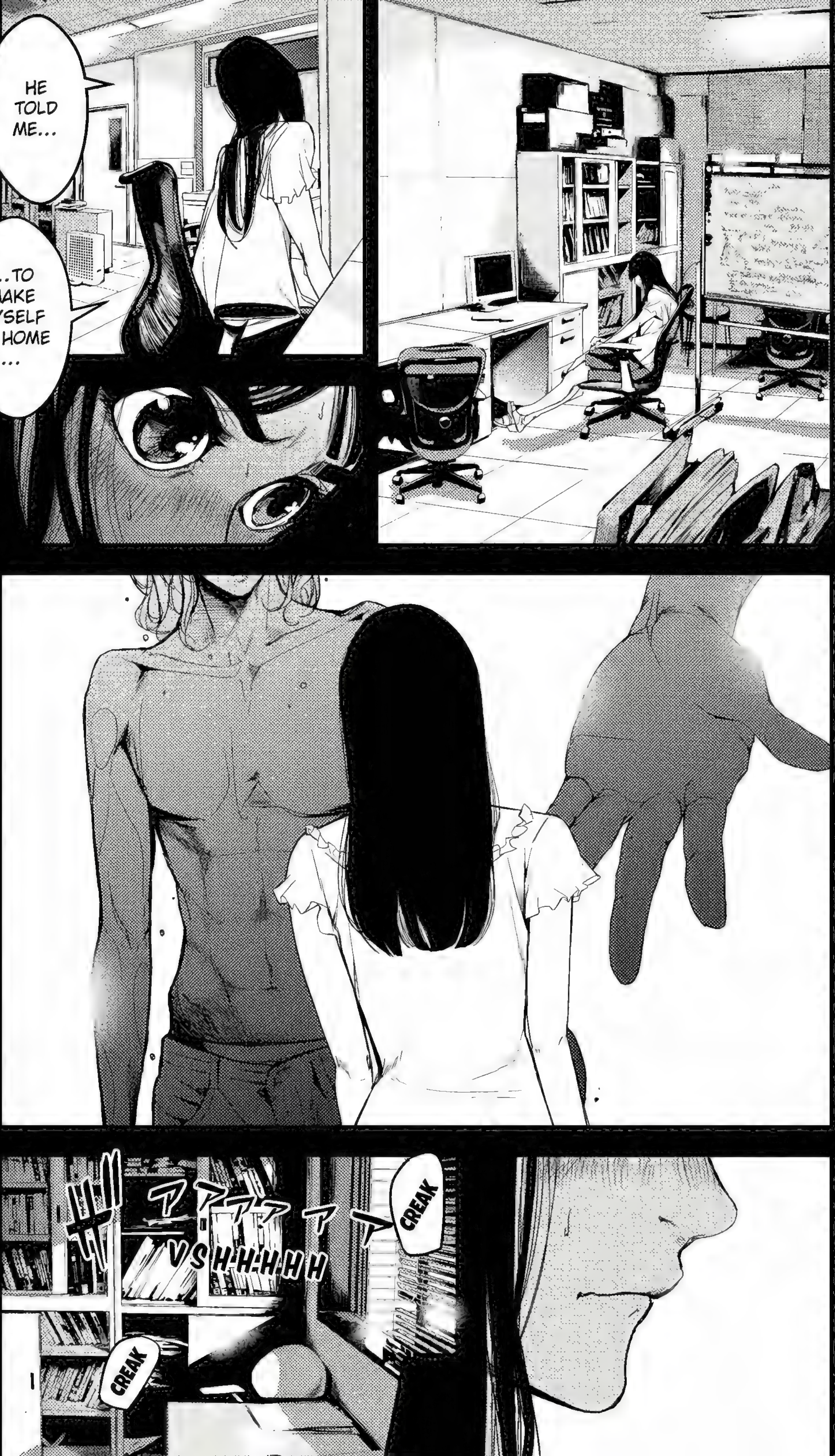

YOU'RE PROFESSOR KIRIYU'S DAUGHTER, AREN'T YOU?
HE'S AT LUNCH RIGHT NOW.
WHOA ...
HE'S KINDA ...
KINDA...
HE'LL BE BACK BEFORE LONG.

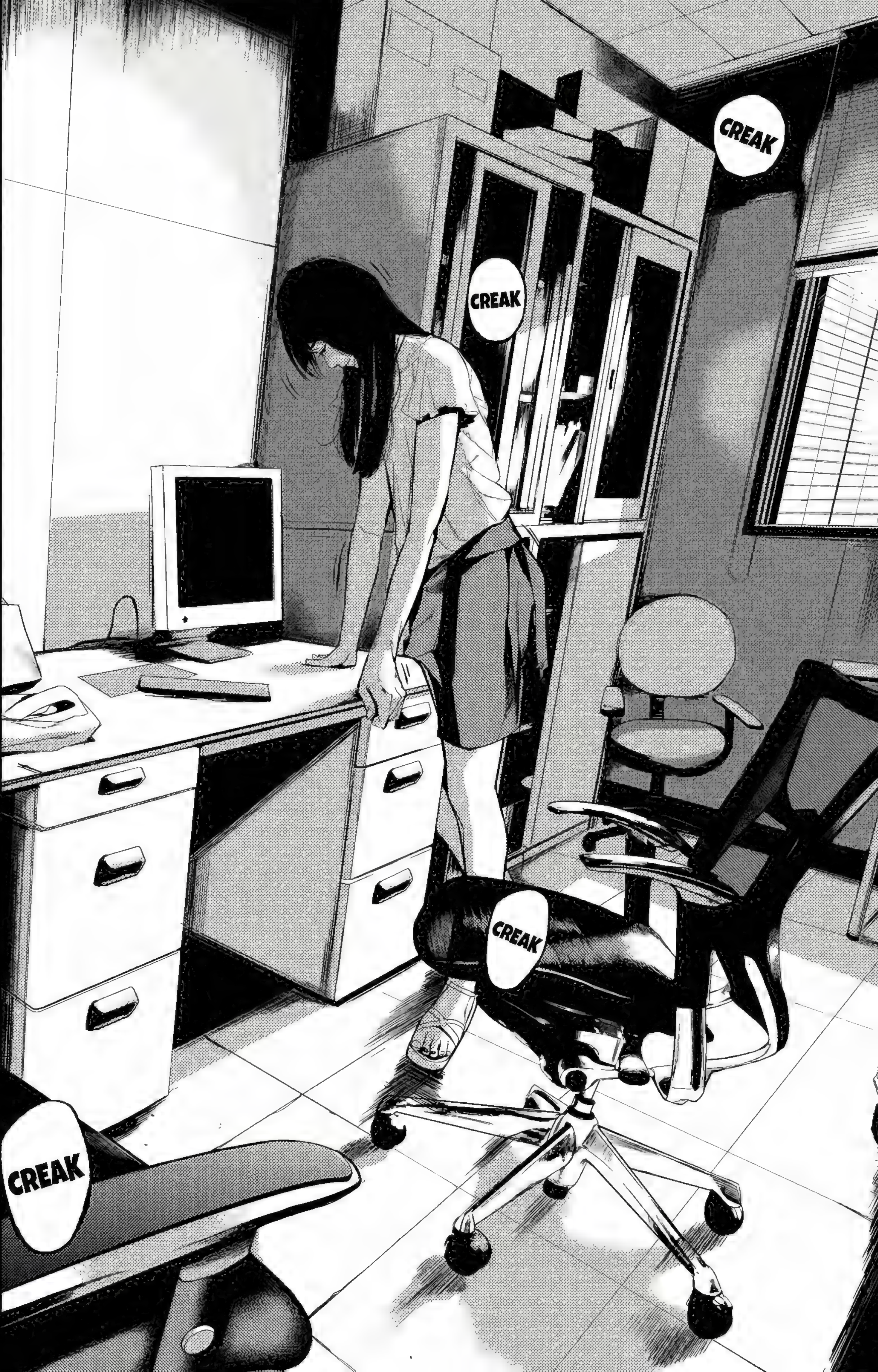

HEY.
YES?
AAH ...!
GASP
I SAID, HE'LL BE BACK BEFORE LONG,
MA'AM.
OH...! OF COURSE!
UMM, UHH...MY DAD FORGOT HIS PHONE AT HOME! I CAME HERE TO GIVE IT BACK TO HIM!!
KSHH
KSHH
KSHH

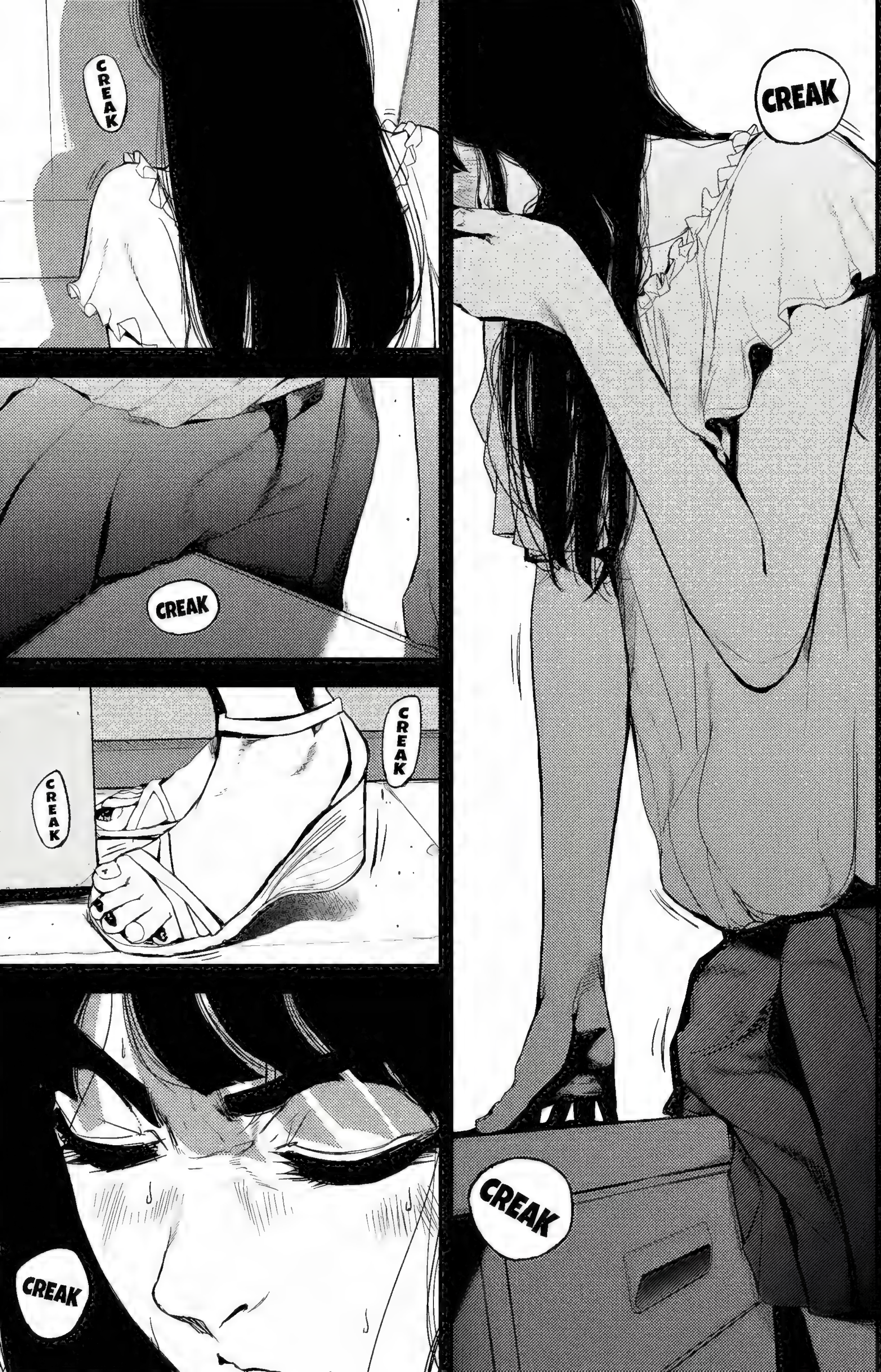

HERE YOU GO!
I SEE ...
I'LL MAKE SURE HE GETS IT, THEN.
WHOAAA ...
HIS FINGERS ARE SO... PRETTY ...

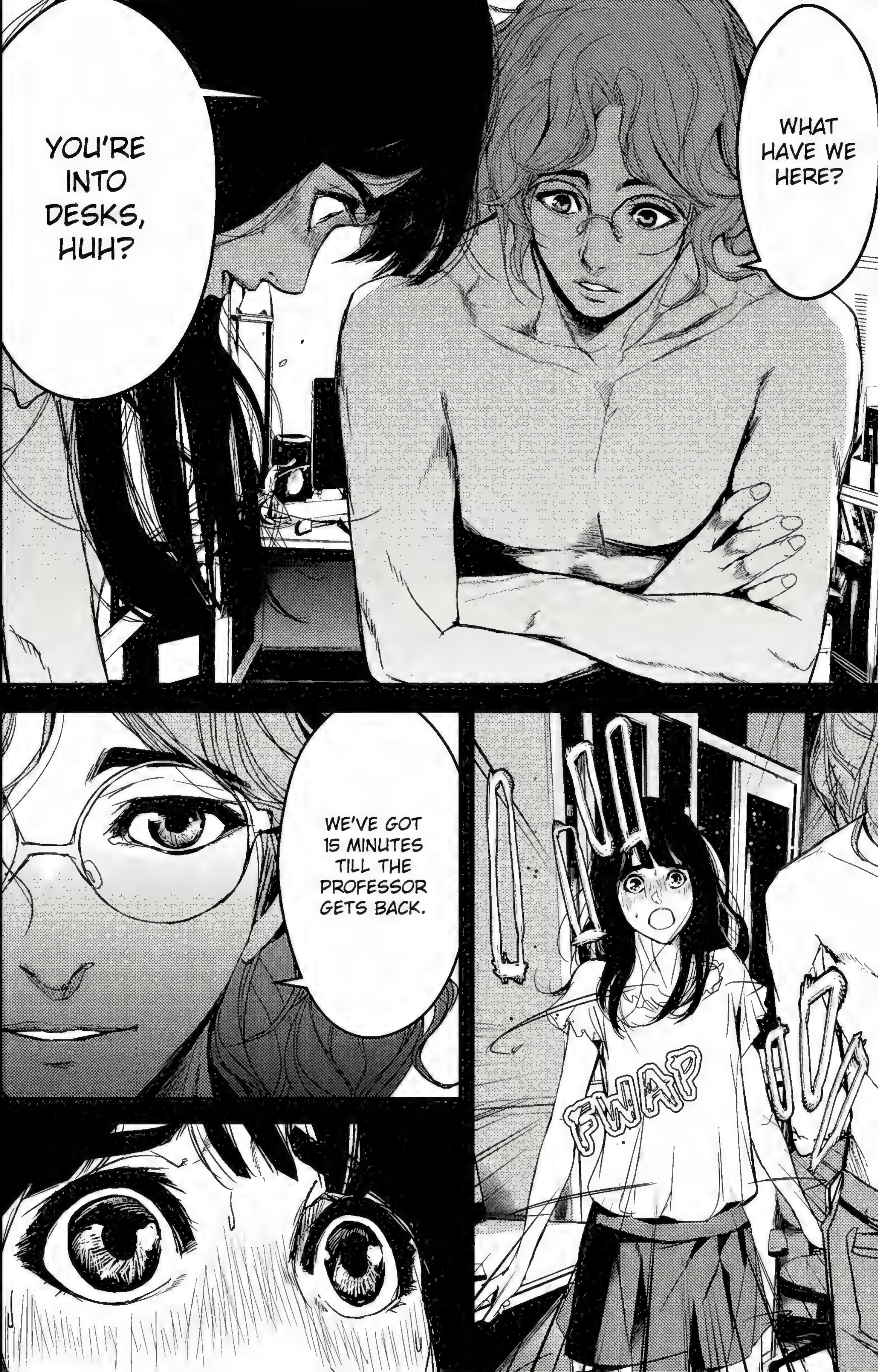

FWSHH
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
ZZZT
ガク
SHUDDER
ガク
SHUDDER
ガク
SHUDDER
STAY CALM. STAY CALM!

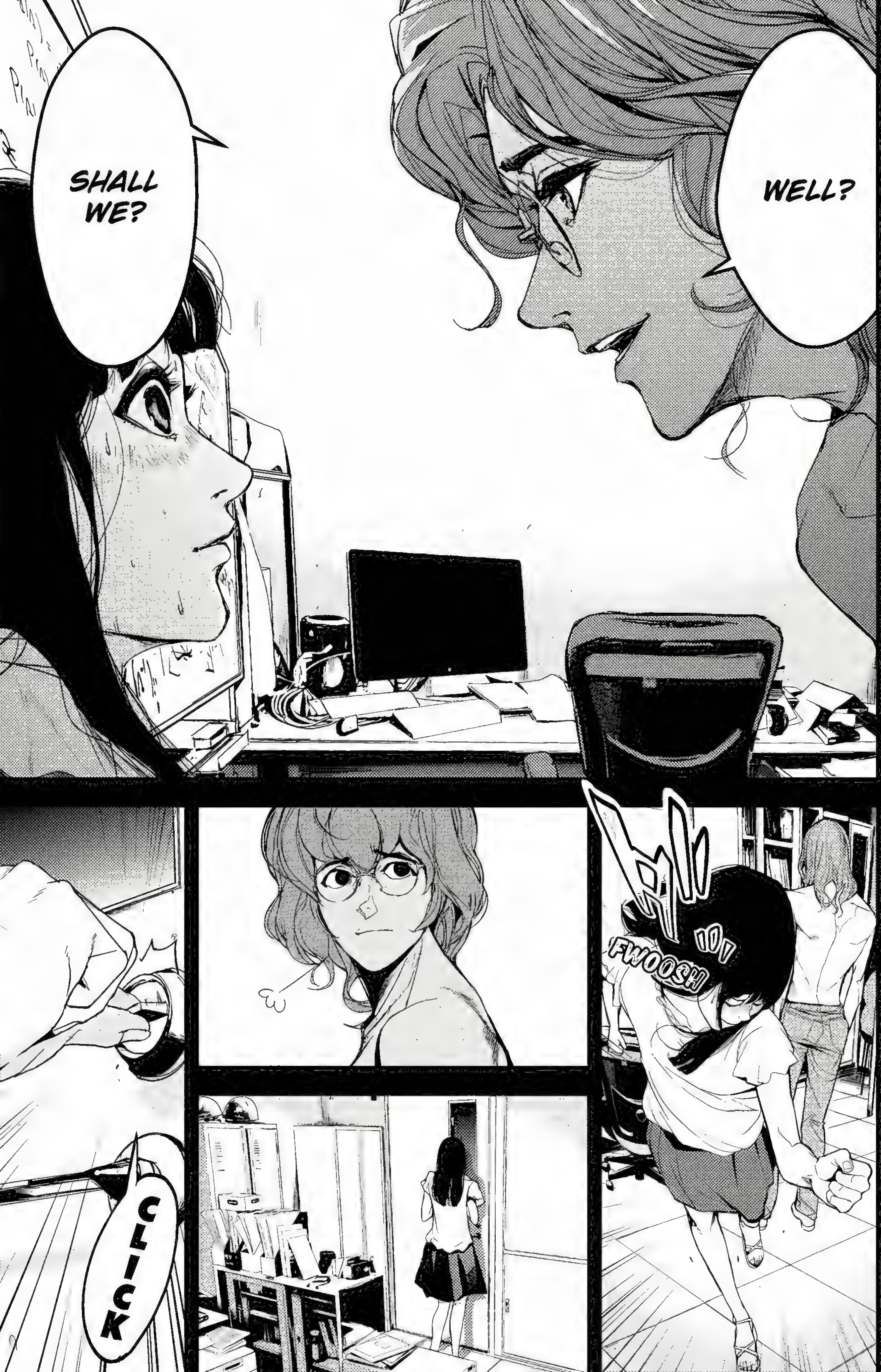

GOT IT.
TH... THANK YOU SO MUCH.
HMM... YOU KNOW ...
...SINCE YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY, I MIGHT AS WELL GO AND GIVE IT TO HIM MYSELF.
HUH?! OH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO-
IT'S FINE. IT'S FINE!
I'LL GO GIVE IT TO HIM. IT MIGHT BE A SECOND.
GO AHEAD AND MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME WHILE I'M OUT!
SEE YOU SOON!
CLNK
YOUR SHIRT ...!

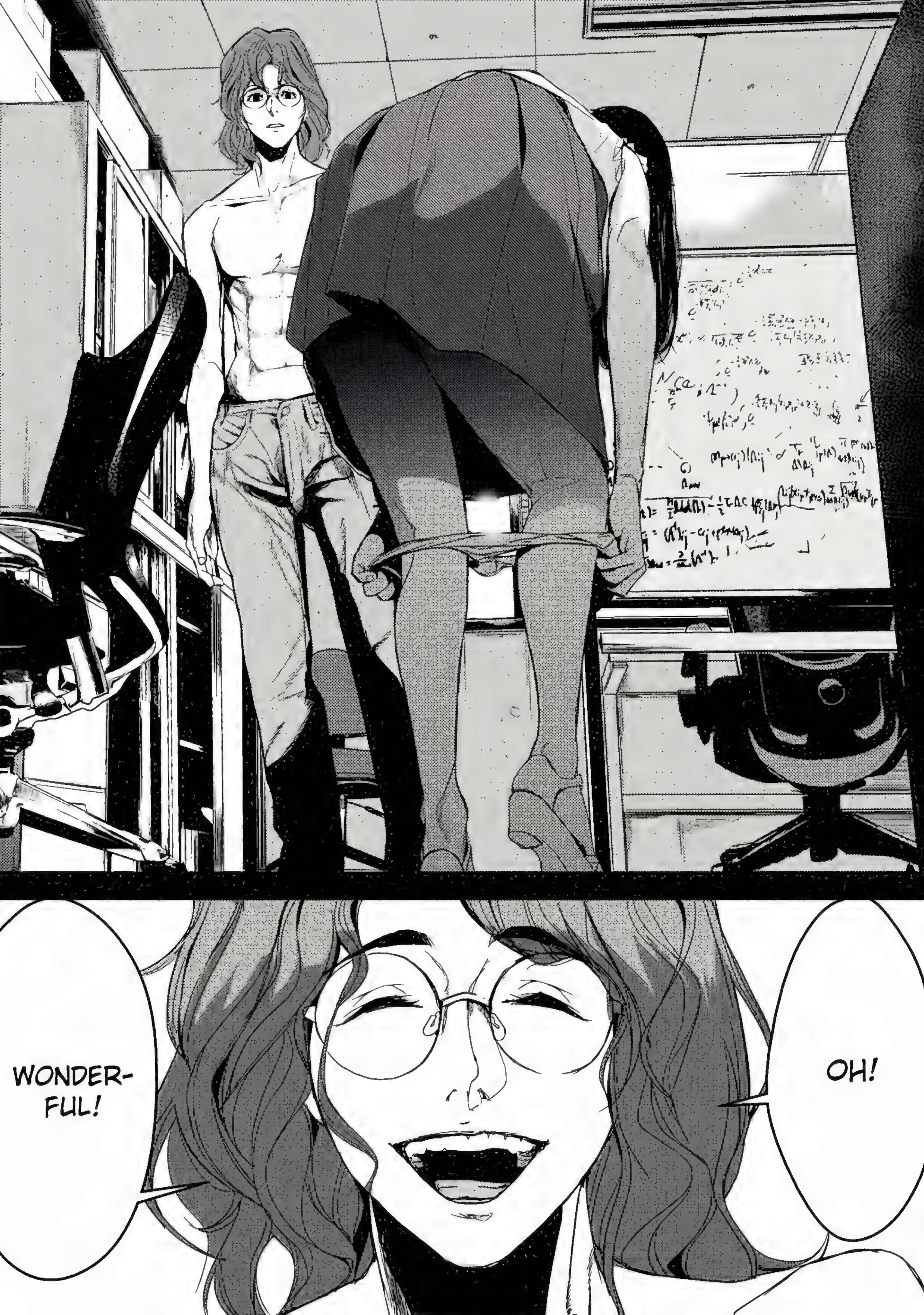

HE TOLD ME...
...TO MAKE MYSELF AT HOME...
CREAK
ァァァァァ
VSHHHHHH
CREAK


CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK

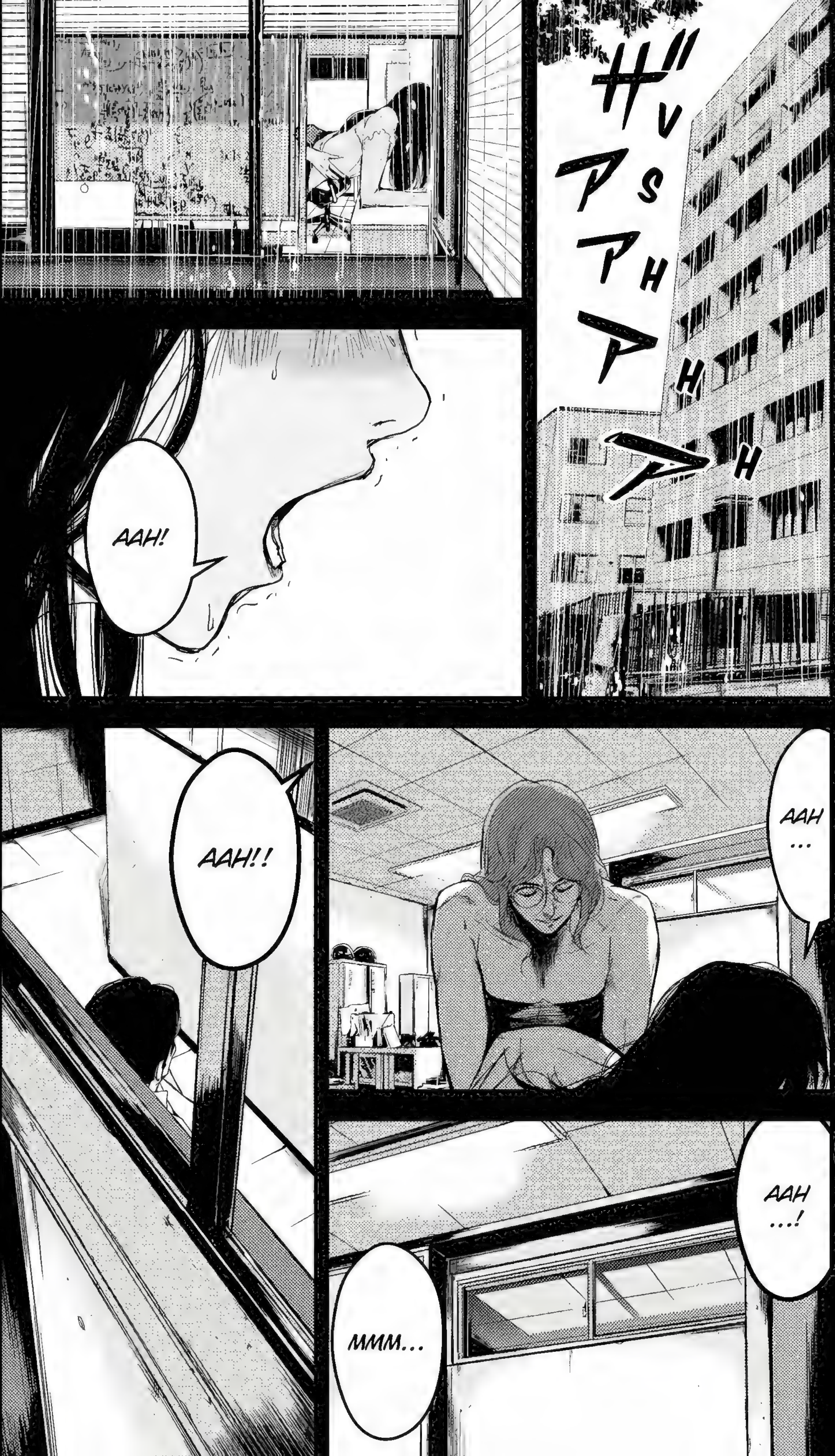

CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK

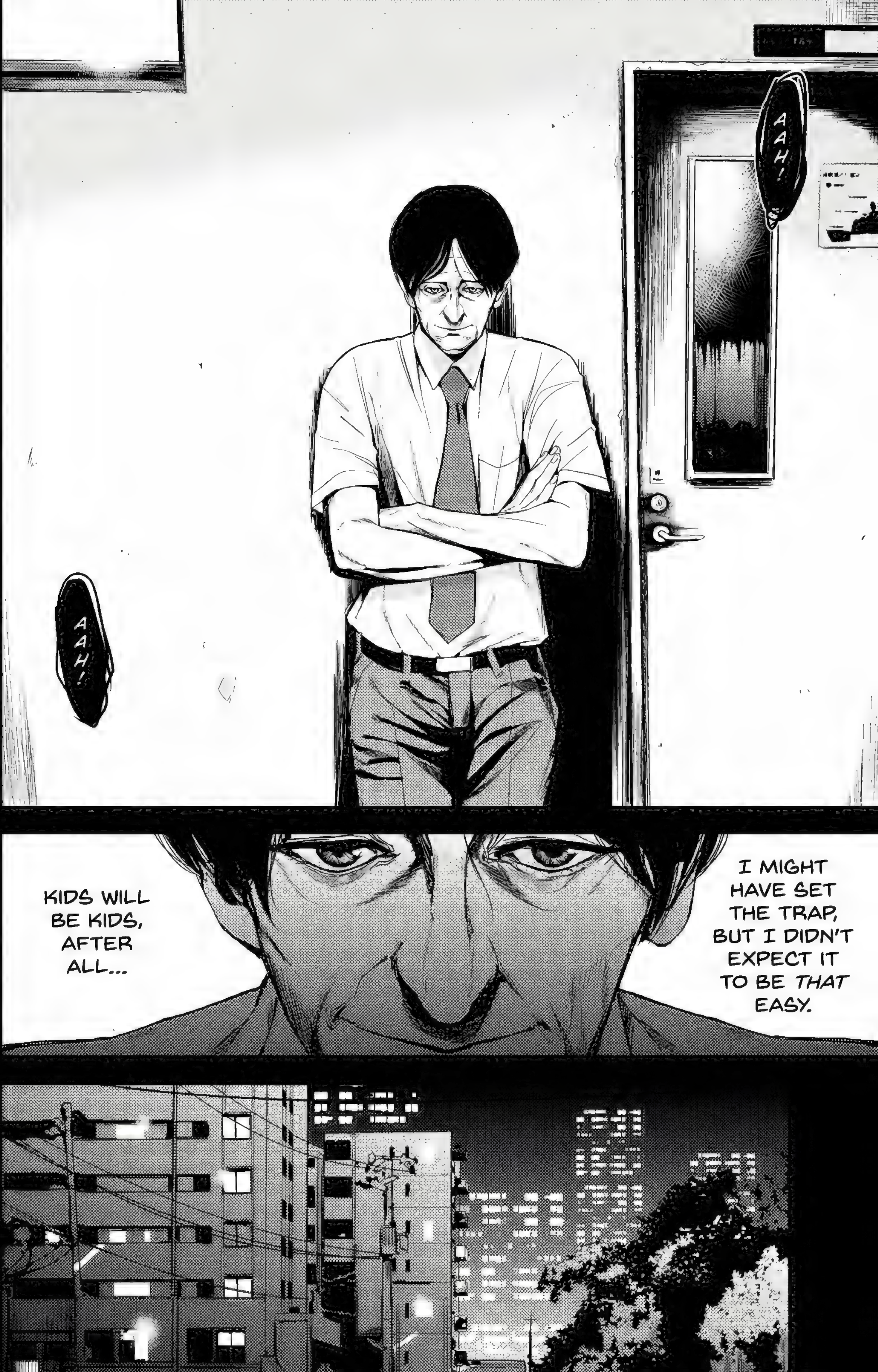

WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
YOU'RE INTO DESKS, HUH?
FWAP
WE'VE GOT 15 MINUTES TILL THE PROFESSOR GETS BACK.

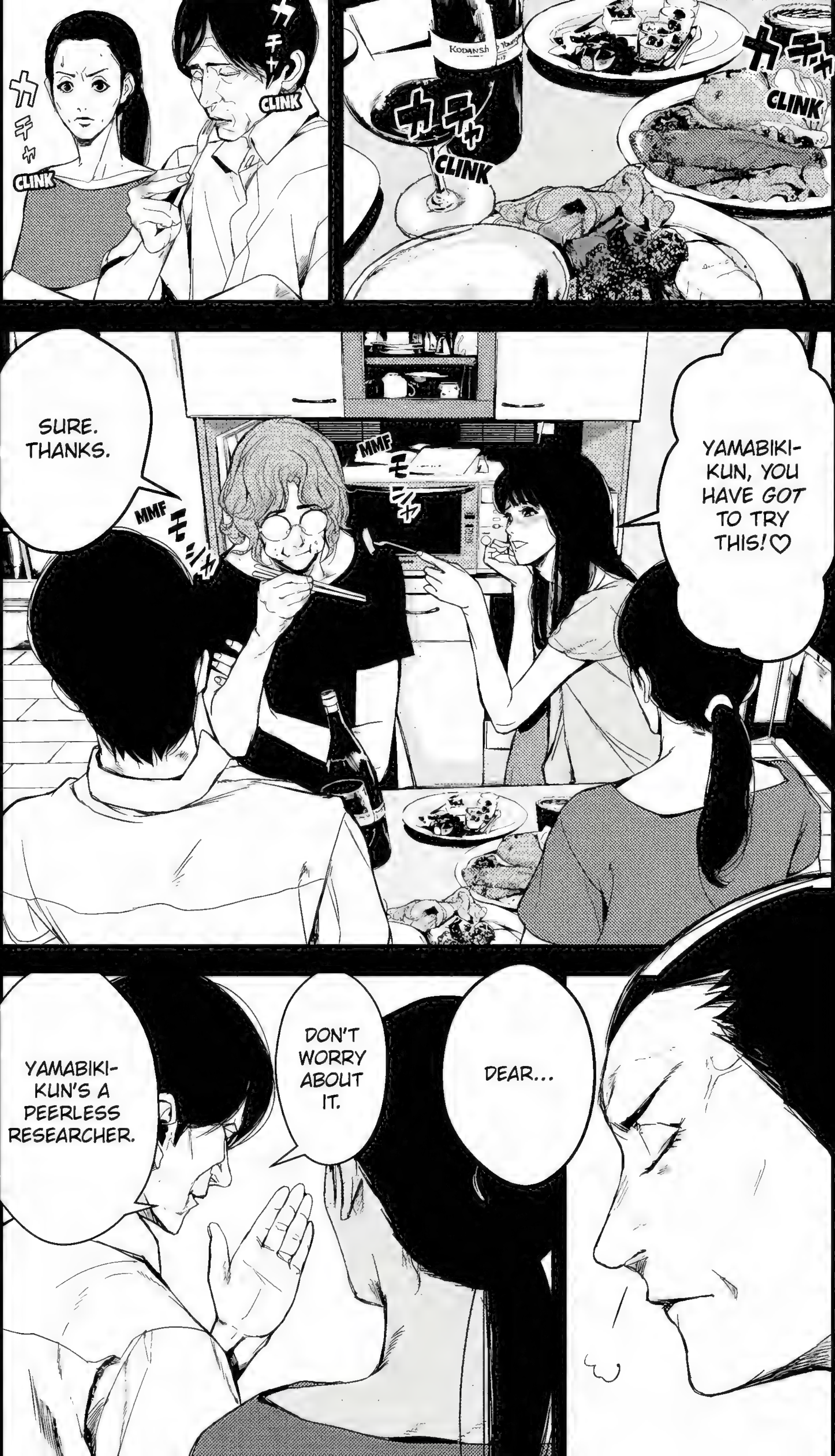

WELL?
SHALL WE?
FWOOSH
CLICK

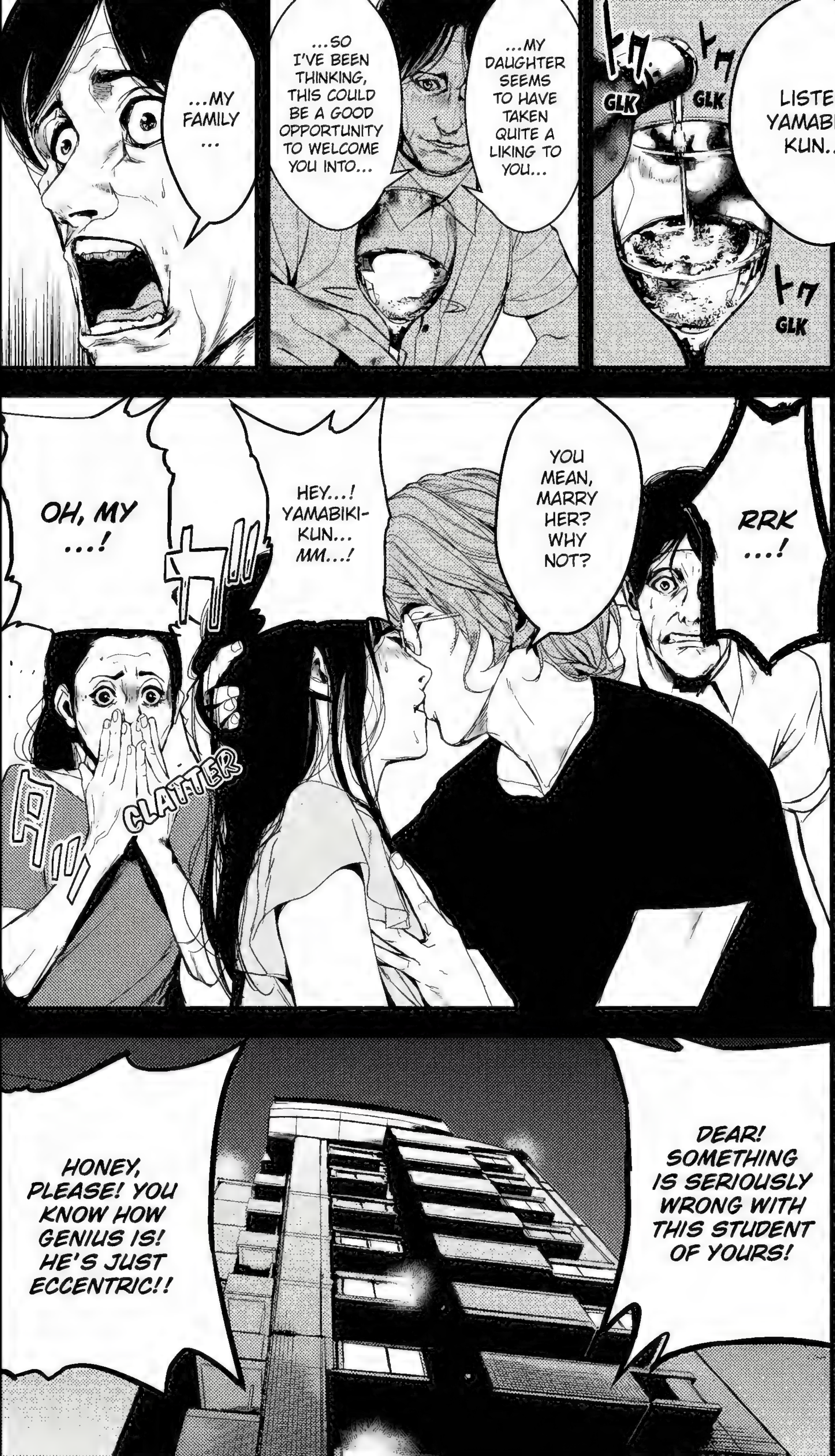


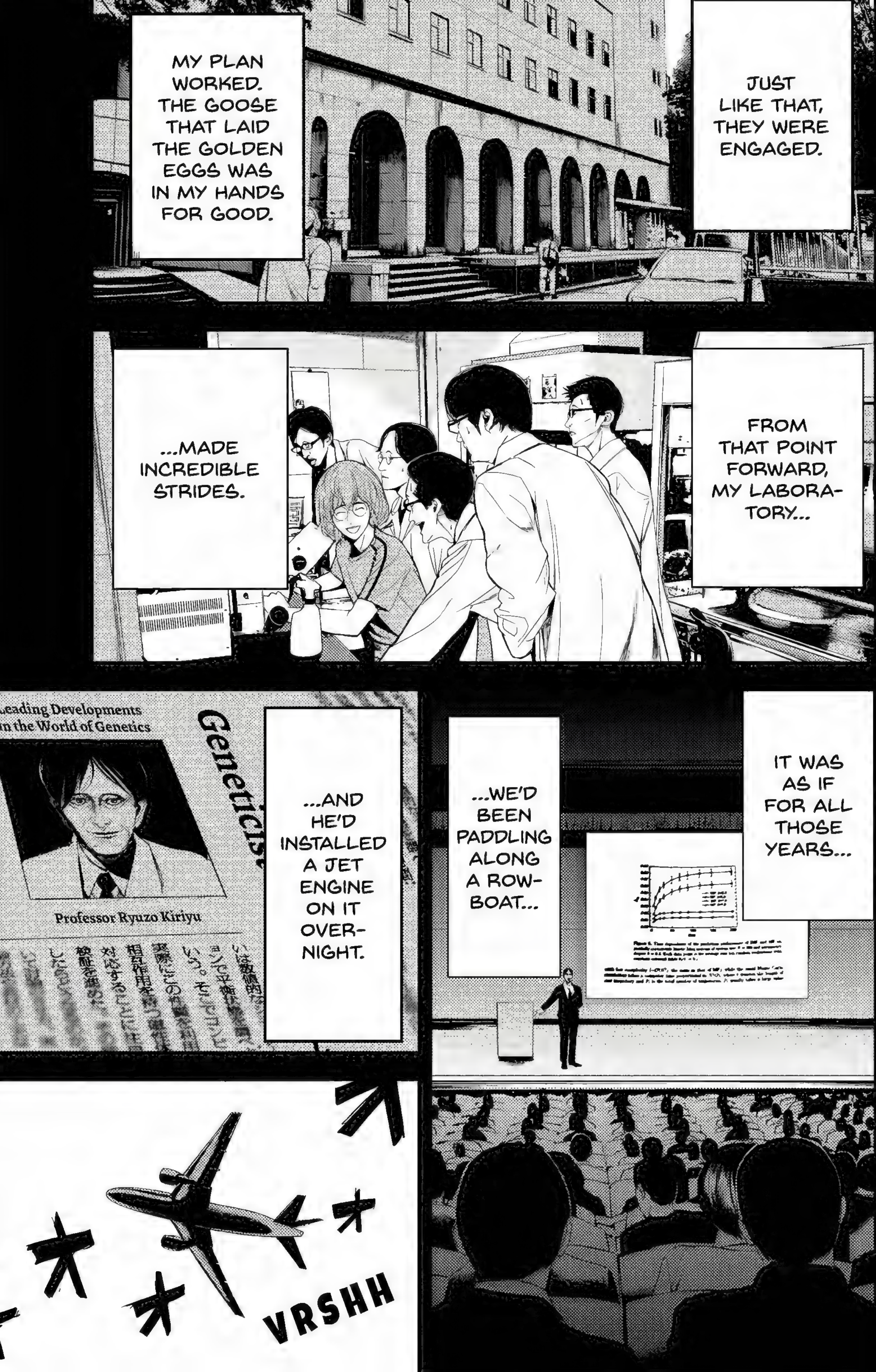
OH!
WONDERFUL!

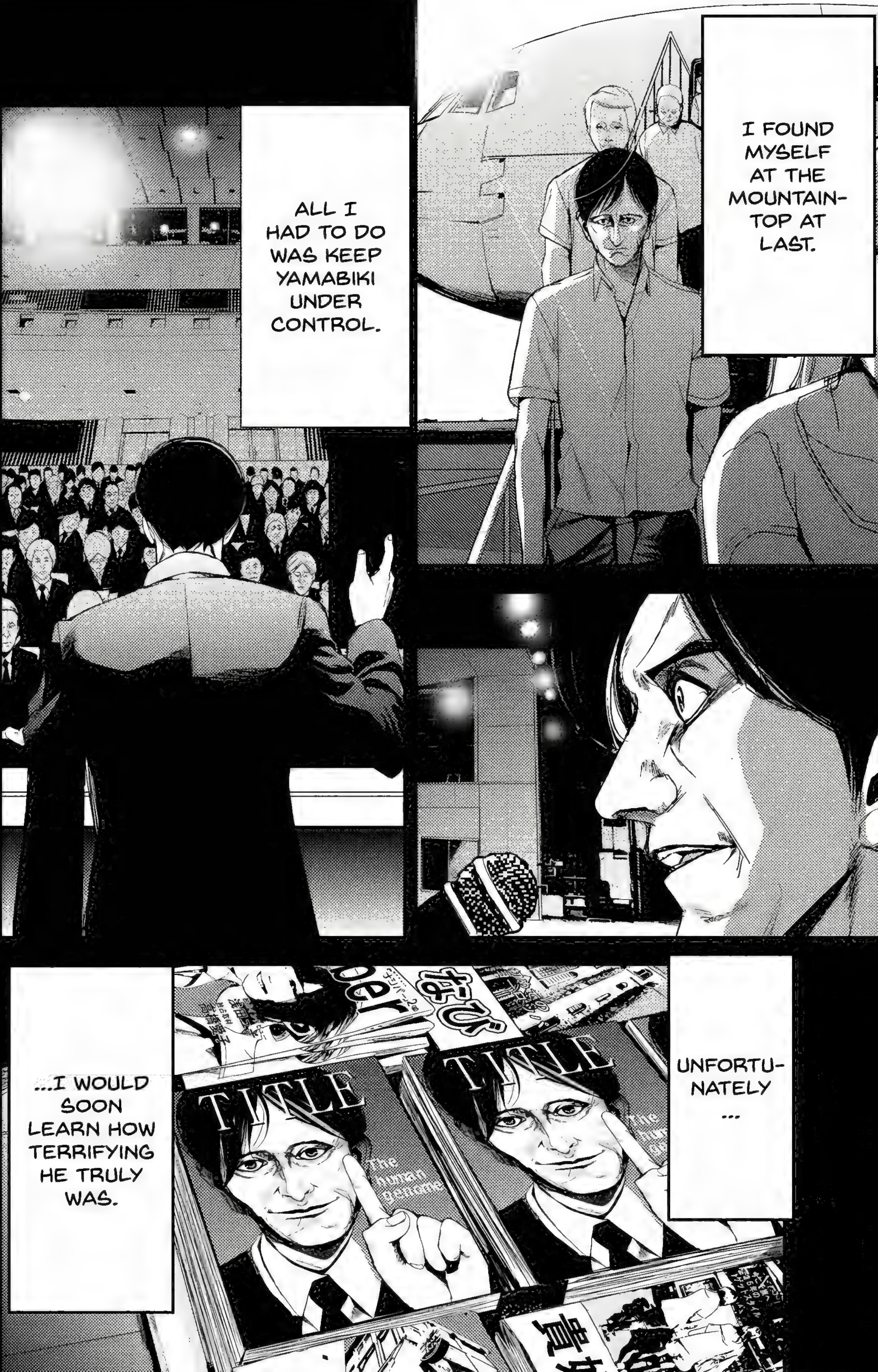

ザァアアア
VSHHHH
AAH!
AAH...
AAH...!
MMM...
AAH!!


AAH!
AAH!
I MIGHT HAVE SET THE TRAP, BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO BE *THAT* EASY.
KIDS WILL BE KIDS, AFTER ALL...

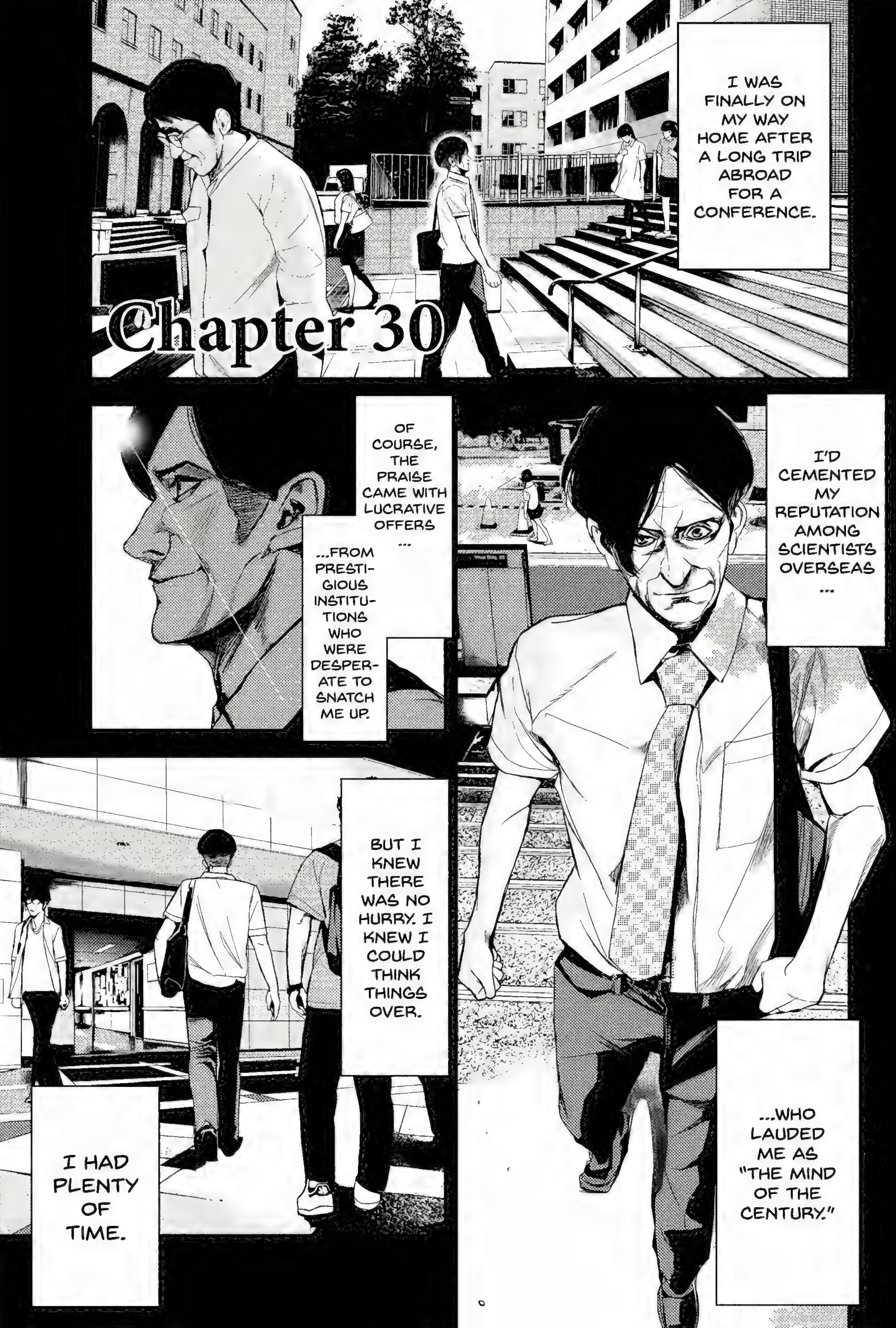

カチャ
CLINK
カチャ
CLINK
カチャ
CLINK
カチャ
CLINK
YAMABIKI-KUN, YOU HAVE *GOT* TO TRY THIS!♡
MMF
モシャ
SURE. THANKS.
MMF
モシャ
DEAR…
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
YAMABIKI-KUN'S A PEERLESS RESEARCHER.

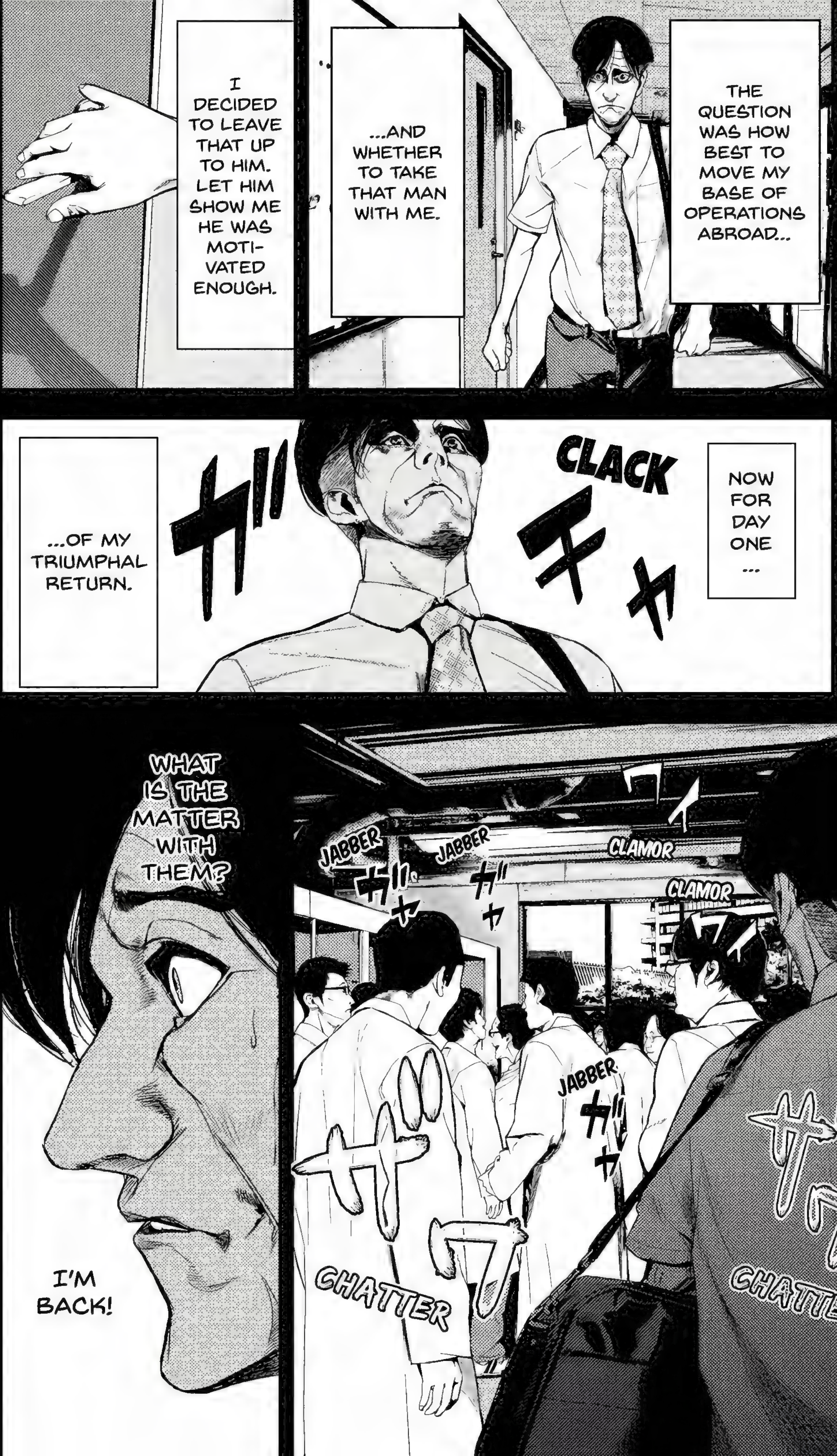

LISTEN, YAMABIKI-KUN...
GLK
GLK
GLK
...MY DAUGHTER SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN QUITE A LIKING TO YOU...
...SO I'VE BEEN THINKING, THIS COULD BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO WELCOME YOU INTO...
...MY FAMILY ...
RRK ...!
YOU MEAN, MARRY HER? WHY NOT?
HEY...! YAMABIKI-KUN... MM...!
OH, MY ...!
CLATTER
DEAR! SOMETHING IS SERIOUSLY WRONG WITH THIS STUDENT OF YOURS!
HONEY, PLEASE! YOU KNOW HOW GENIUS IS! HE'S JUST ECCENTRIC!!

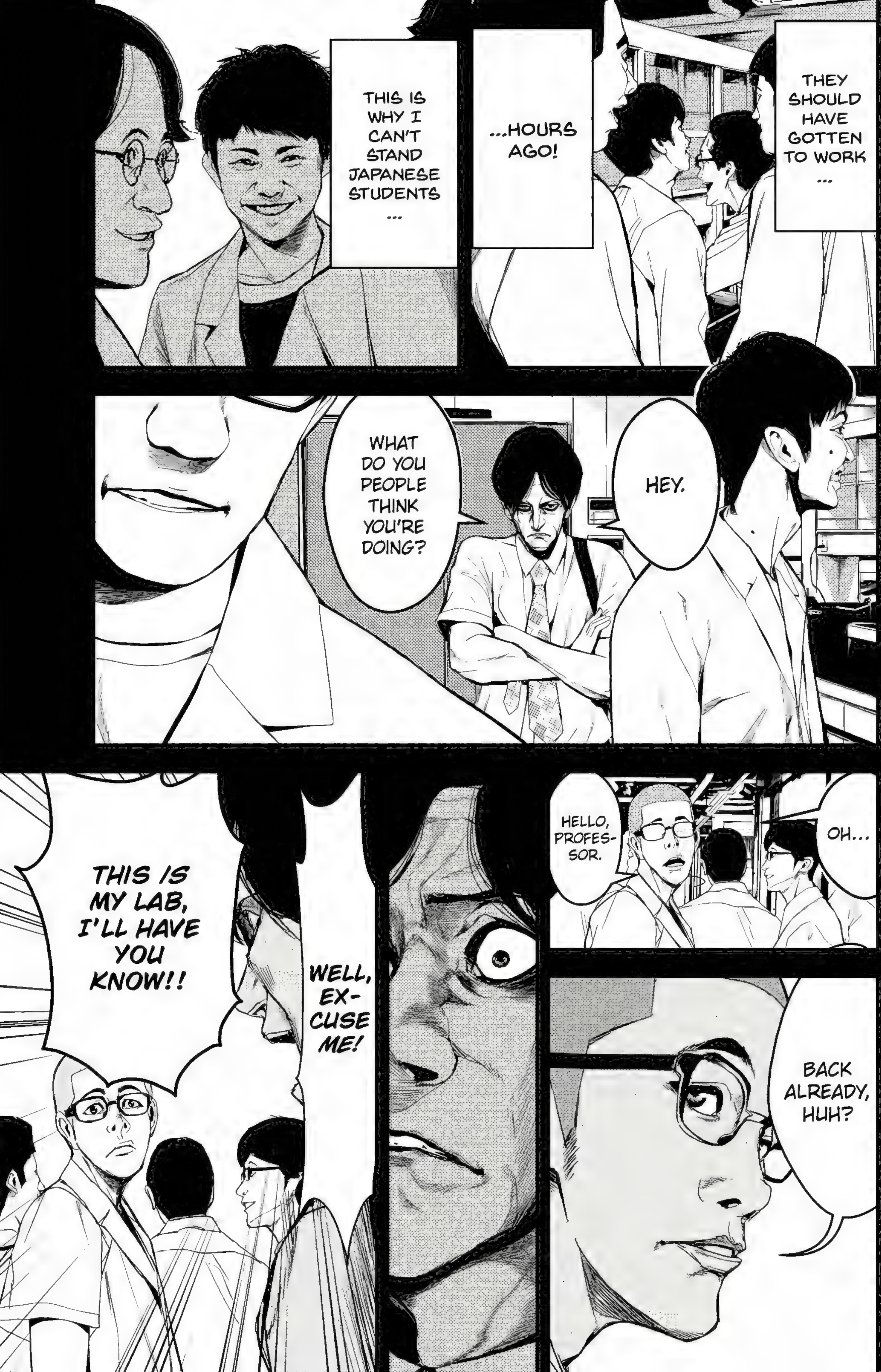

JUST LIKE THAT, THEY WERE ENGAGED.
MY PLAN WORKED. THE GOOSE THAT LAID THE GOLDEN EGGS WAS IN MY HANDS FOR GOOD.
FROM THAT POINT FORWARD, MY LABORATORY...
...MADE INCREDIBLE STRIDES.
IT WAS AS IF FOR ALL THOSE YEARS...
...WE'D BEEN PADDLING ALONG A ROW-BOAT...
...AND HE'D INSTALLED A JET ENGINE ON IT OVERNIGHT.
Leading Developments
in the World of Genetics
Geneticist
Professor Ryuzo Kiriyu
オオオオ
VRSHH

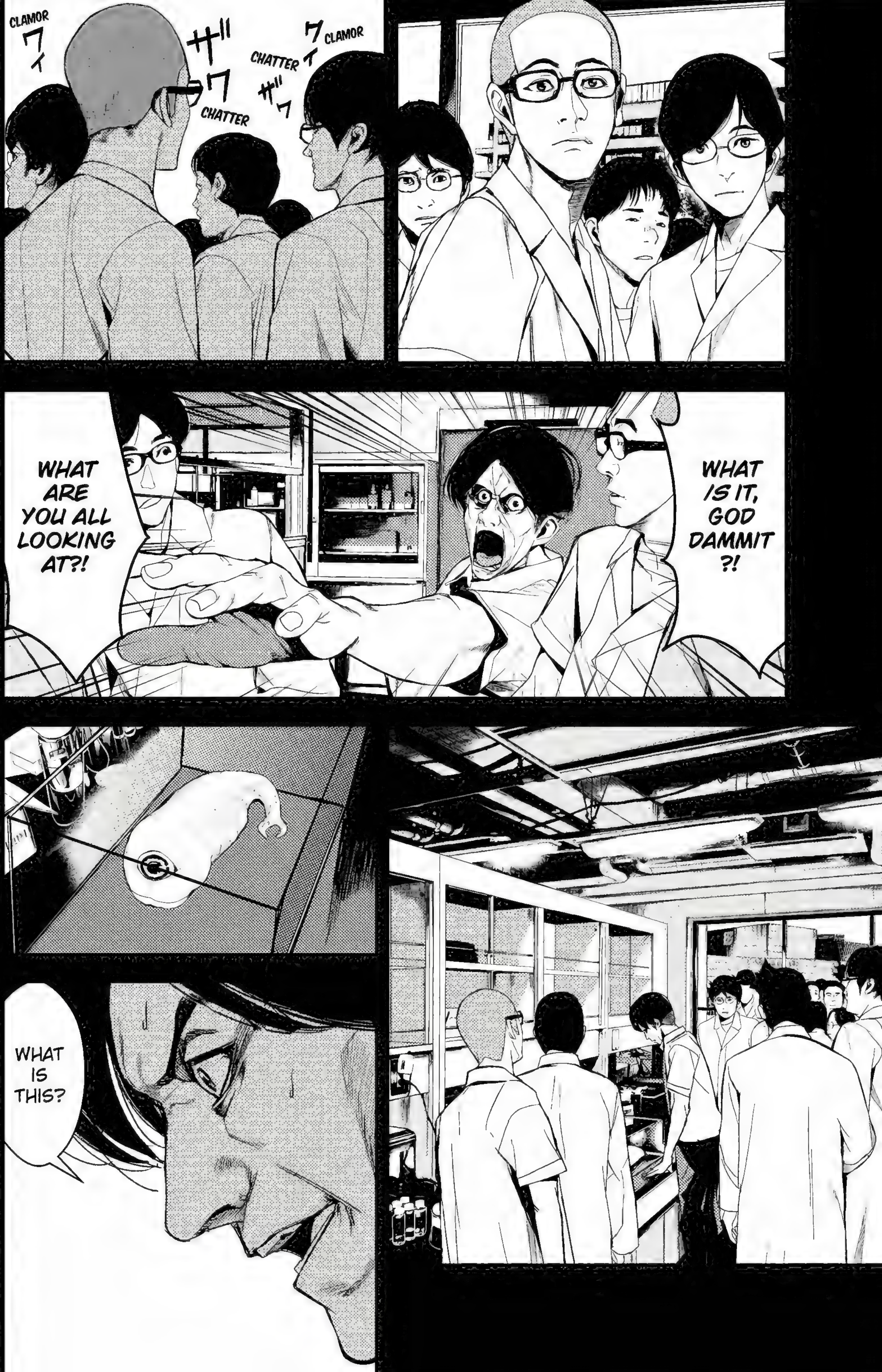

I FOUND MYSELF AT THE MOUNTAINTOP AT LAST.
ALL I HAD TO DO WAS KEEP YAMABIKI UNDER CONTROL.
UNFORTUNATELY...
...I WOULD SOON LEARN HOW TERRIFYING HE TRULY WAS.
TITLE
The human genome
TITLE

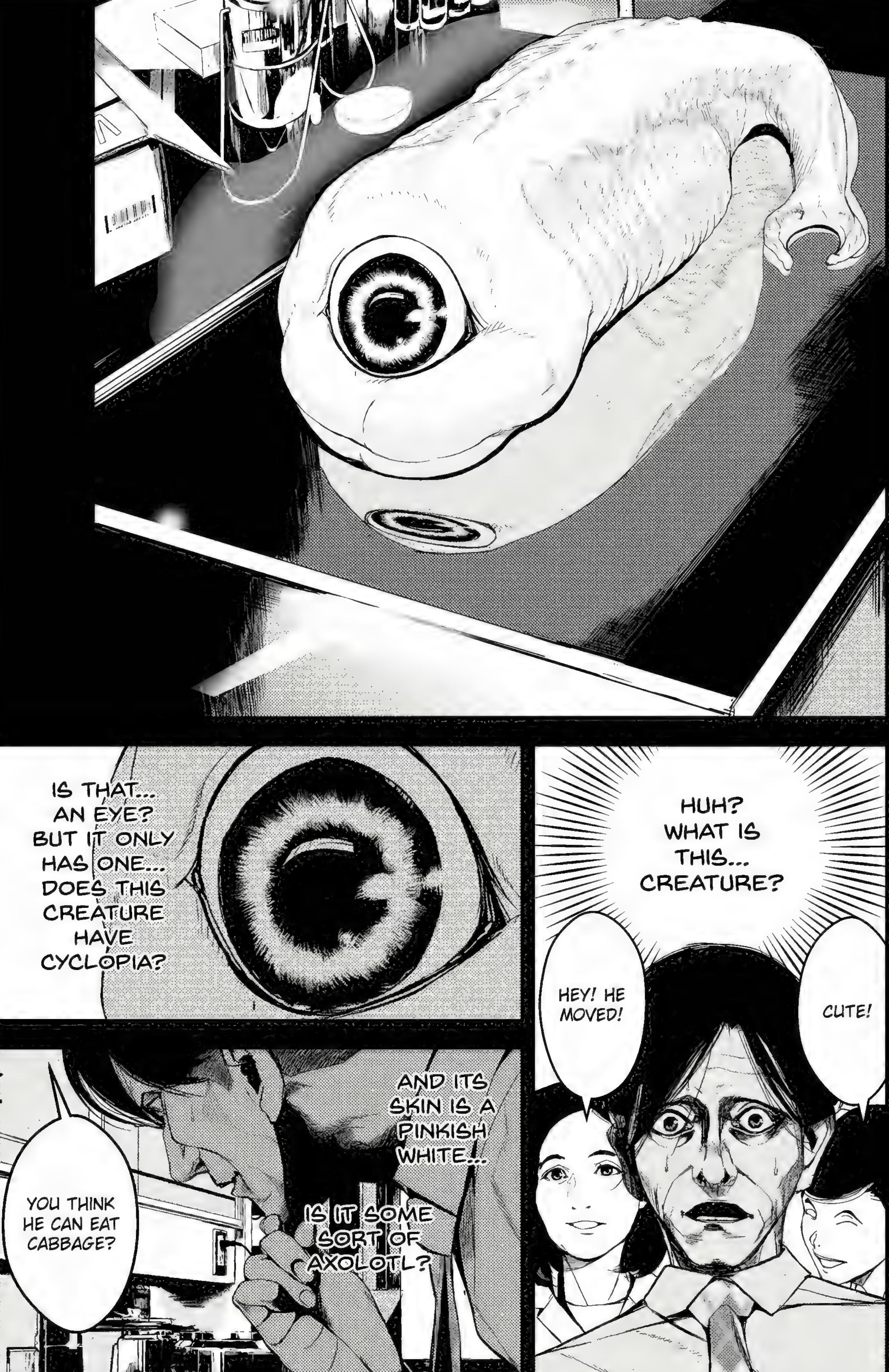
Chapter 30

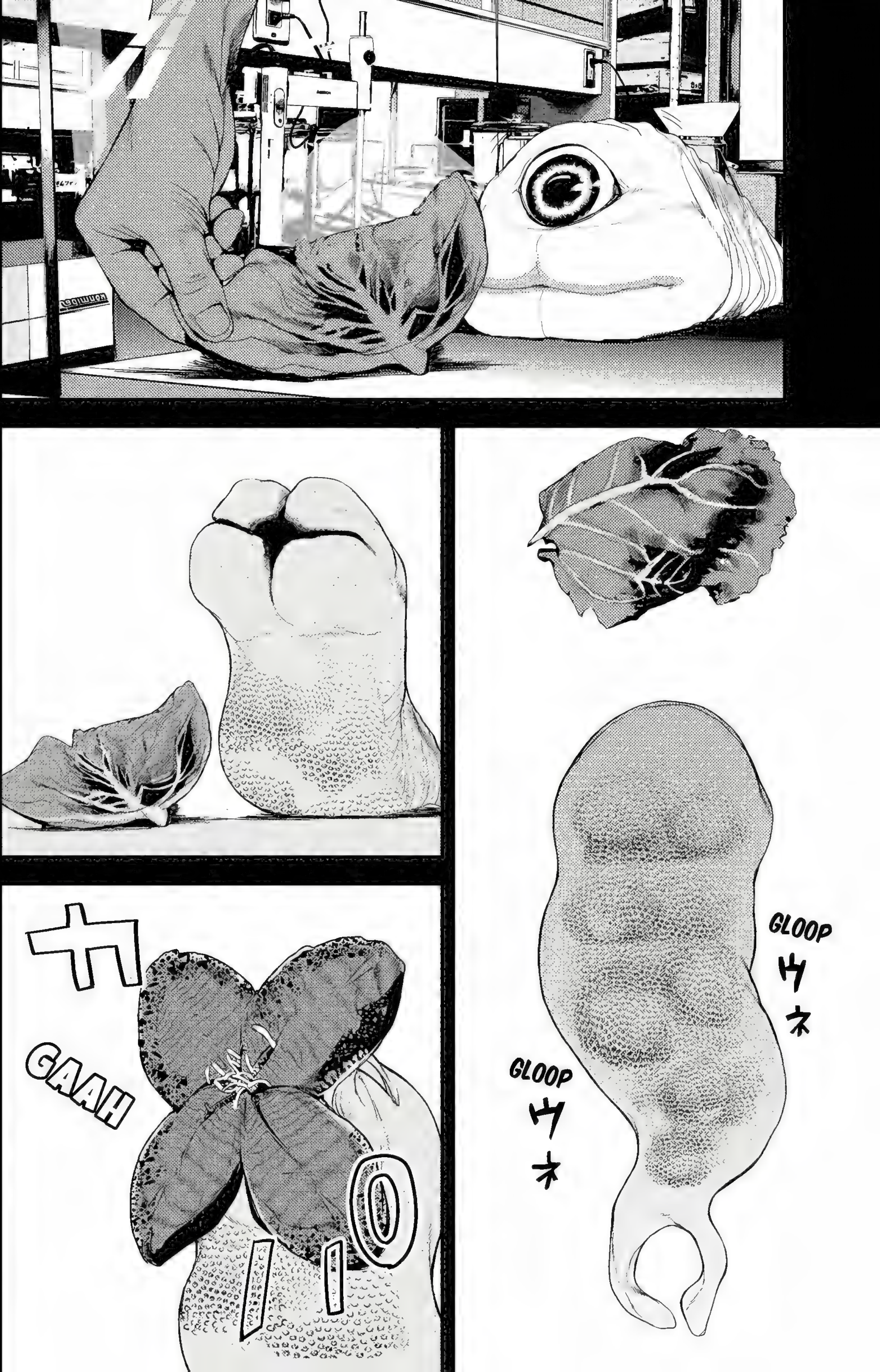

I WAS FINALLY ON MY WAY HOME AFTER A LONG TRIP ABROAD FOR A CONFERENCE.
I'D CEMENTED MY REPUTATION AMONG SCIENTISTS OVERSEAS...
...WHO LAUDED ME AS "THE MIND OF THE CENTURY."
OF COURSE, THE PRAISE CAME WITH LUCRATIVE OFFERS...
...FROM PRESTIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS WHO WERE DESPERATE TO SNATCH ME UP.
BUT I KNEW THERE WAS NO HURRY. I KNEW I COULD THINK THINGS OVER.
I HAD PLENTY OF TIME.

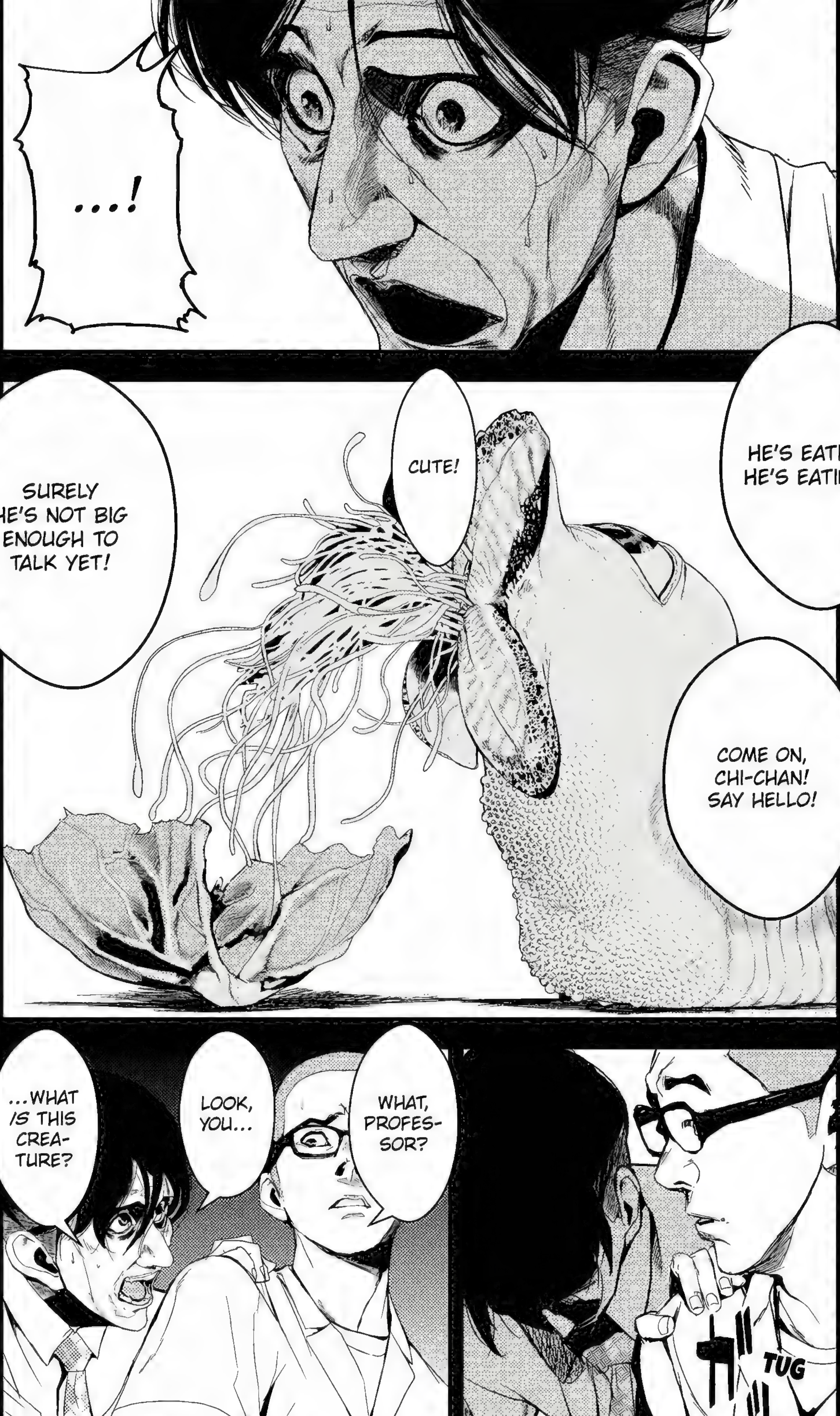

THE QUESTION WAS HOW BEST TO MOVE MY BASE OF OPERATIONS ABROAD...
...AND WHETHER TO TAKE THAT MAN WITH ME.
I DECIDED TO LEAVE THAT UP TO HIM. LET HIM SHOW ME HE WAS MOTIVATED ENOUGH.
NOW FOR DAY ONE ...
CLACK
ガチャ
ガ
...OF MY TRIUMPHAL RETURN.
ワイ
CLAMOR
ワイ
CLAMOR
JABBER
ガヤ
JABBER
ガヤ
JABBER
ガヤ
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH THEM?
I'M BACK!

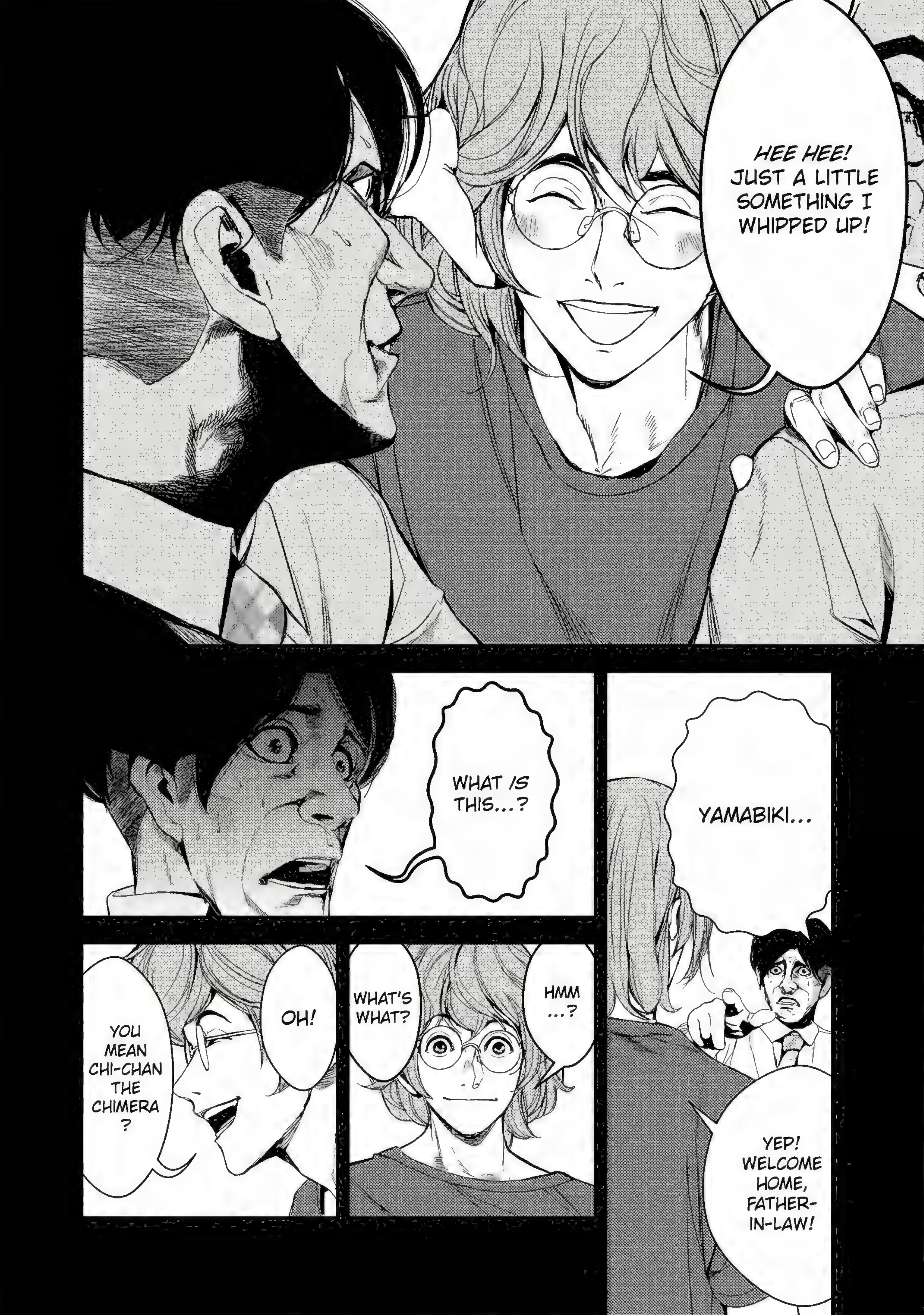

THEY SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN TO WORK...
...HOURS AGO!
THIS IS WHY I CAN'T STAND JAPANESE STUDENTS...
HEY.
WHAT DO YOU PEOPLE THINK YOU'RE DOING?
OH...
HELLO, PROFESSOR.
BACK ALREADY, HUH?
WELL, EXCUSE ME!
THIS IS MY LAB, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW!!

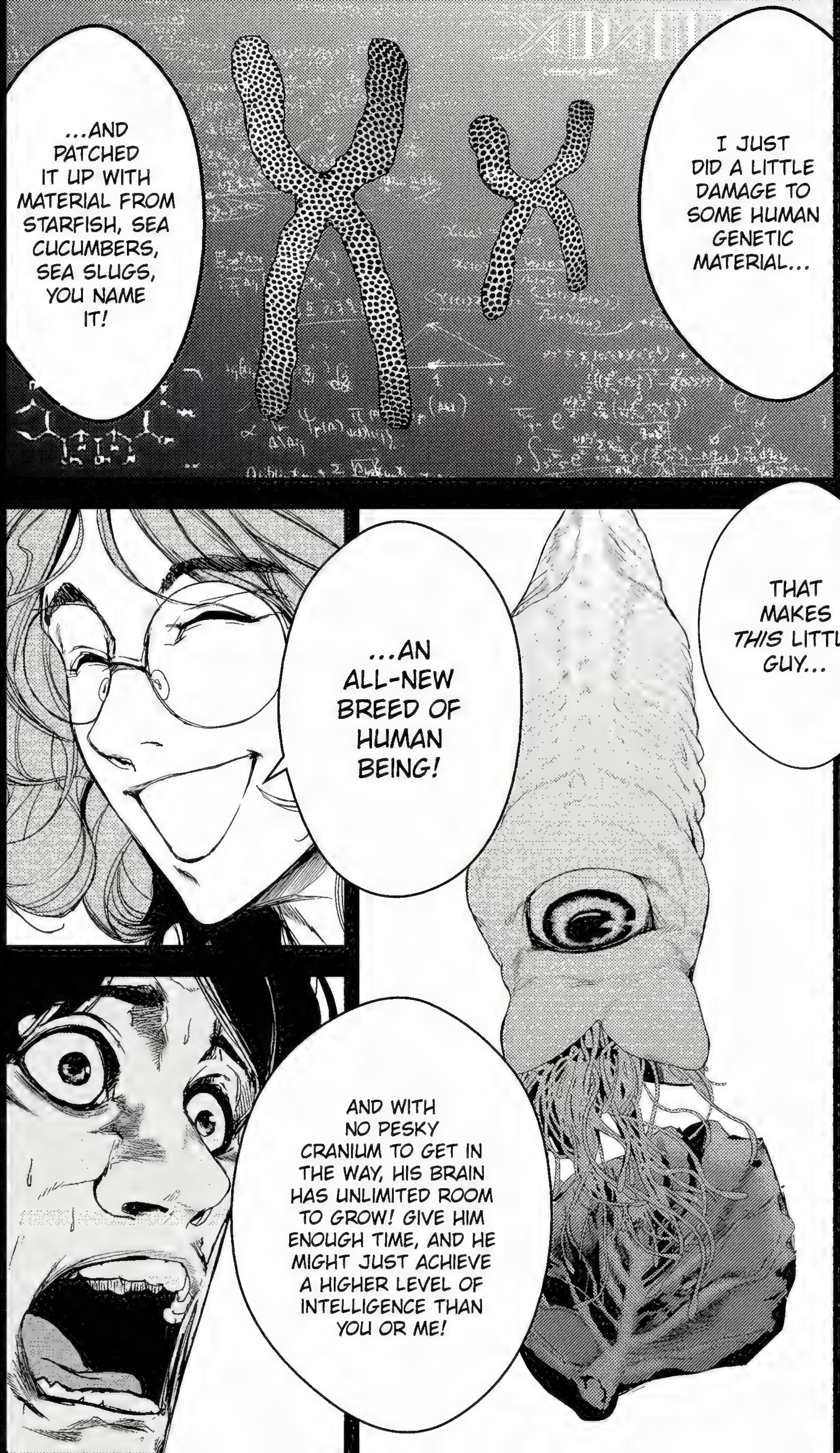

CLAMOR ワイ
CLAMOR ワイ
CHATTER ザワ
CHATTER ザワ
WHAT IS IT, GOD DAMMIT?!
WHAT ARE YOU ALL LOOKING AT?!
WHAT IS THIS?

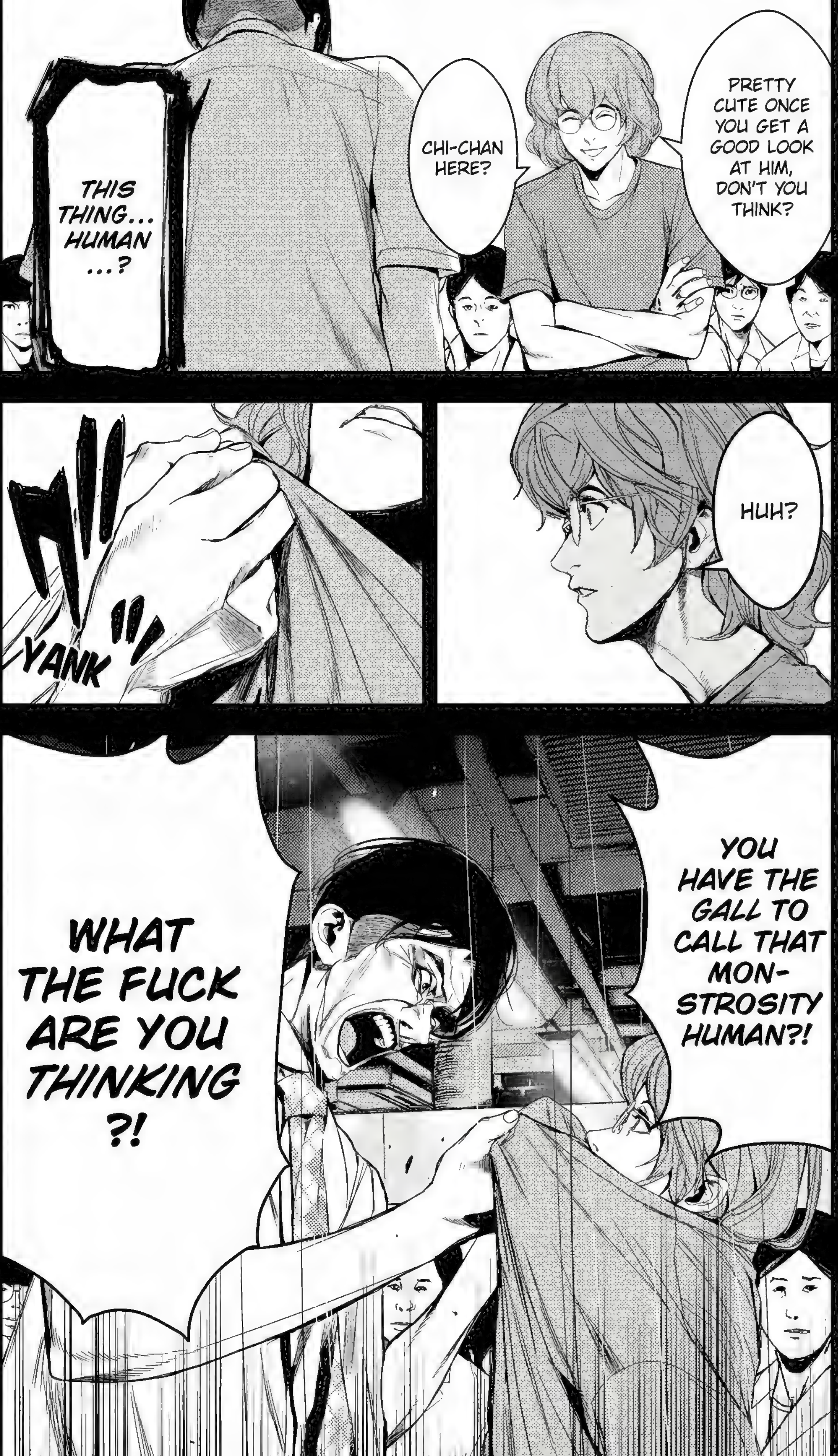

HUH? WHAT IS THIS... CREATURE?
CUTE!
HEY! HE MOVED!
IS THAT... AN EYE? BUT IT ONLY HAS ONE... DOES THIS CREATURE HAVE CYCLOPIA?
AND ITS SKIN IS A PINKISH WHITE...
IS IT SOME SORT OF AXOLOTL?
YOU THINK HE CAN EAT CABBAGE?

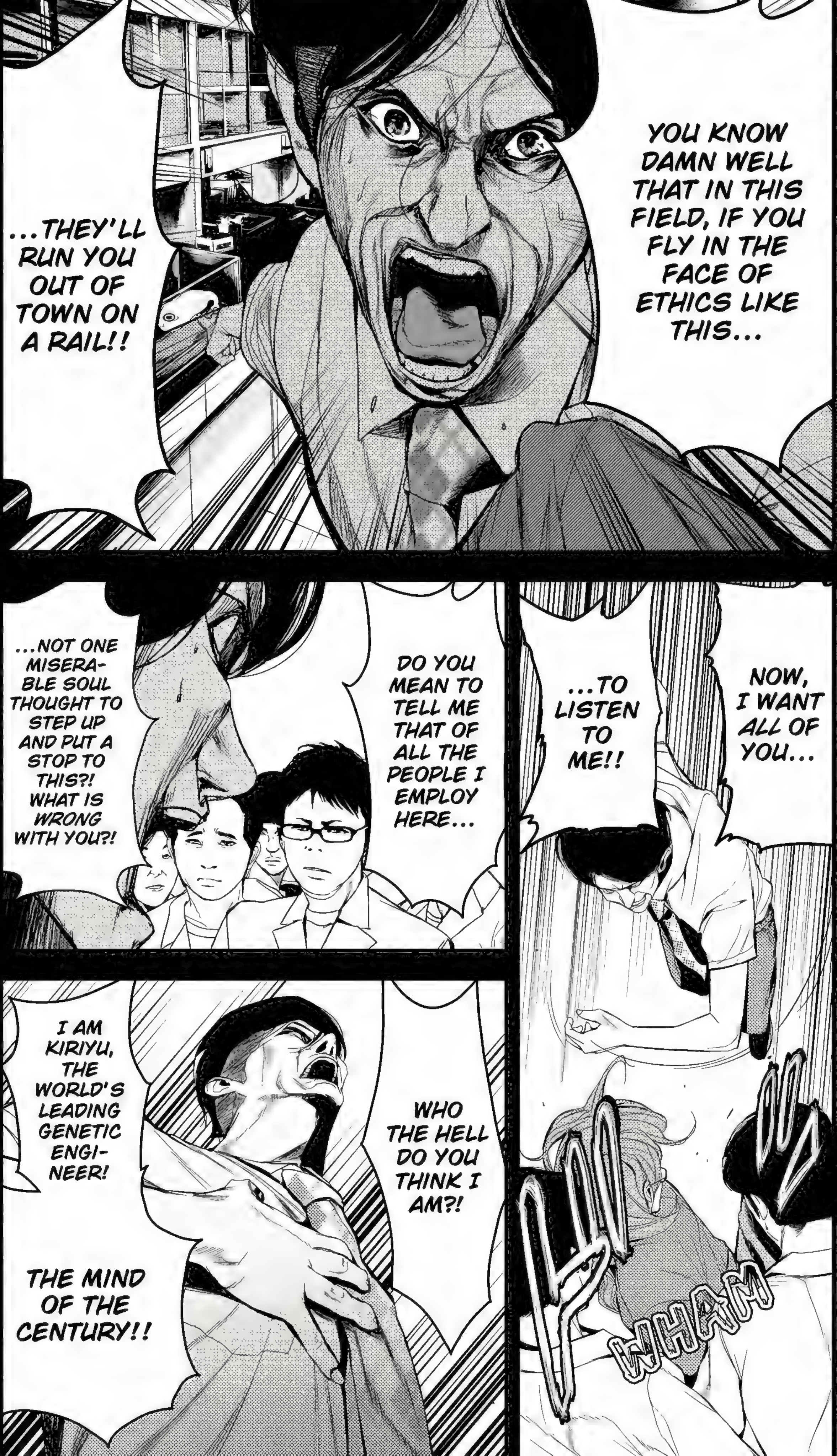

GLOOP
ウネ
GLOOP
ウネ
カ
GAAH

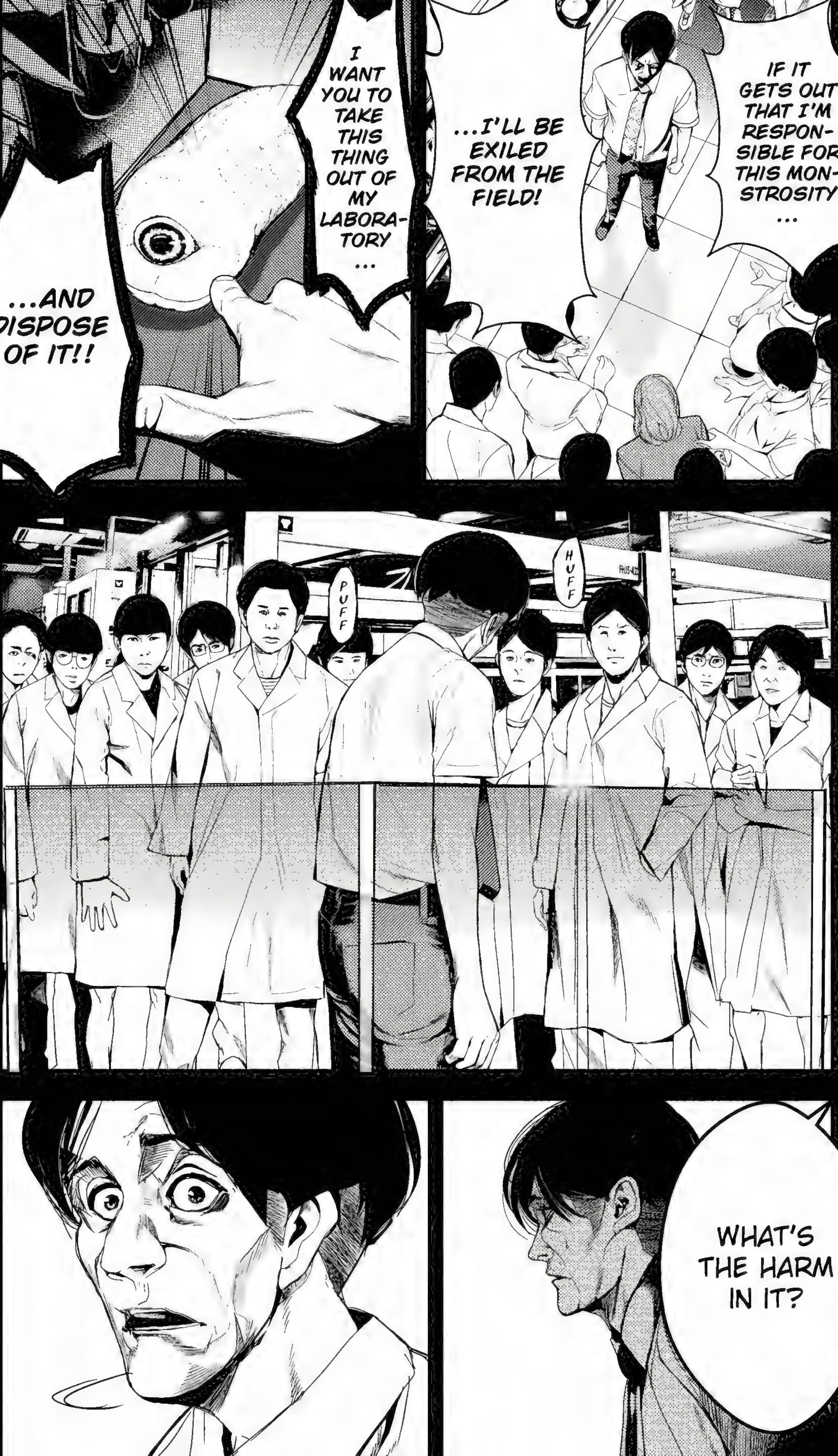

...!
HE'S EATING! HE'S EATING!!
COME ON, CHI-CHAN! SAY HELLO!
CUTE!
SURELY HE'S NOT BIG ENOUGH TO TALK YET!
WHAT, PROFESSOR?
LOOK, YOU...
...WHAT IS THIS CREATURE?
TUG

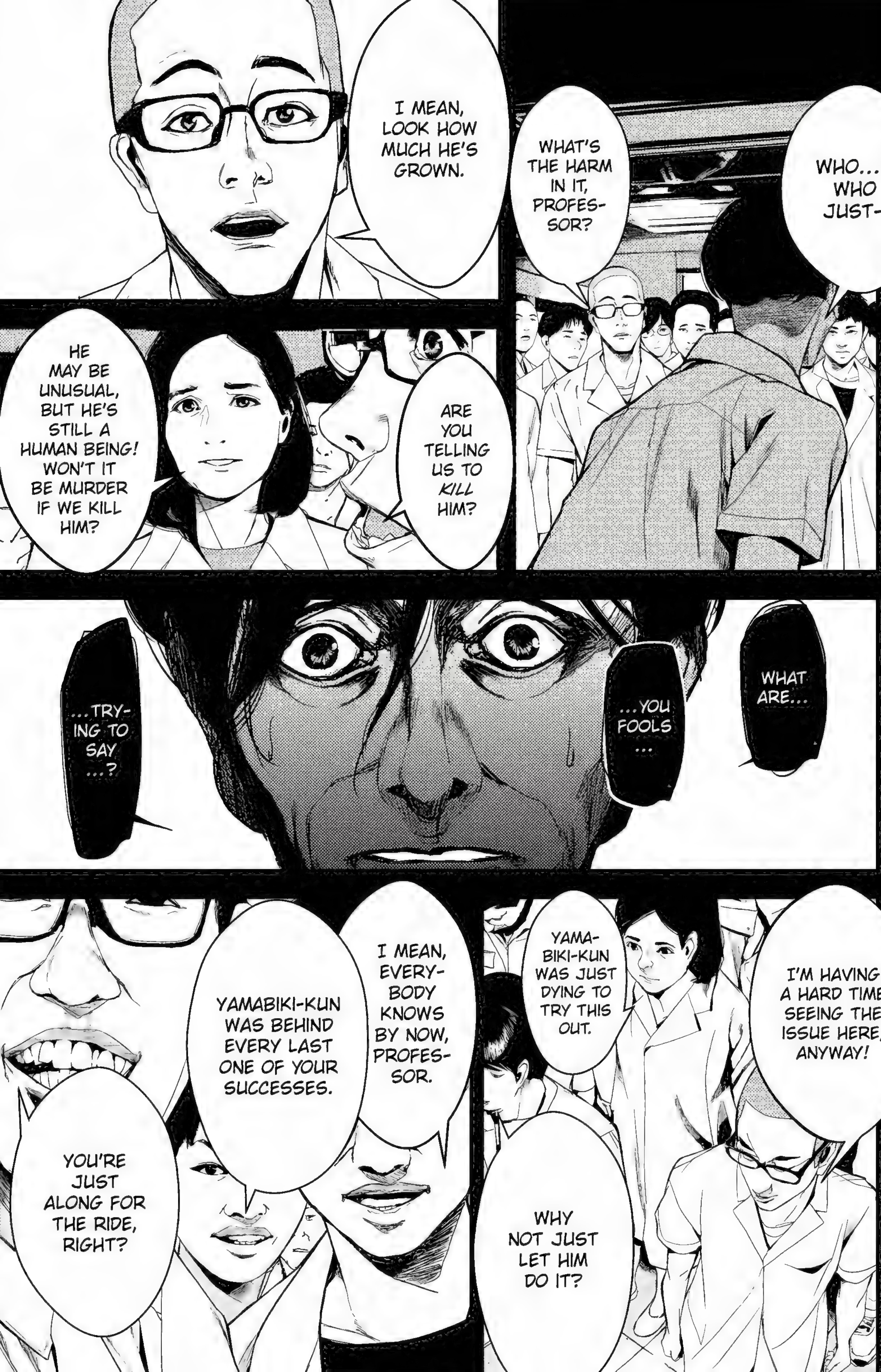

HEE HEE! JUST A LITTLE SOMETHING I WHIPPED UP!
YAMABIKI...
WHAT IS THIS...?
HMM ...?
WHAT'S WHAT?
OH!
YOU MEAN CHI-CHAN THE CHIMERA ?
YEP! WELCOME HOME, FATHER-IN-LAW!

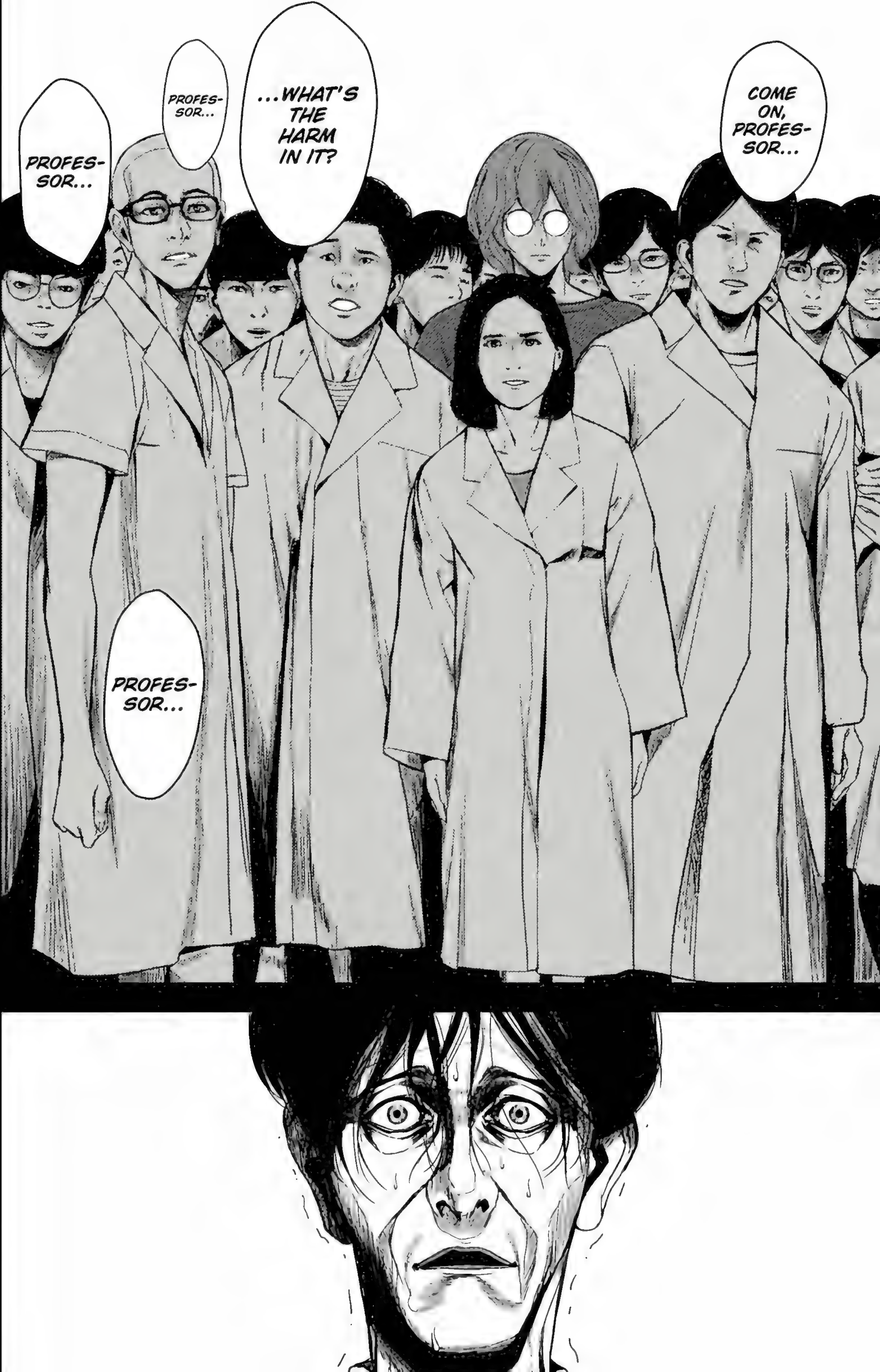

I JUST DID A LITTLE DAMAGE TO SOME HUMAN GENETIC MATERIAL...
...AND PATCHED IT UP WITH MATERIAL FROM STARFISH, SEA CUCUMBERS, SEA SLUGS, YOU NAME IT!
THAT MAKES *THIS* LITTLE GUY...
...AN ALL-NEW BREED OF HUMAN BEING!
AND WITH NO PESKY CRANIUM TO GET IN THE WAY, HIS BRAIN HAS UNLIMITED ROOM TO GROW! GIVE HIM ENOUGH TIME, AND HE MIGHT JUST ACHIEVE A HIGHER LEVEL OF INTELLIGENCE THAN YOU OR ME!

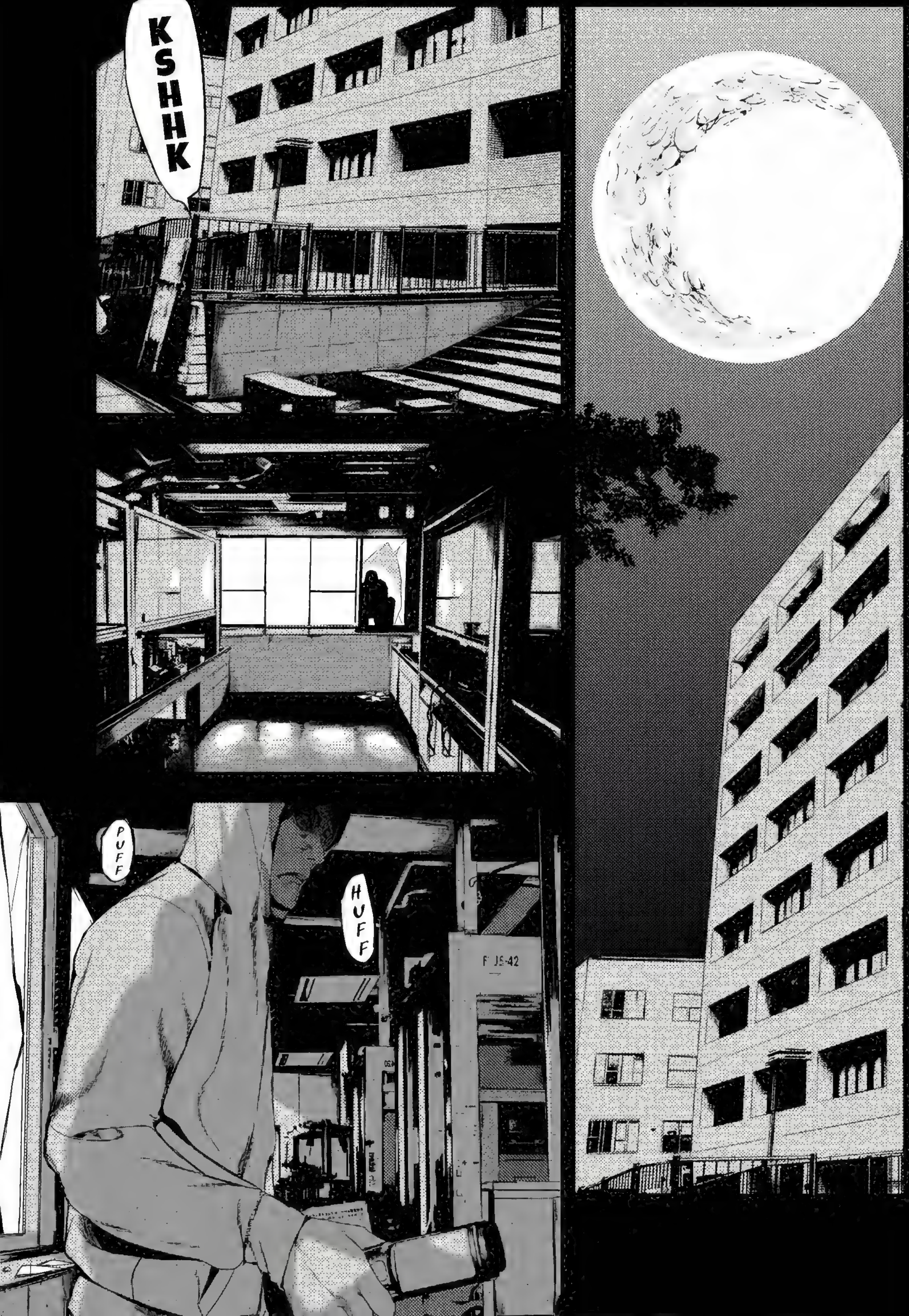

PRETTY CUTE ONCE YOU GET A GOOD LOOK AT HIM, DON'T YOU THINK?
CHI-CHAN HERE?
THIS THING... HUMAN ...?
HUH?
YANK
YOU HAVE THE GALL TO CALL THAT MON-STROSITY HUMAN?!
WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU THINKING ?!

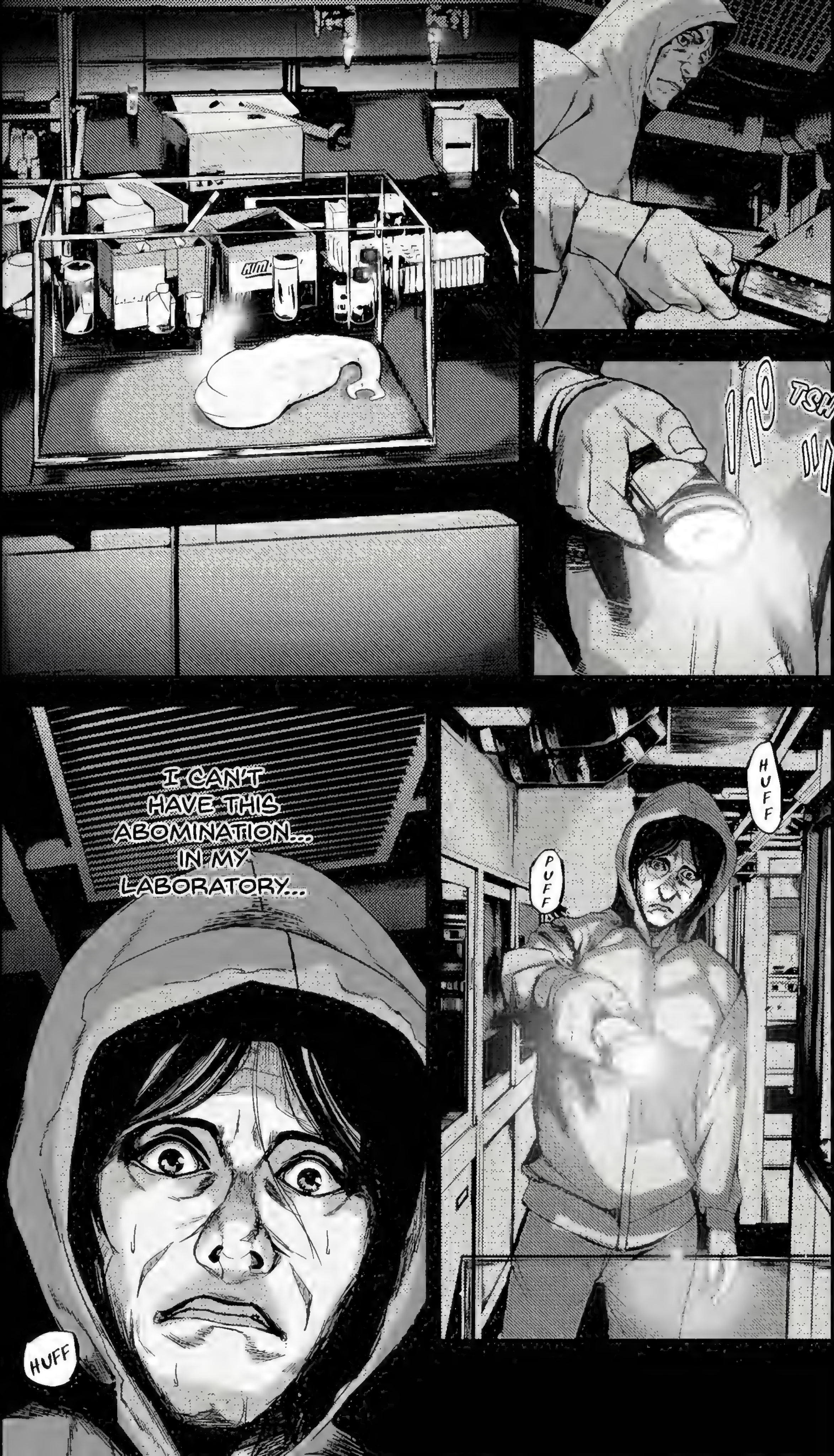

YOU KNOW DAMN WELL THAT IN THIS FIELD, IF YOU FLY IN THE FACE OF ETHICS LIKE THIS...
...THEY'LL RUN YOU OUT OF TOWN ON A RAIL!!
NOW, I WANT ALL OF YOU...
...TO LISTEN TO ME!!
DO YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT OF ALL THE PEOPLE I EMPLOY HERE...
...NOT ONE MISERABLE SOUL THOUGHT TO STEP UP AND PUT A STOP TO THIS?! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?!
WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK I AM?!
I AM KIRIYU, THE WORLD'S LEADING GENETIC ENGINEER!
THE MIND OF THE CENTURY!!
WHAM

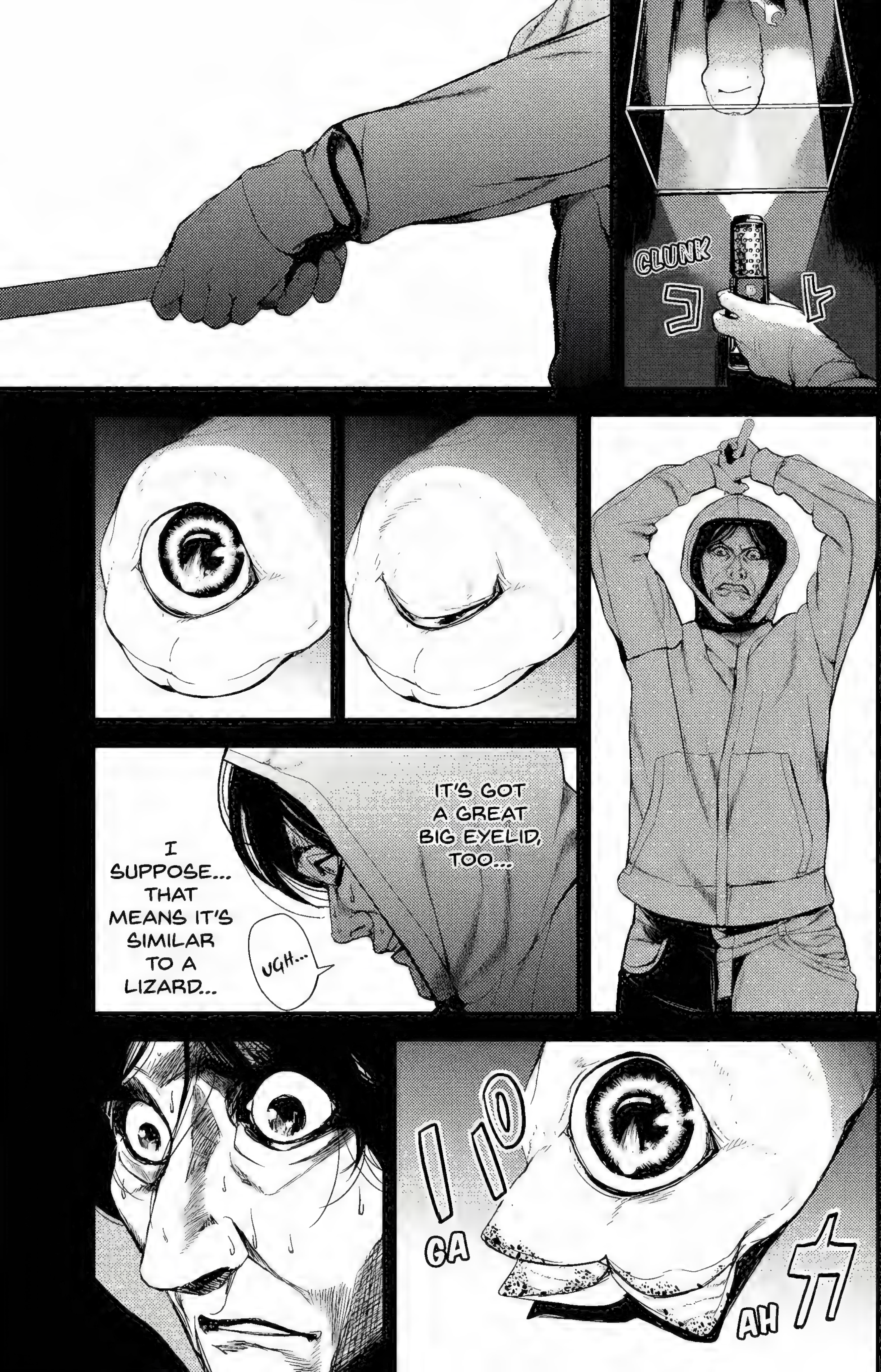

IF IT GETS OUT THAT I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS MONSTROSITY ...
...I'LL BE EXILED FROM THE FIELD!
I WANT YOU TO TAKE THIS THING OUT OF MY LABORATORY ...
...AND DISPOSE OF IT!!
HUFF
PUFF
WHAT'S THE HARM IN IT?

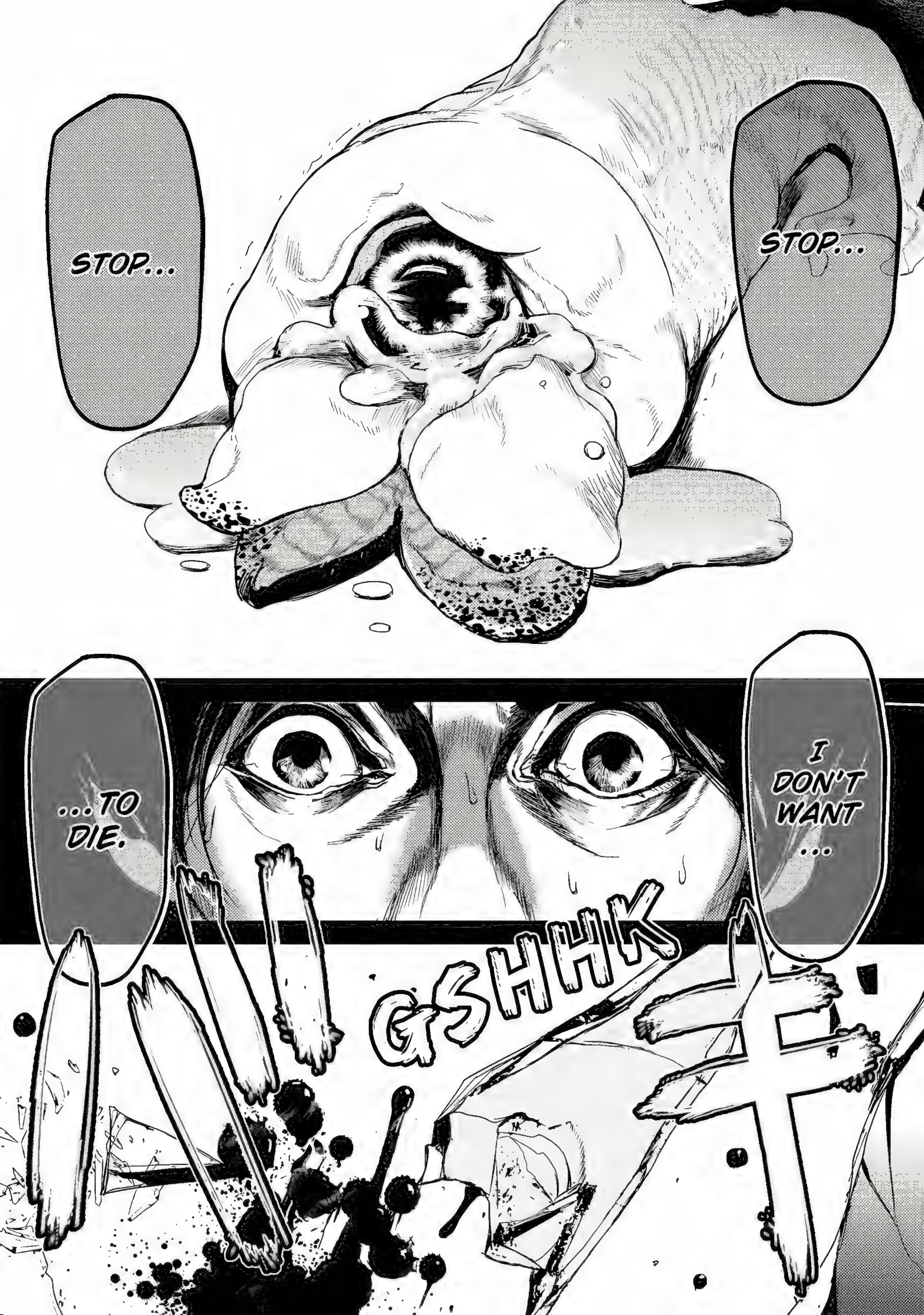

WHO...? WHO JUST-
WHAT'S THE HARM IN IT, PROFESSOR?
I MEAN, LOOK HOW MUCH HE'S GROWN.
ARE YOU TELLING US TO *KILL* HIM?
HE MAY BE UNUSUAL, BUT HE'S STILL A HUMAN BEING! WON'T IT BE MURDER IF WE KILL HIM?
WHAT ARE...
...YOU FOOLS...
...TRYING TO SAY...?
I'M HAVING A HARD TIME SEEING THE ISSUE HERE, ANYWAY!
YAMABIKI-KUN WAS JUST DYING TO TRY THIS OUT.
WHY NOT JUST LET HIM DO IT?
I MEAN, EVERYBODY KNOWS BY NOW, PROFESSOR.
YAMABIKI-KUN WAS BEHIND EVERY LAST ONE OF YOUR SUCCESSES.
YOU'RE JUST ALONG FOR THE RIDE, RIGHT?


COME ON, PROFESSOR...
...WHAT'S THE HARM IN IT?
PROFESSOR...
PROFESSOR...
PROFESSOR...

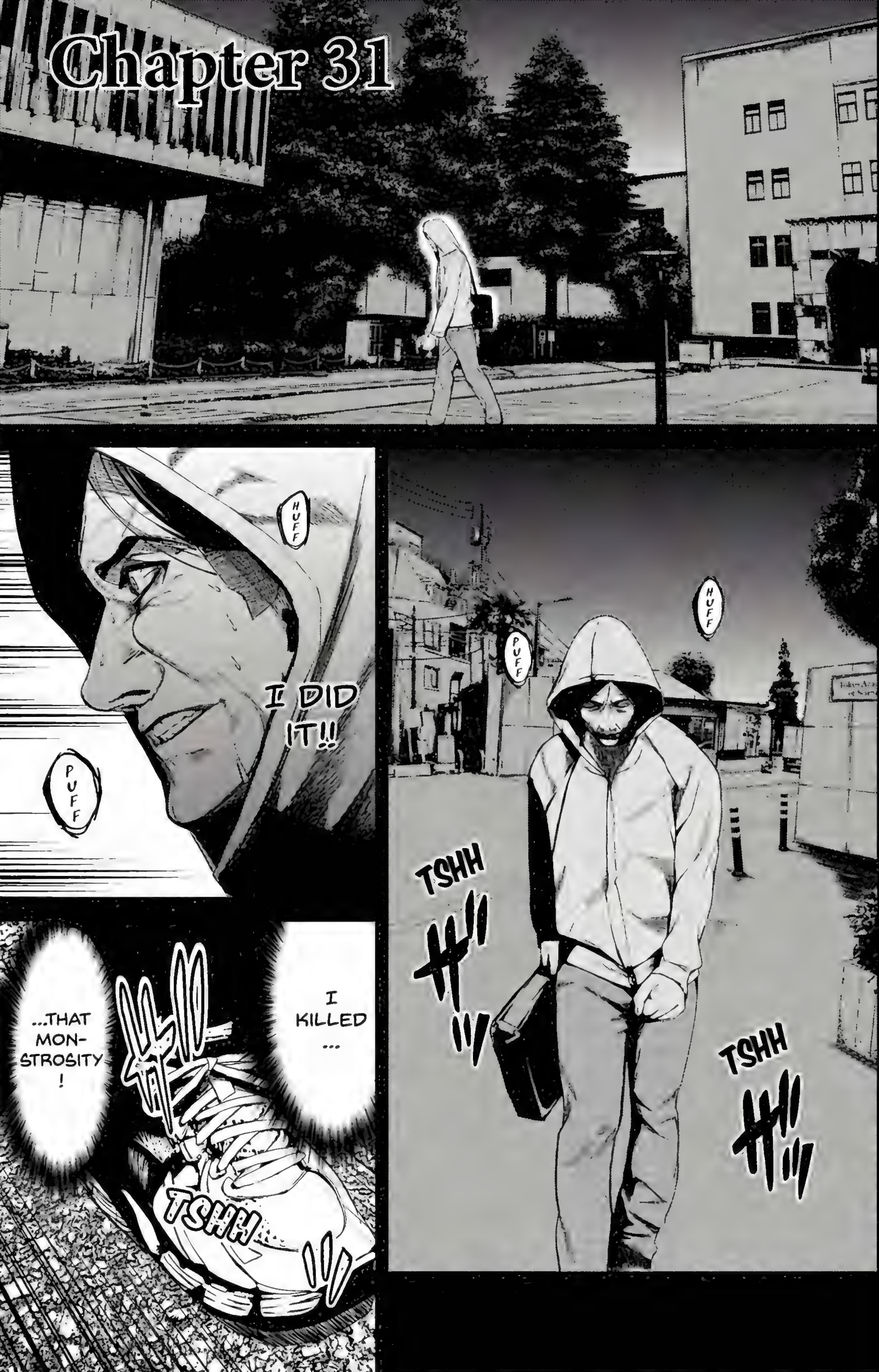

KSHHK
HUFF
PUFF
F JS-42

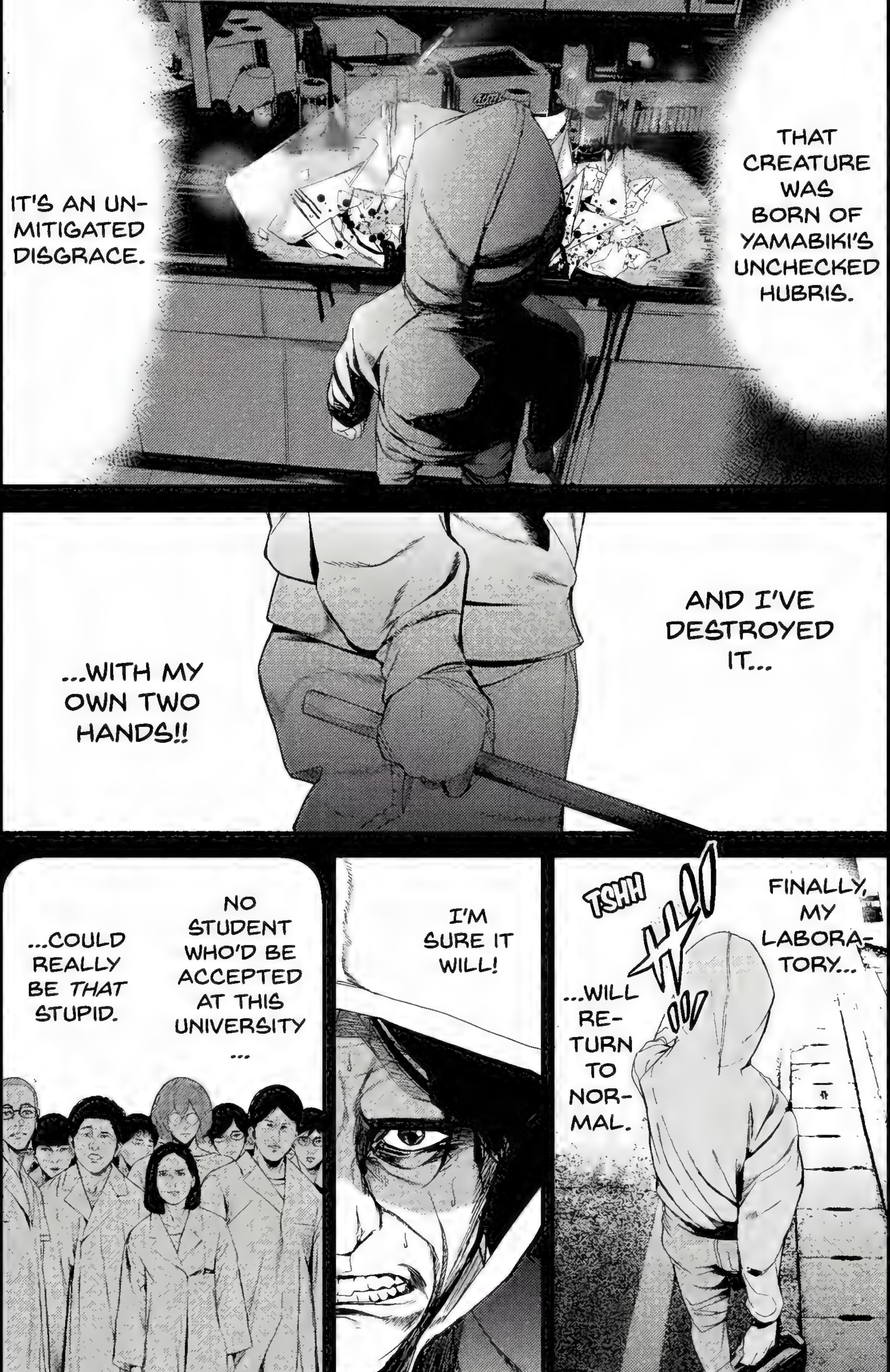

TSH
HUFF
PUFF
I CAN'T HAVE THIS ABOMINATION... IN MY LABORATORY...
HUFF

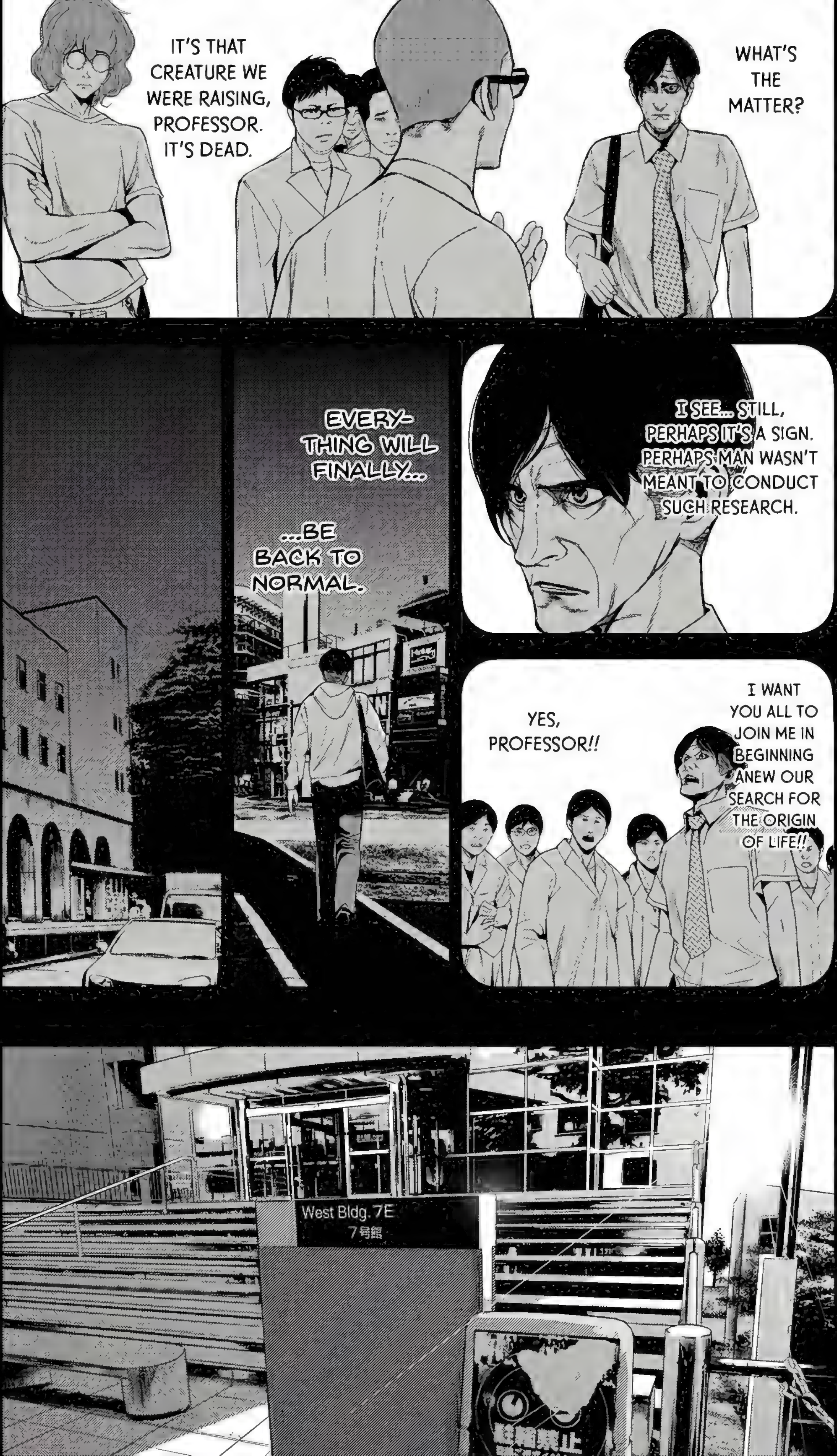

CLUNK
コト
IT'S GOT A GREAT BIG EYELID, TOO...
I SUPPOSE... THAT MEANS IT'S SIMILAR TO A LIZARD...
UGH...
GA
AH
ガッ

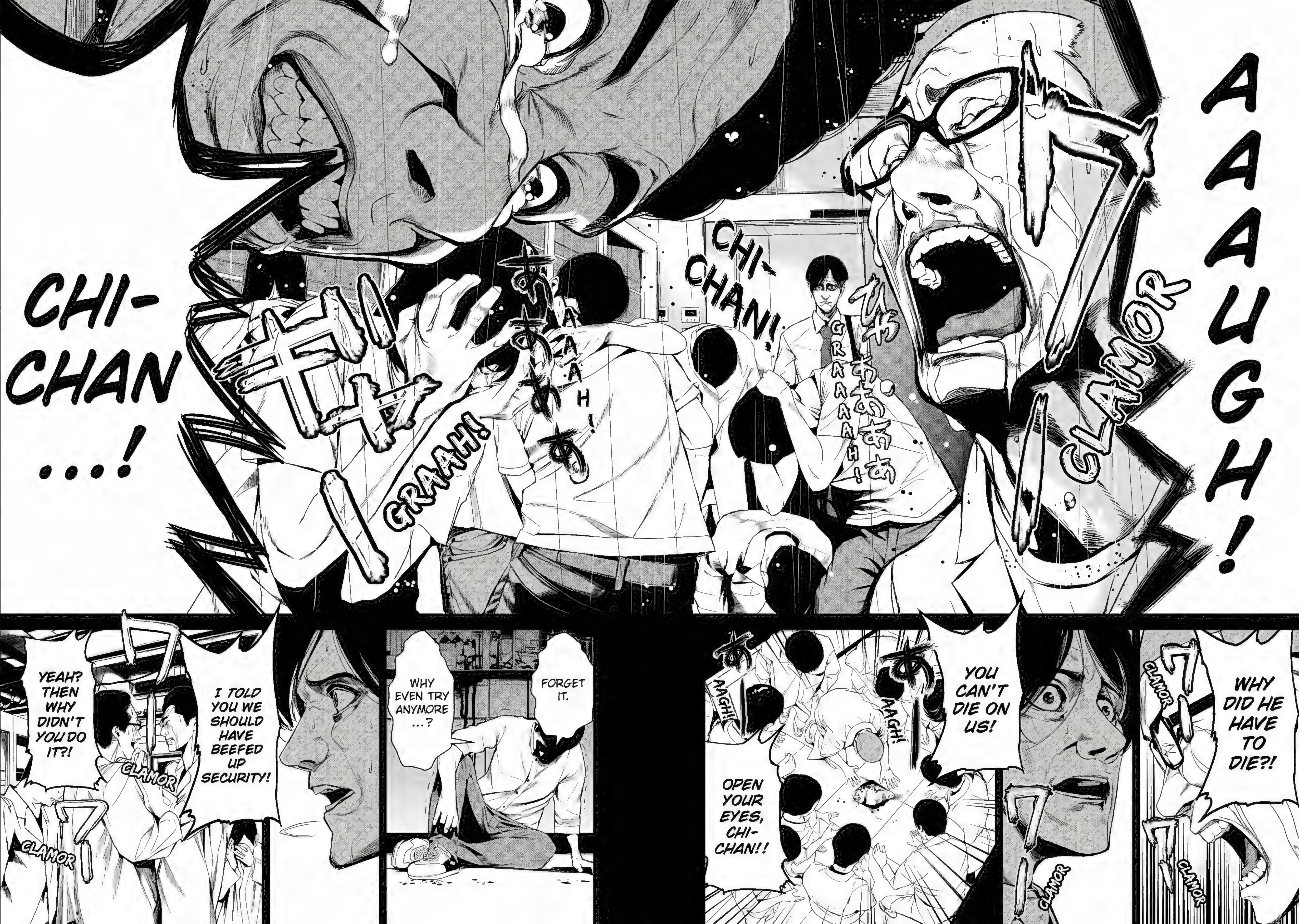

STOP...
STOP...
I DON'T WANT ...
...TO DIE.
GSHHK

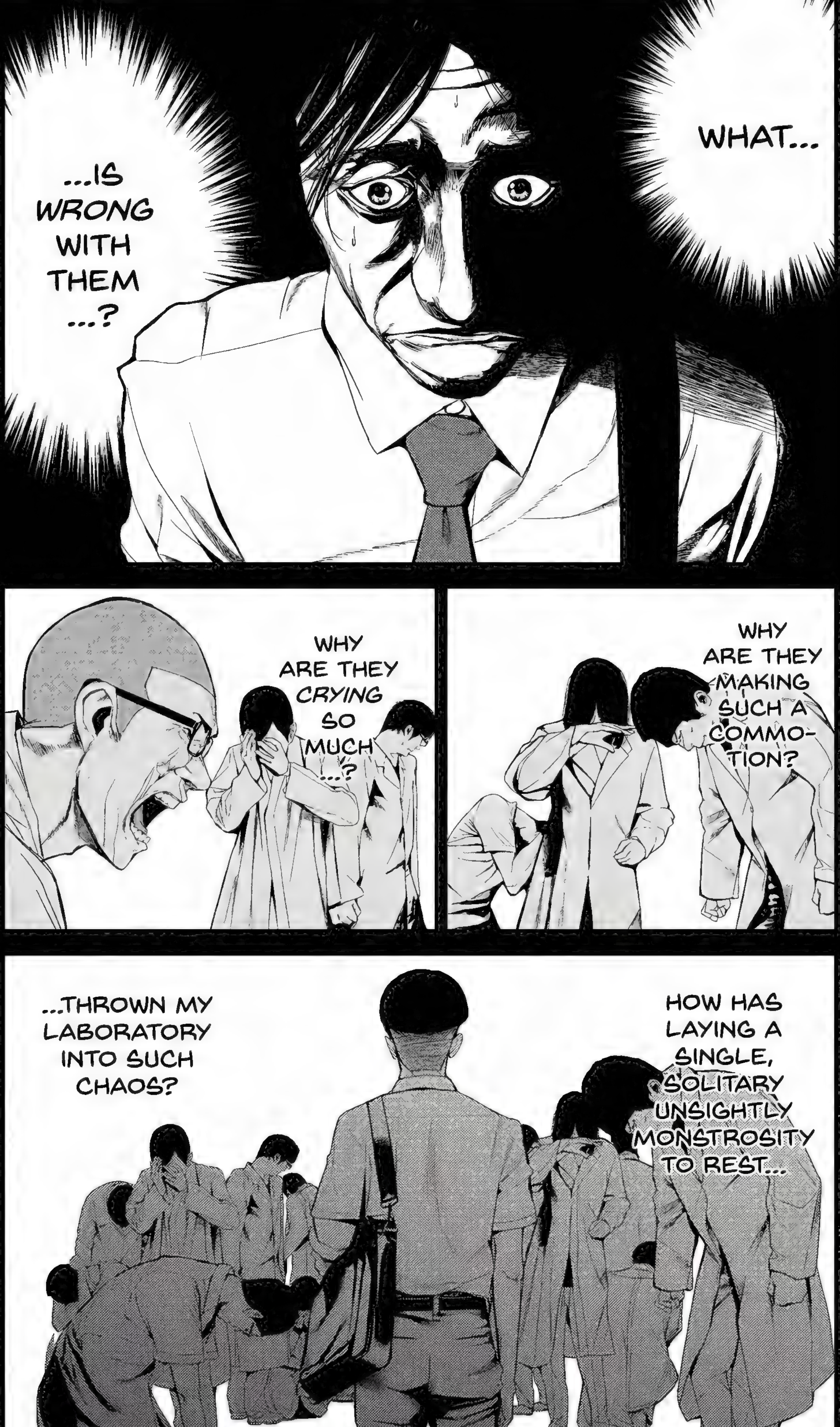
Chapter 31

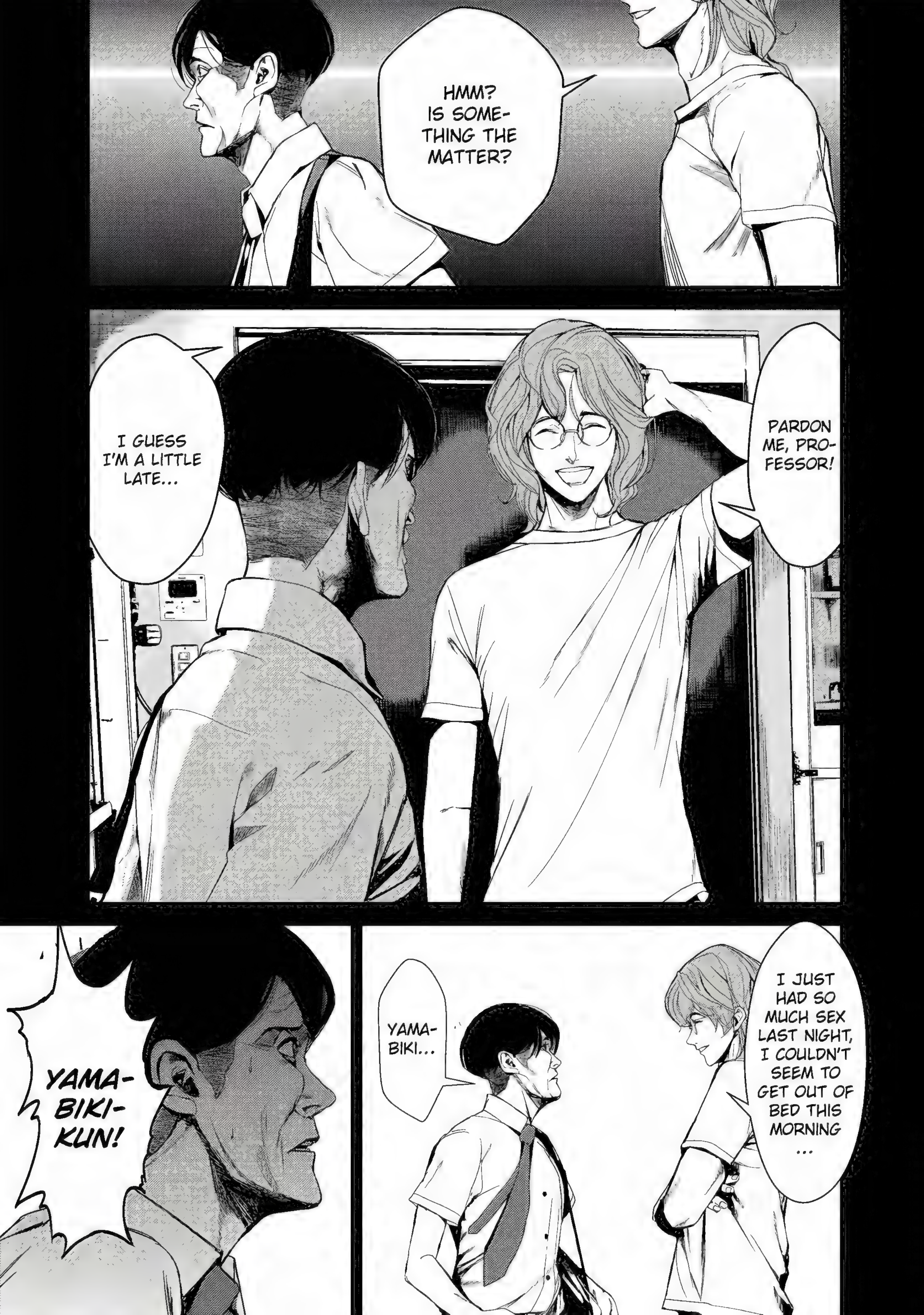

HUFF
PUFF
TSHH
TSHH
HUFF
I DID IT!!
PUFF
I KILLED...
...THAT MONSTROSITY!
TSHH

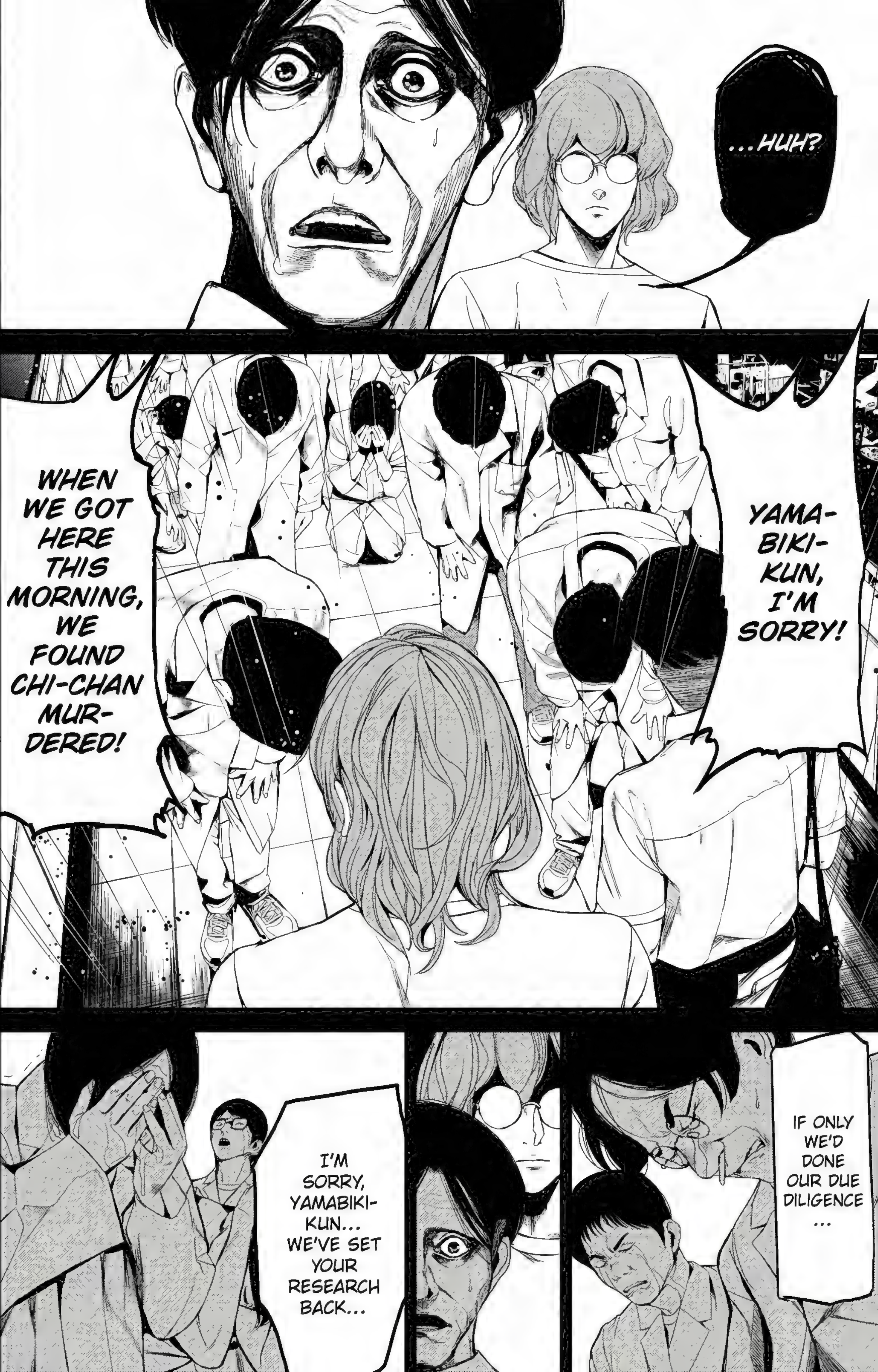

THAT CREATURE WAS BORN OF YAMABIKI'S UNCHECKED HUBRIS.
IT'S AN UNMITIGATED DISGRACE.
AND I'VE DESTROYED IT...
...WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS!!
FINALLY, MY LABORATORY...
TSHH
...WILL RETURN TO NORMAL.
I'M SURE IT WILL!
NO STUDENT WHO'D BE ACCEPTED AT THIS UNIVERSITY...
...COULD REALLY BE *THAT* STUPID.

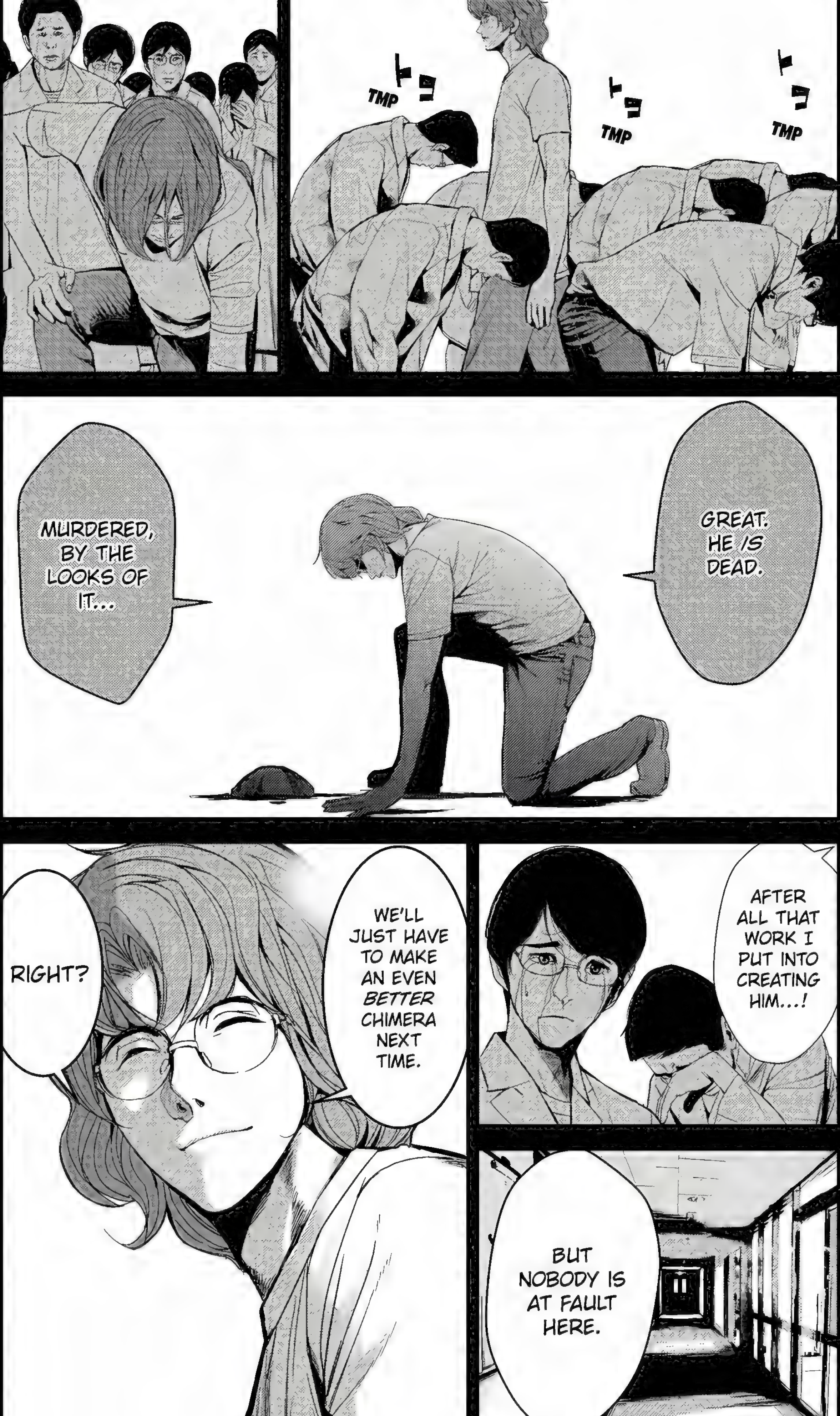

WHAT'S THE MATTER?
IT'S THAT CREATURE WE WERE RAISING, PROFESSOR. IT'S DEAD.
I SEE... STILL, PERHAPS IT'S A SIGN. PERHAPS MAN WASN'T MEANT TO CONDUCT SUCH RESEARCH.
I WANT YOU ALL TO JOIN ME IN BEGINNING ANEW OUR SEARCH FOR THE ORIGIN OF LIFE!!
YES, PROFESSOR!!
EVERYTHING WILL FINALLY...
...BE BACK TO NORMAL.
West Bldg. 7E
7号館

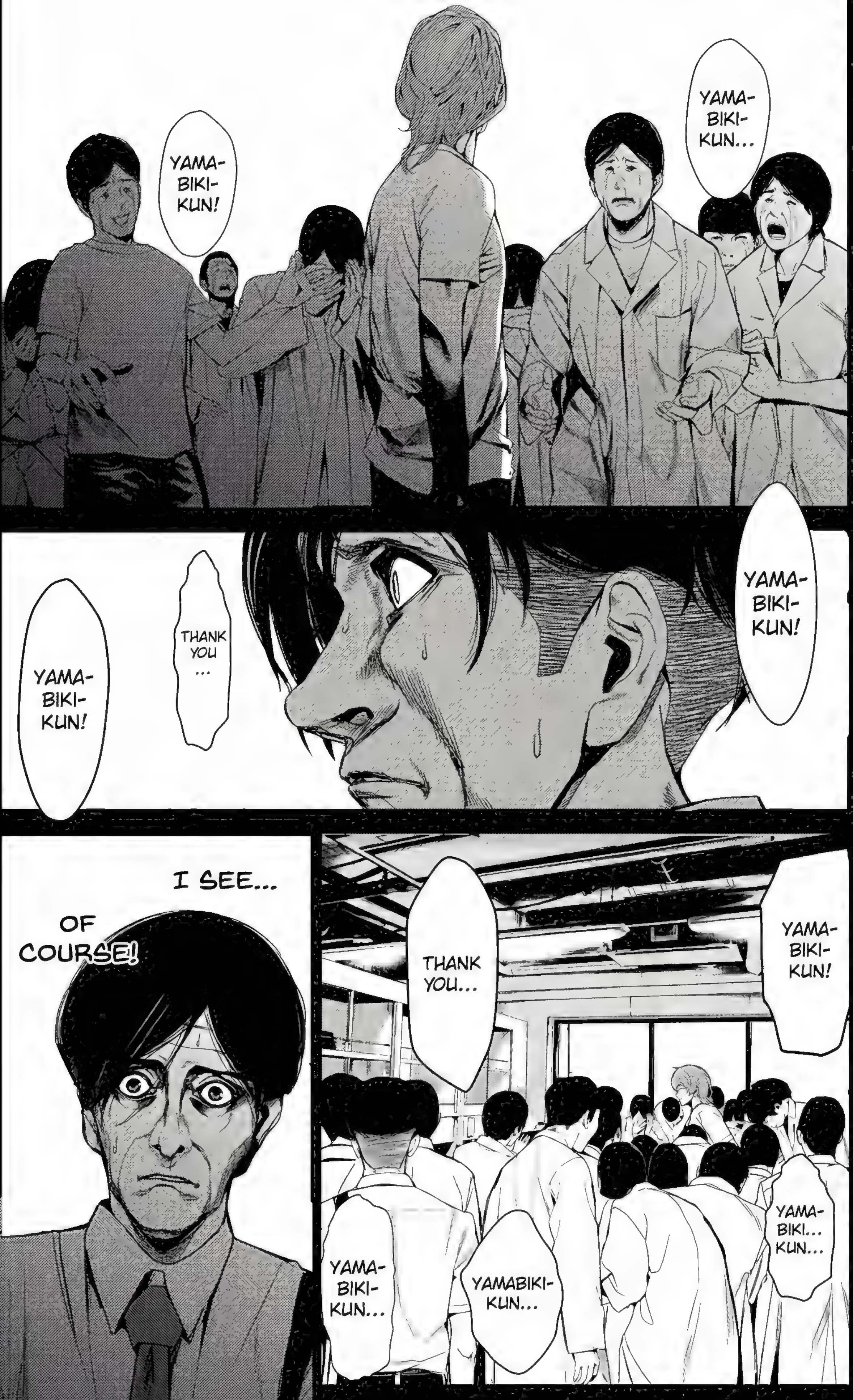

AAAAUGH!
CLAMOR
ひゃあああ
GRAAAAH!
CHI-CHAN!
あああああ
AAAAH!
GRAAH!
CHI-CHAN...!
WHY DID HE HAVE TO DIE?!
CLAMOR
CLAMOR
CLAMOR
YOU CAN'T DIE ON US!
OPEN YOUR EYES, CHI-CHAN!!
AAGH!
AAGH!
FORGET IT.
WHY EVEN TRY ANYMORE...?
I TOLD YOU WE SHOULD HAVE BEEFED UP SECURITY!
YEAH? THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU DO IT?!
CLAMOR
CLAMOR

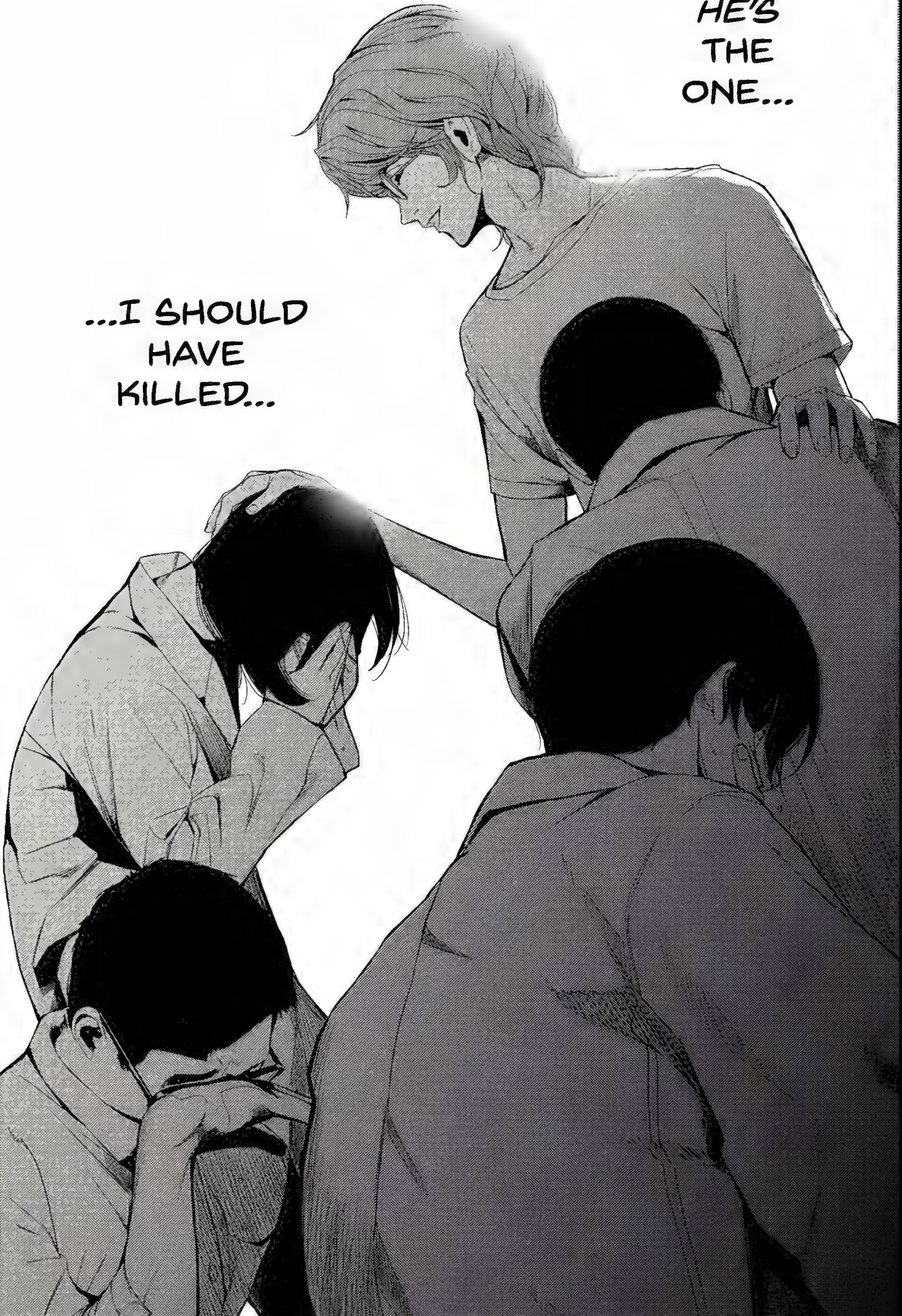

WHAT...
...IS *WRONG* WITH THEM ...?
WHY ARE THEY MAKING SUCH A COMMOTION?
WHY ARE THEY *CRYING* SO MUCH ...?
HOW HAS LAYING A SINGLE, SOLITARY UNSIGHTLY MONSTROSITY TO REST...
...THROWN MY LABORATORY INTO SUCH CHAOS?

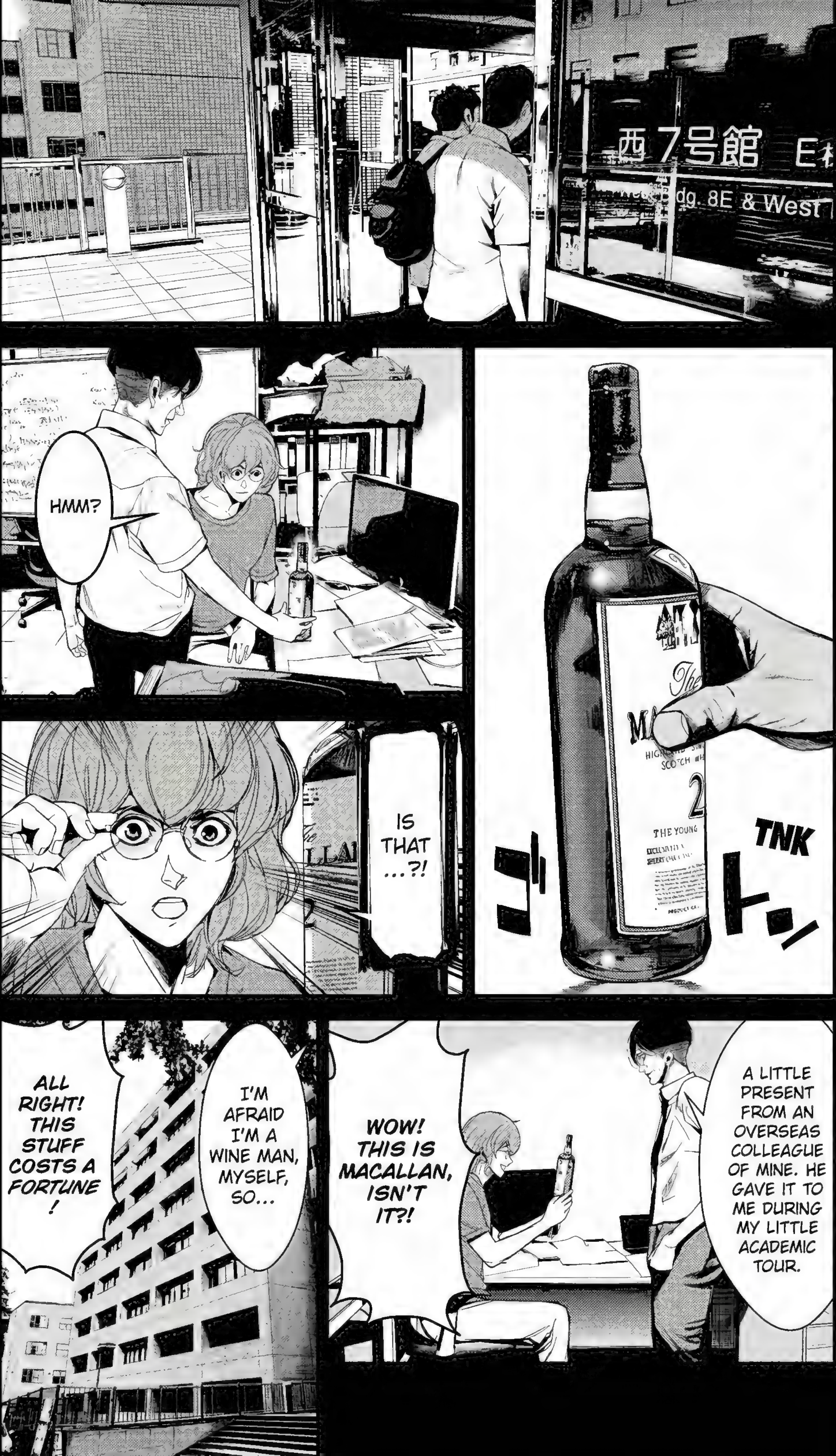

HMM? IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
PARDON ME, PROFESSOR!
I GUESS I'M A LITTLE LATE...
YAMABIKI-KUN!
YAMABIKI...
I JUST HAD SO MUCH SEX LAST NIGHT, I COULDN'T SEEM TO GET OUT OF BED THIS MORNING ...

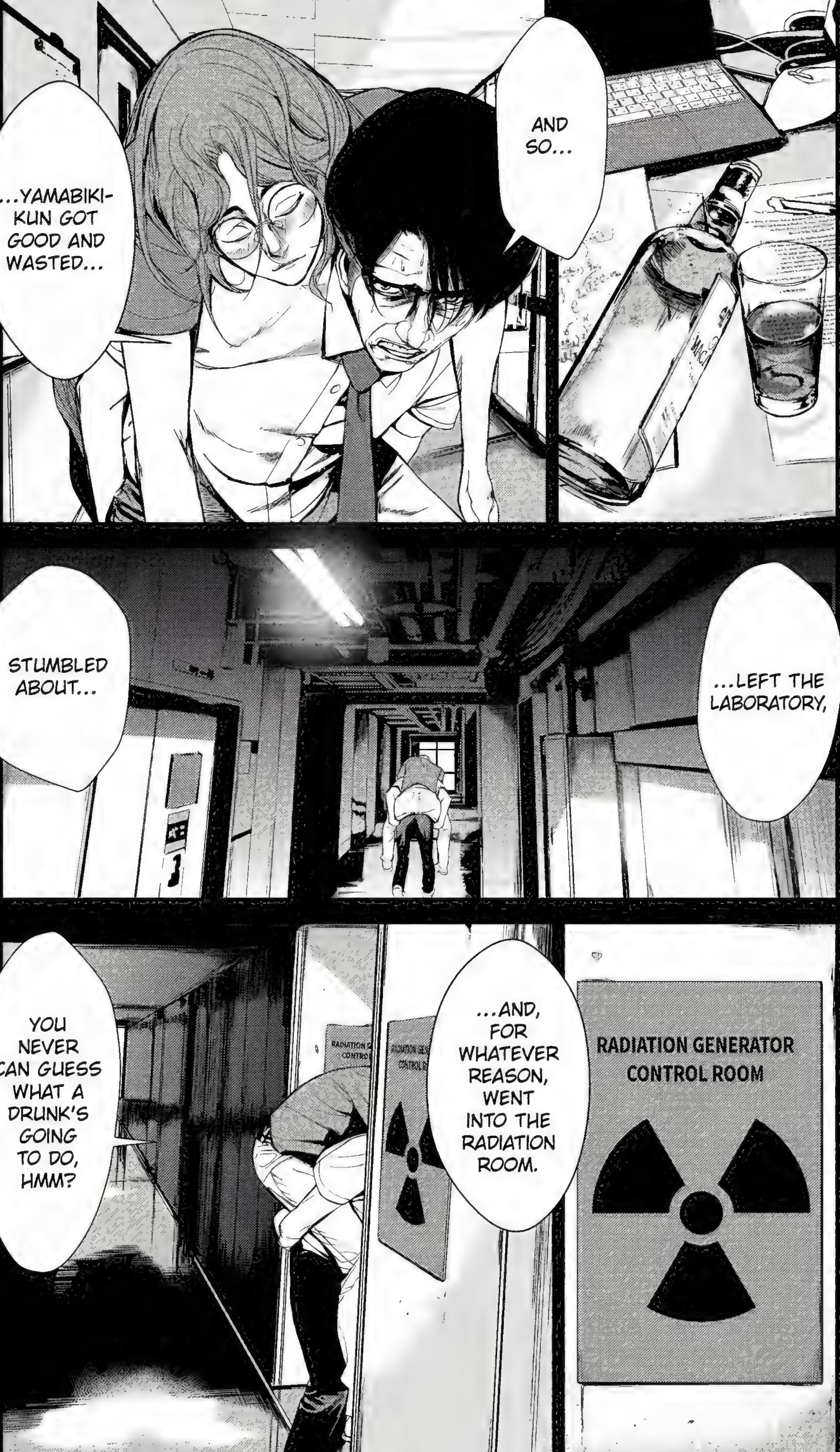

...HUH?
YAMA-BIKI-KUN, I'M SORRY!
WHEN WE GOT HERE THIS MORNING, WE FOUND CHI-CHAN MURDERED!
IF ONLY WE'D DONE OUR DUE DILIGENCE...
I'M SORRY, YAMABIKI-KUN... WE'VE SET YOUR RESEARCH BACK...

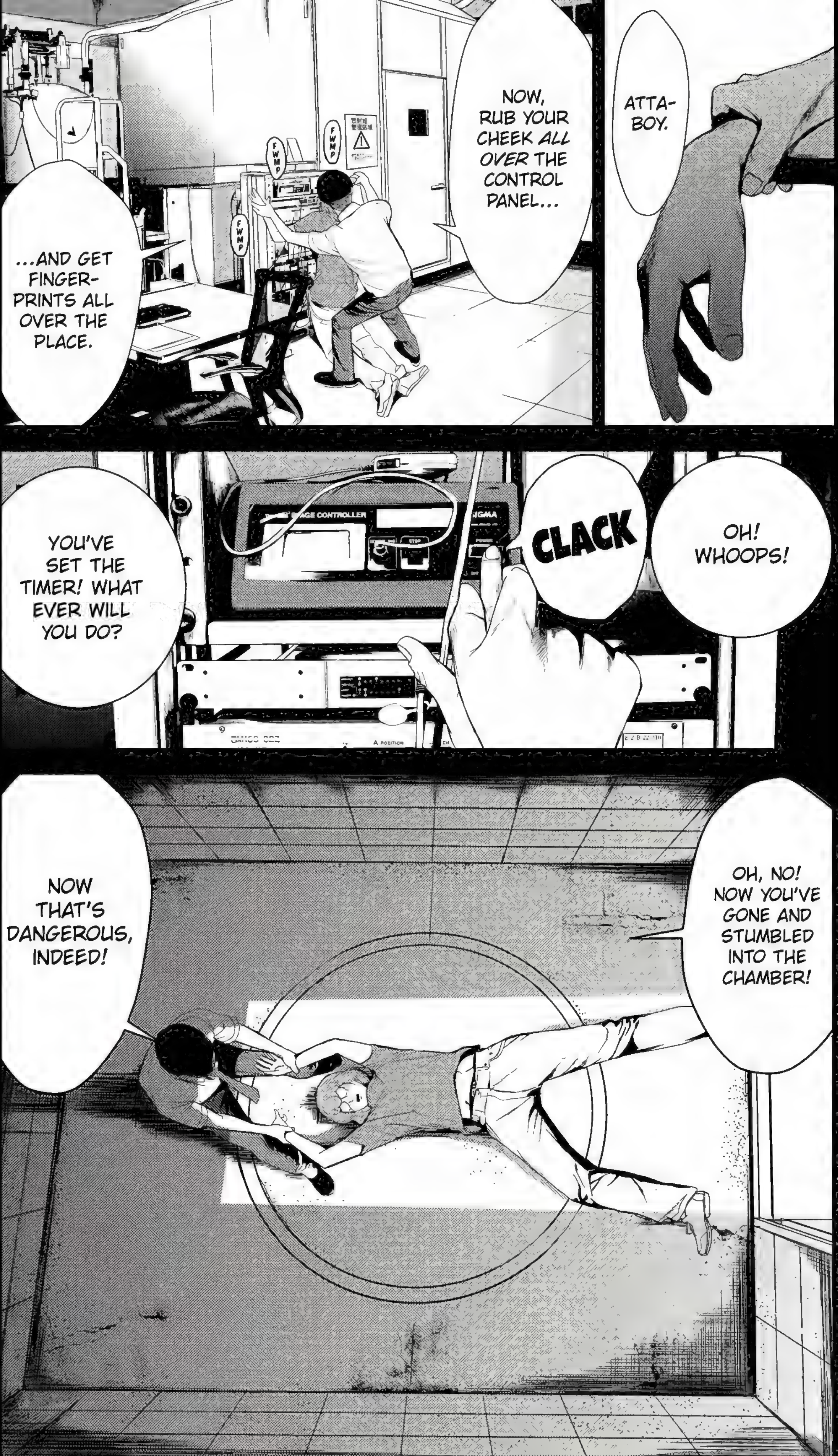

TMP
TMP
TMP
GREAT. HE *IS* DEAD.
MURDERED, BY THE LOOKS OF IT...
AFTER ALL THAT WORK I PUT INTO CREATING HIM...!
BUT NOBODY IS AT FAULT HERE.
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE AN EVEN *BETTER* CHIMERA NEXT TIME.
RIGHT?

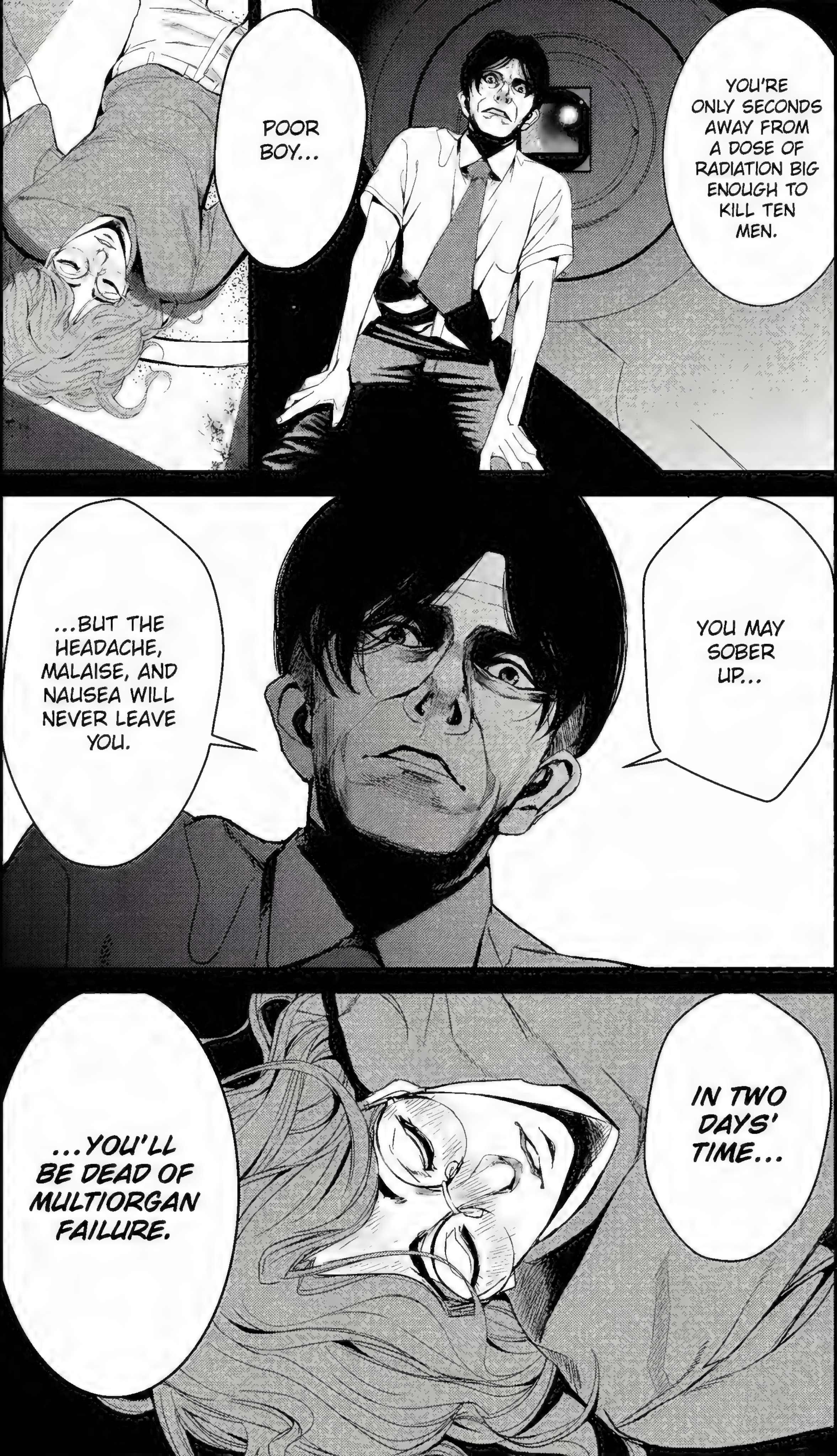

YAMA-BIKI-KUN...
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!
THANK YOU...
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!
THANK YOU...
YAMA-BIKI... KUN...
YAMABIKI-KUN...
YAMA-BIKI-KUN...
I SEE...
OF COURSE!

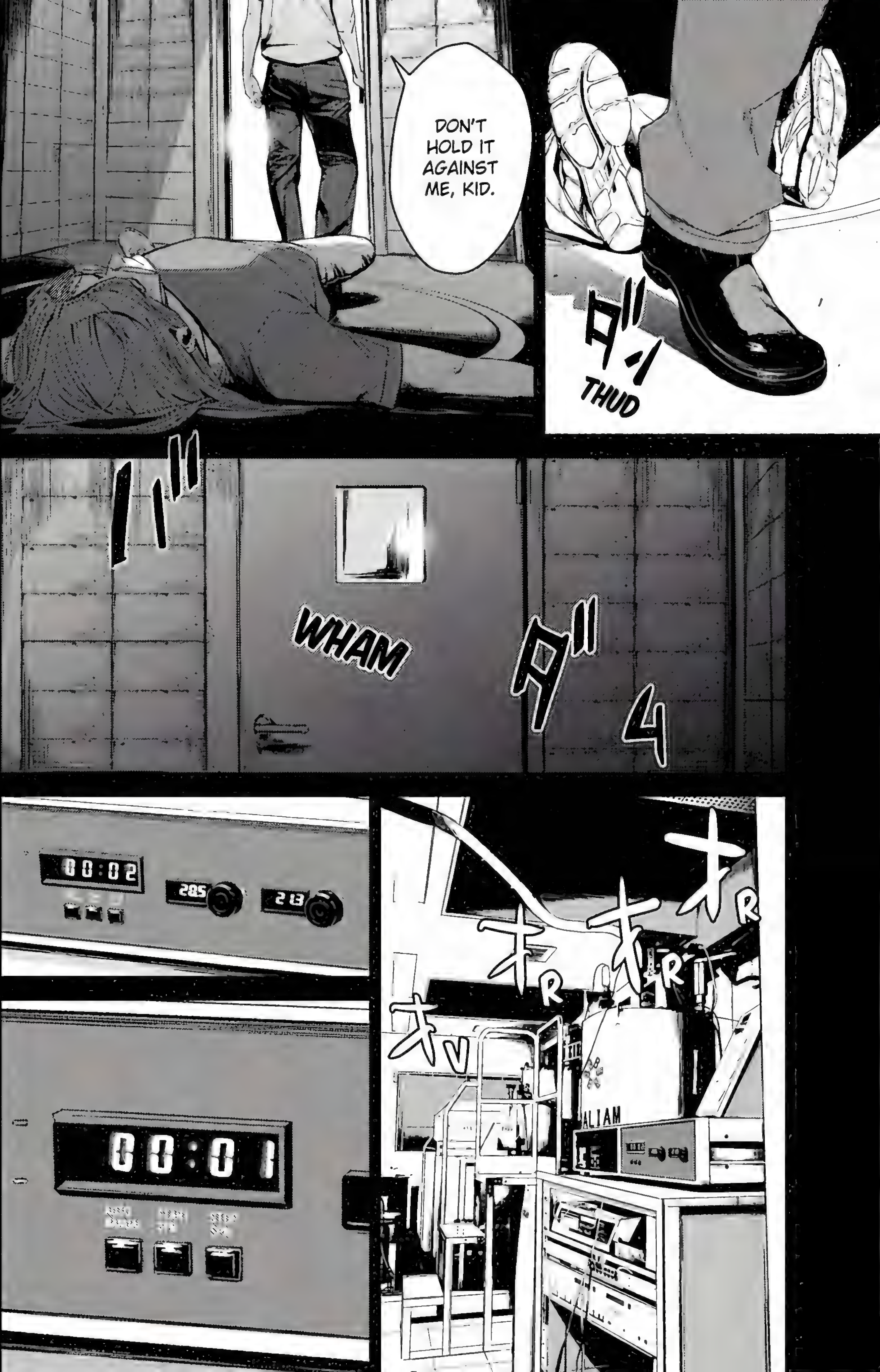

HE'S THE ONE...
...I SHOULD HAVE KILLED...

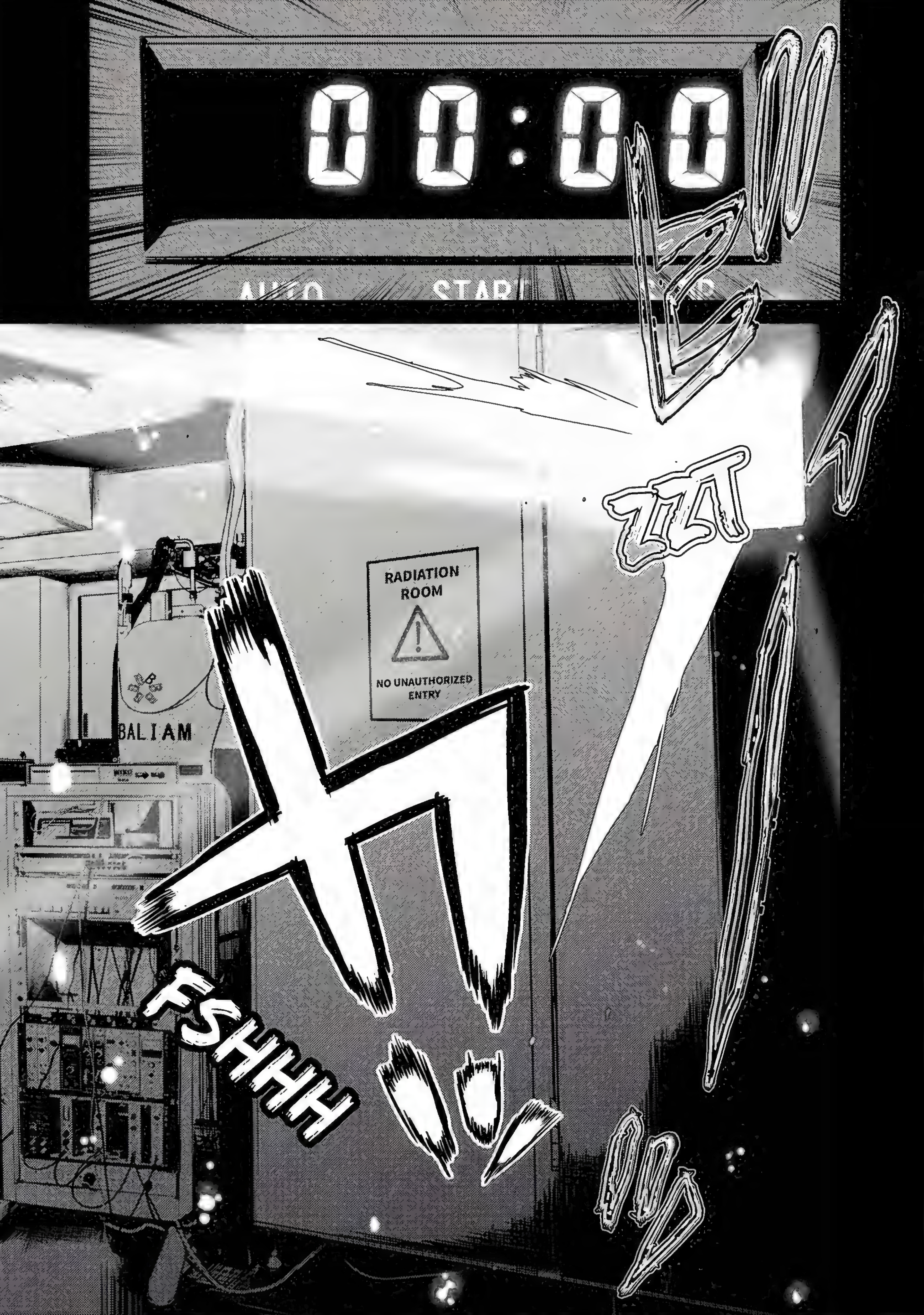

西7号館 E
dg. 8E & West
The MA
HIGHLAND
SCOTCH
2
THE YOUNG
TNK
ゴトッ
HMM?
IS THAT ...?!
A LITTLE PRESENT FROM AN OVERSEAS COLLEAGUE OF MINE. HE GAVE IT TO ME DURING MY LITTLE ACADEMIC TOUR.
WOW! THIS IS MACALLAN, ISN'T IT?!
I'M AFRAID I'M A WINE MAN, MYSELF, SO...
ALL RIGHT! THIS STUFF COSTS A FORTUNE!

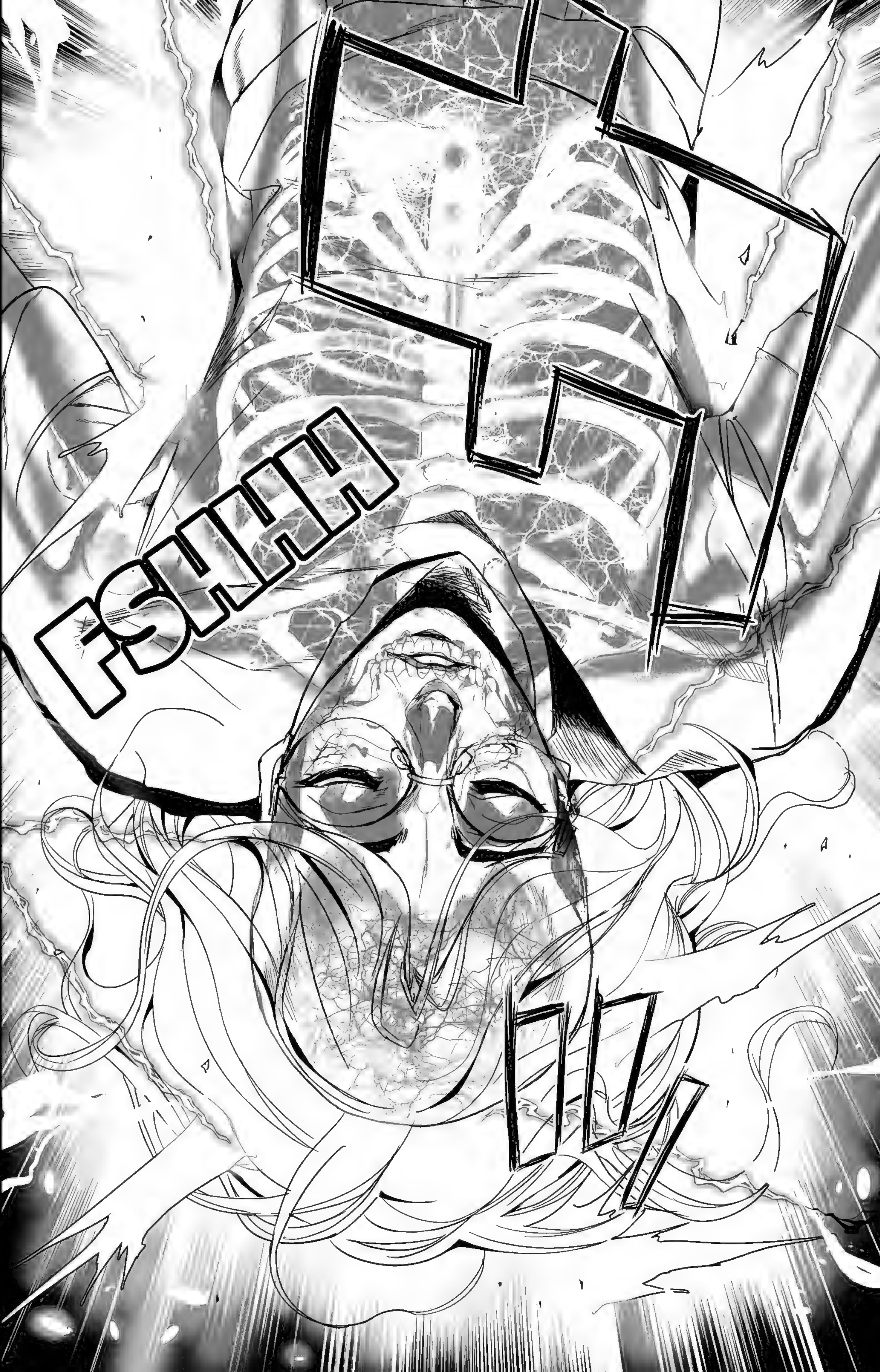

AND SO...
...YAMABIKI-KUN GOT GOOD AND WASTED...
...LEFT THE LABORATORY,
STUMBLED ABOUT...
RADIATION GENERATOR CONTROL ROOM
...AND, FOR WHATEVER REASON, WENT INTO THE RADIATION ROOM.
YOU NEVER CAN GUESS WHAT A DRUNK'S GOING TO DO, HMM?


ATTA-BOY.
NOW, RUB YOUR CHEEK *ALL OVER* THE CONTROL PANEL...
FWMP
FWMP
FWMP
...AND GET FINGER-PRINTS ALL OVER THE PLACE.
OH! WHOOPS!
CLACK
YOU'VE SET THE TIMER! WHAT EVER WILL YOU DO?
OH, NO! NOW YOU'VE GONE AND STUMBLED INTO THE CHAMBER!
NOW THAT'S DANGEROUS, INDEED!

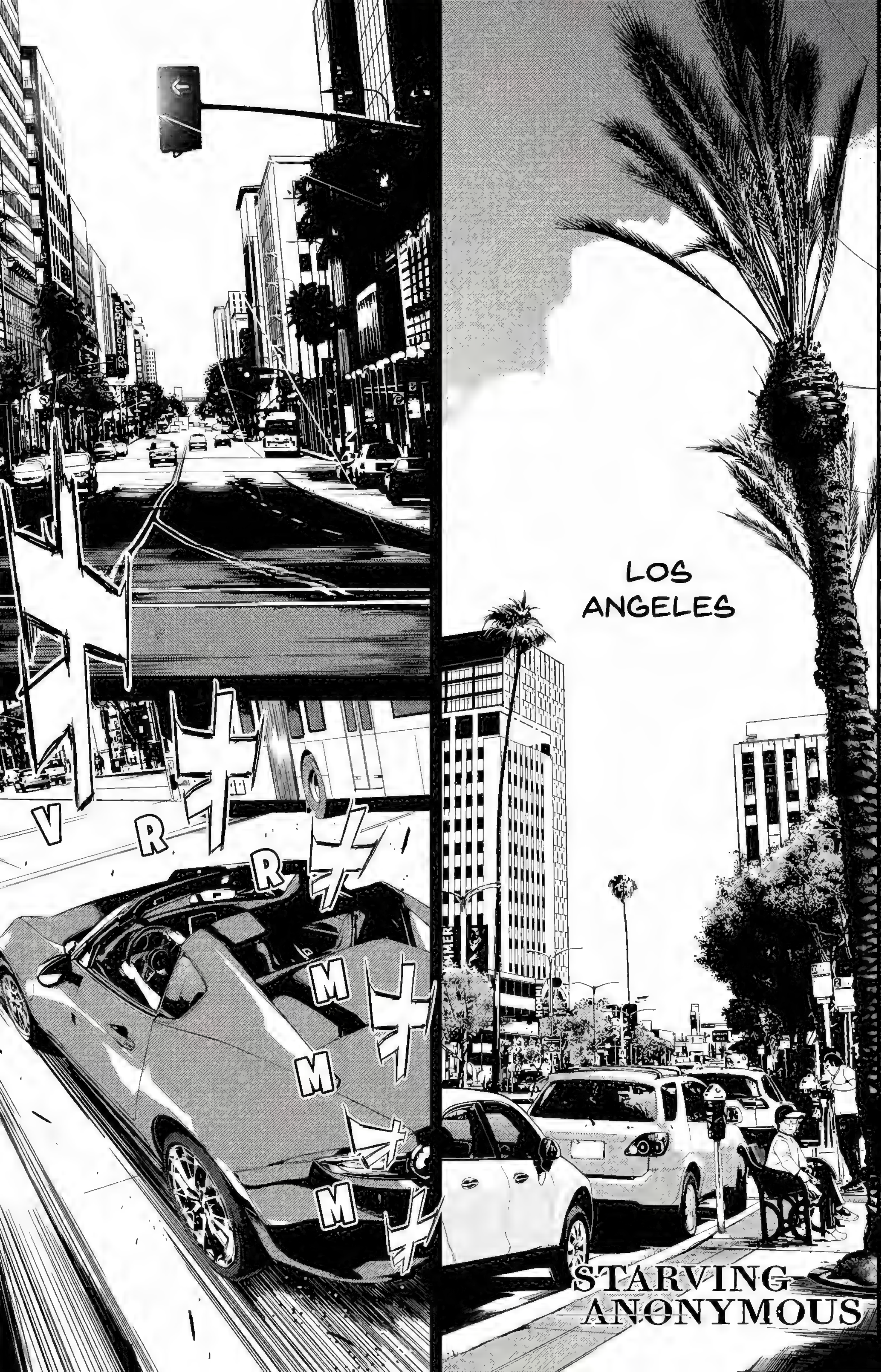

YOU'RE ONLY SECONDS AWAY FROM A DOSE OF RADIATION BIG ENOUGH TO KILL TEN MEN.
POOR BOY...
YOU MAY SOBER UP...
...BUT THE HEADACHE, MALAISE, AND NAUSEA WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU.
IN TWO DAYS' TIME...
...YOU'LL BE DEAD OF MULTIORGAN FAILURE.


ダッ
THUD
DON'T HOLD IT AGAINST ME, KID.
バ
WHAM
ダム
00:02
28.5
21.3
オ R
オ R
オ R
オ V
ALIAM
00:01

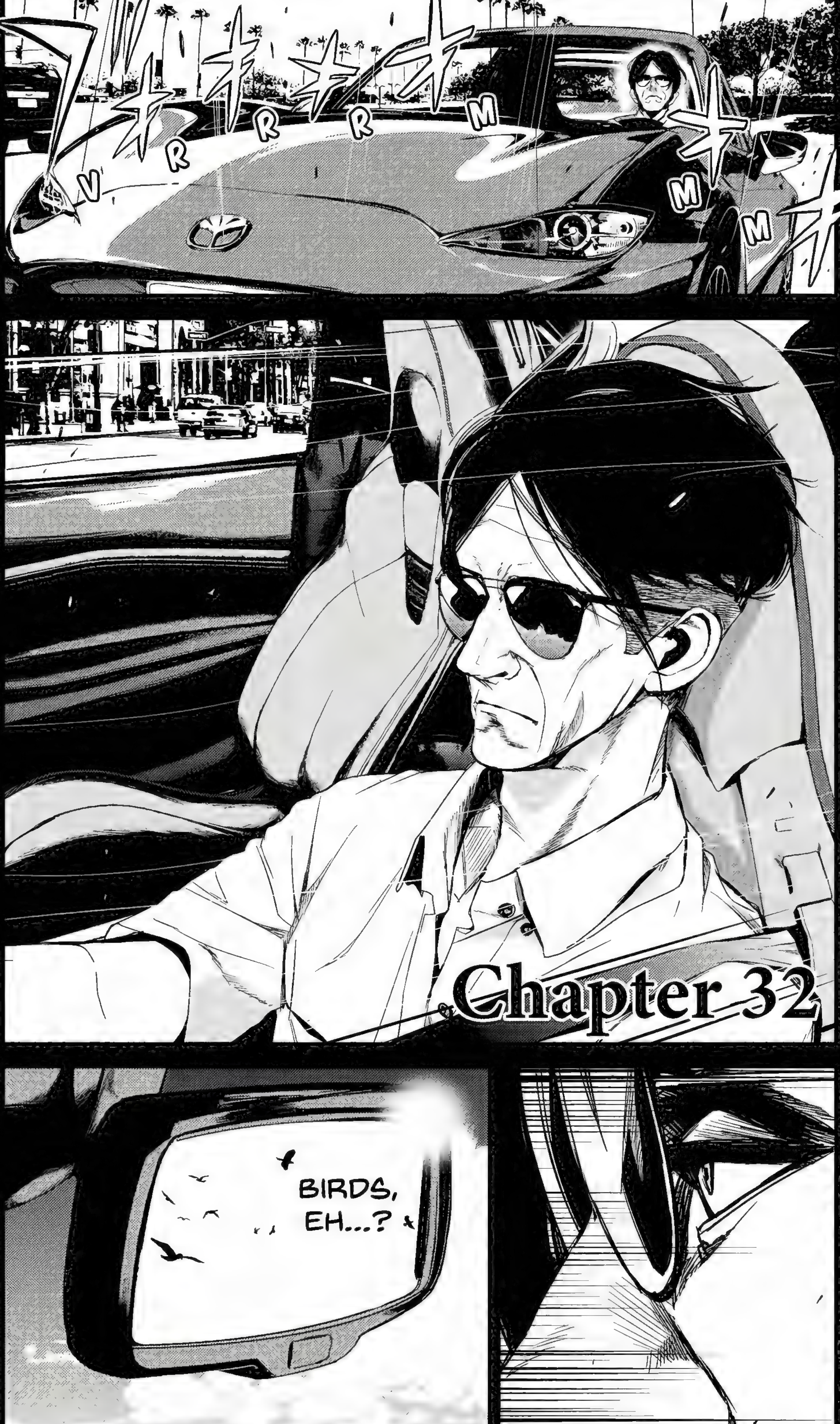

00:00
AUTO
START
ZZZT
RADIATION ROOM
NO UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY
BALIAM
FSHHH

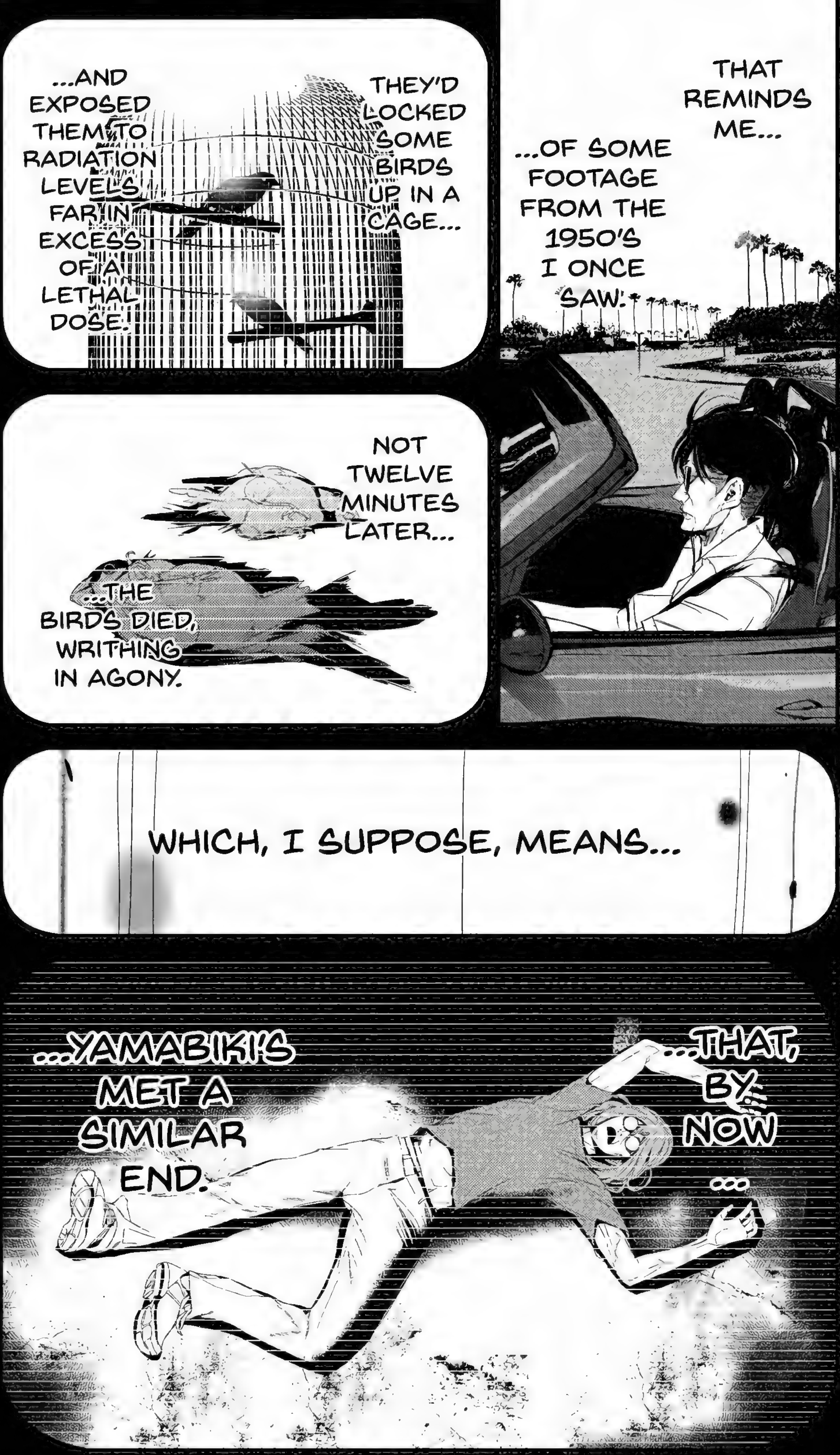

FSHHH

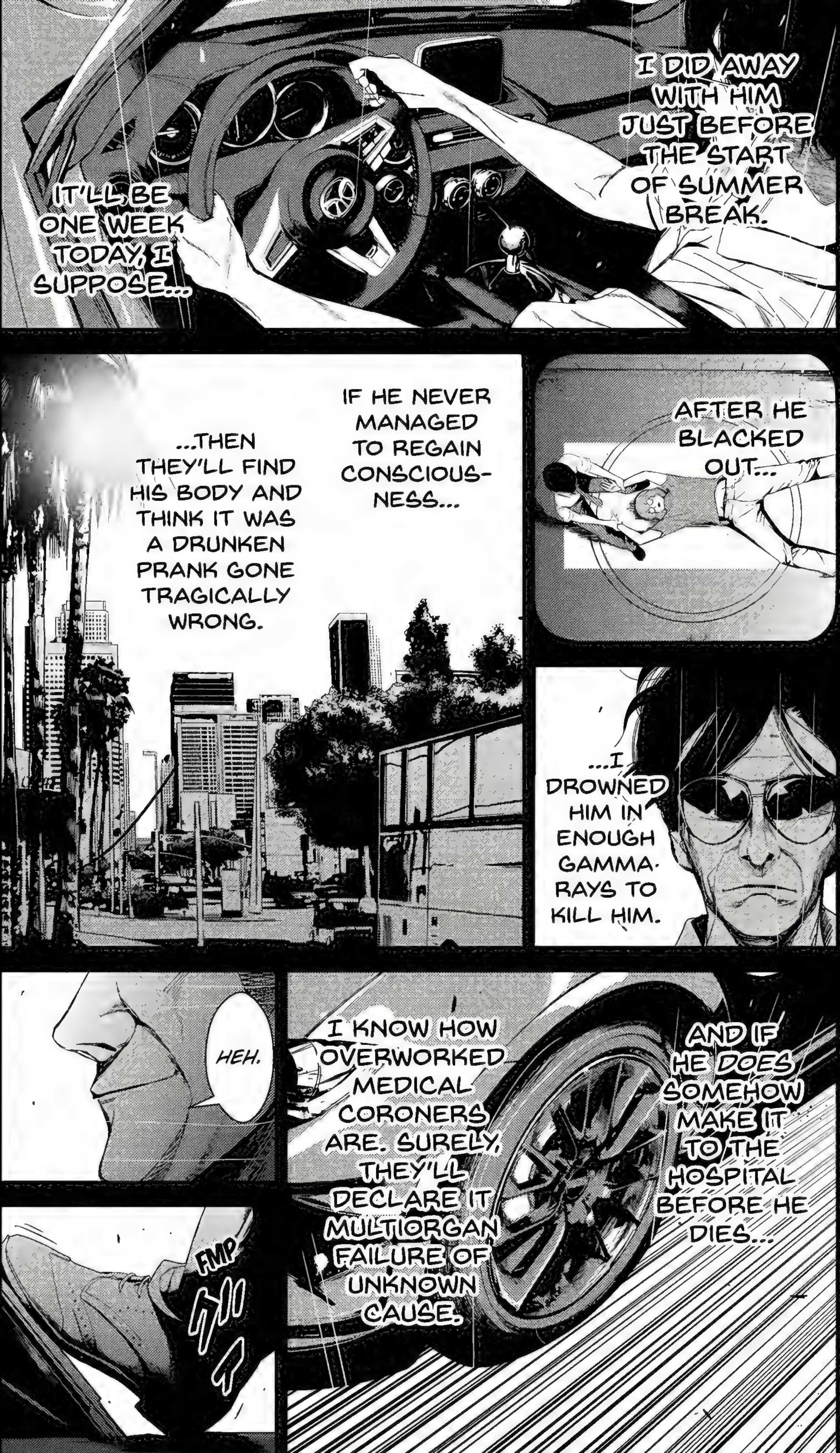
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

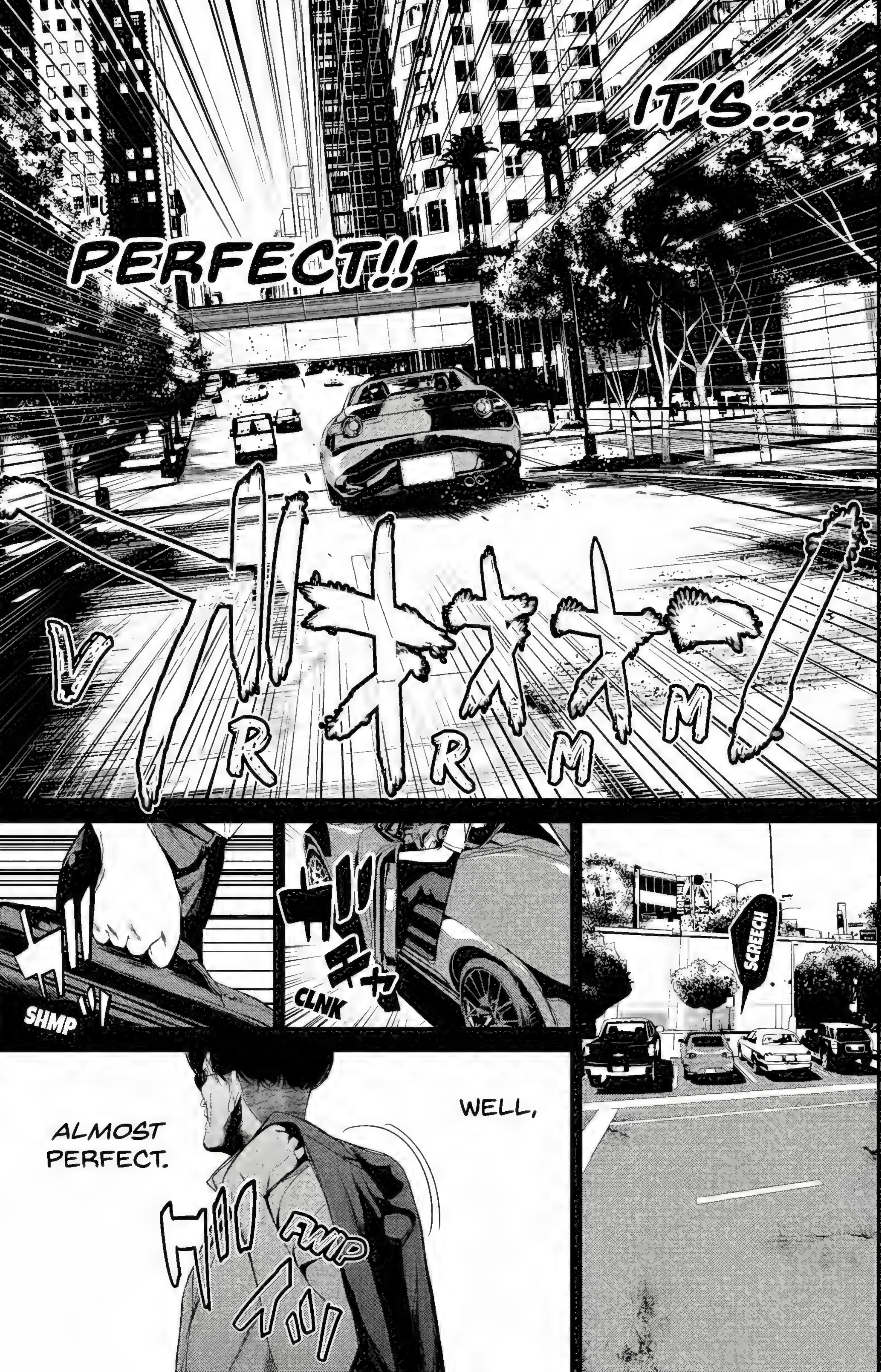

LOS ANGELES
STARVING ANONYMOUS
VRRRMMM

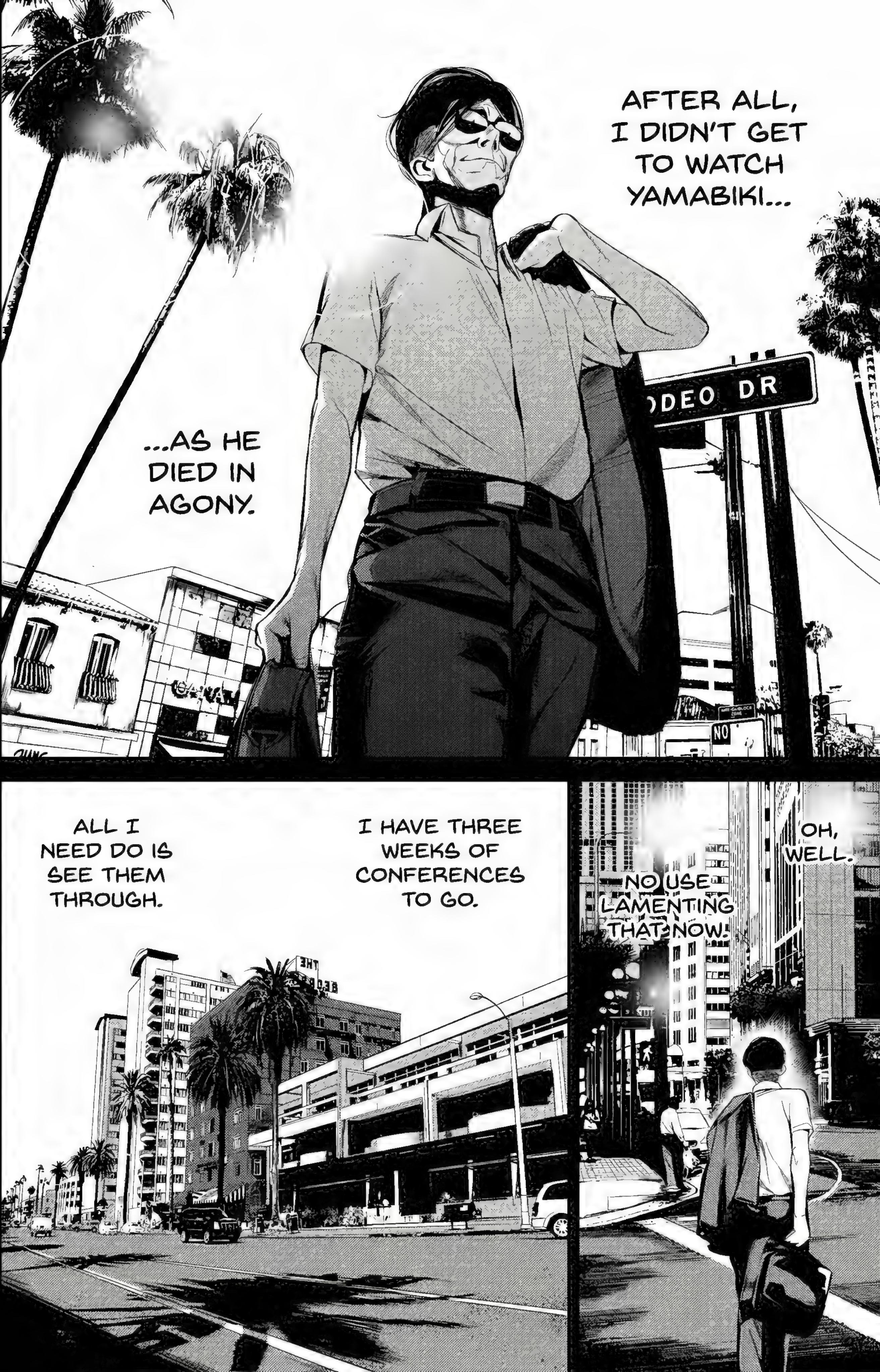
Chapter 32

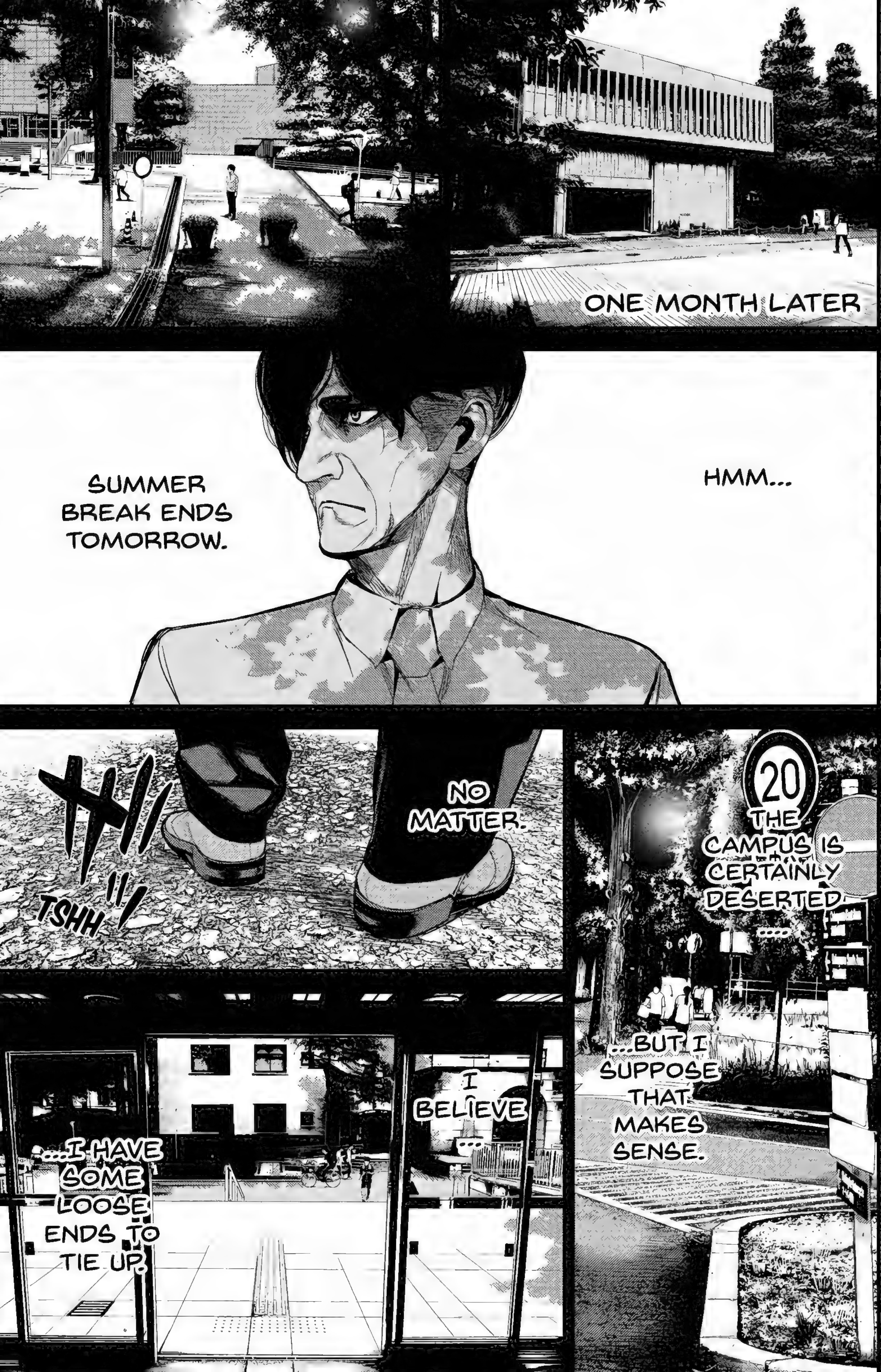

ブオオオオオオ
VRRRMMM
BIRDS, EH...?

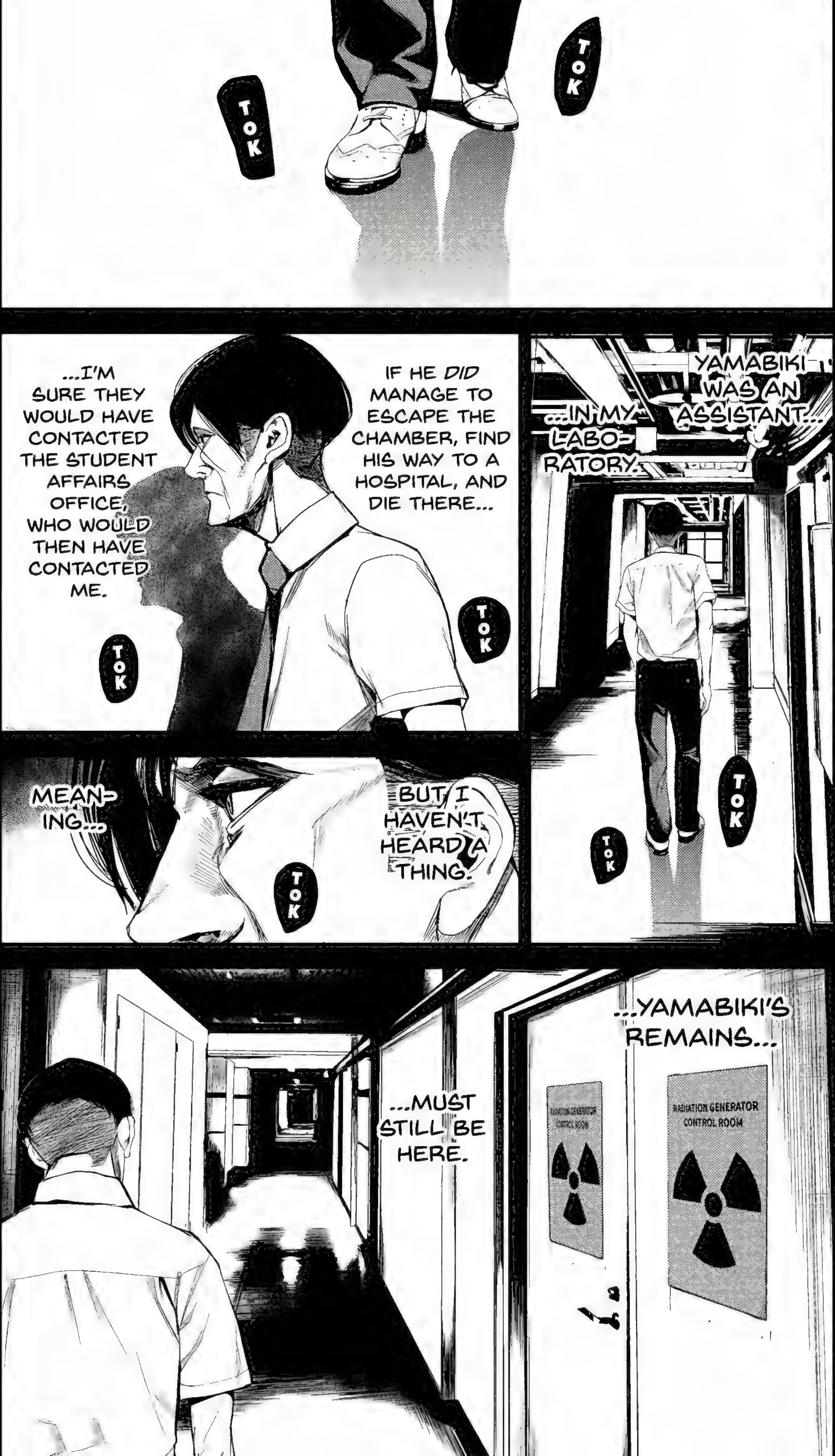

THAT REMINDS ME...
...OF SOME FOOTAGE FROM THE 1950'S I ONCE SAW.
THEY'D LOCKED SOME BIRDS UP IN A CAGE...
...AND EXPOSED THEM TO RADIATION LEVELS FAR IN EXCESS OF A LETHAL DOSE.
NOT TWELVE MINUTES LATER...
...THE BIRDS DIED, WRITHING IN AGONY.
WHICH, I SUPPOSE, MEANS...
...THAT, BY NOW...
...YAMABIKI'S MET A SIMILAR END.

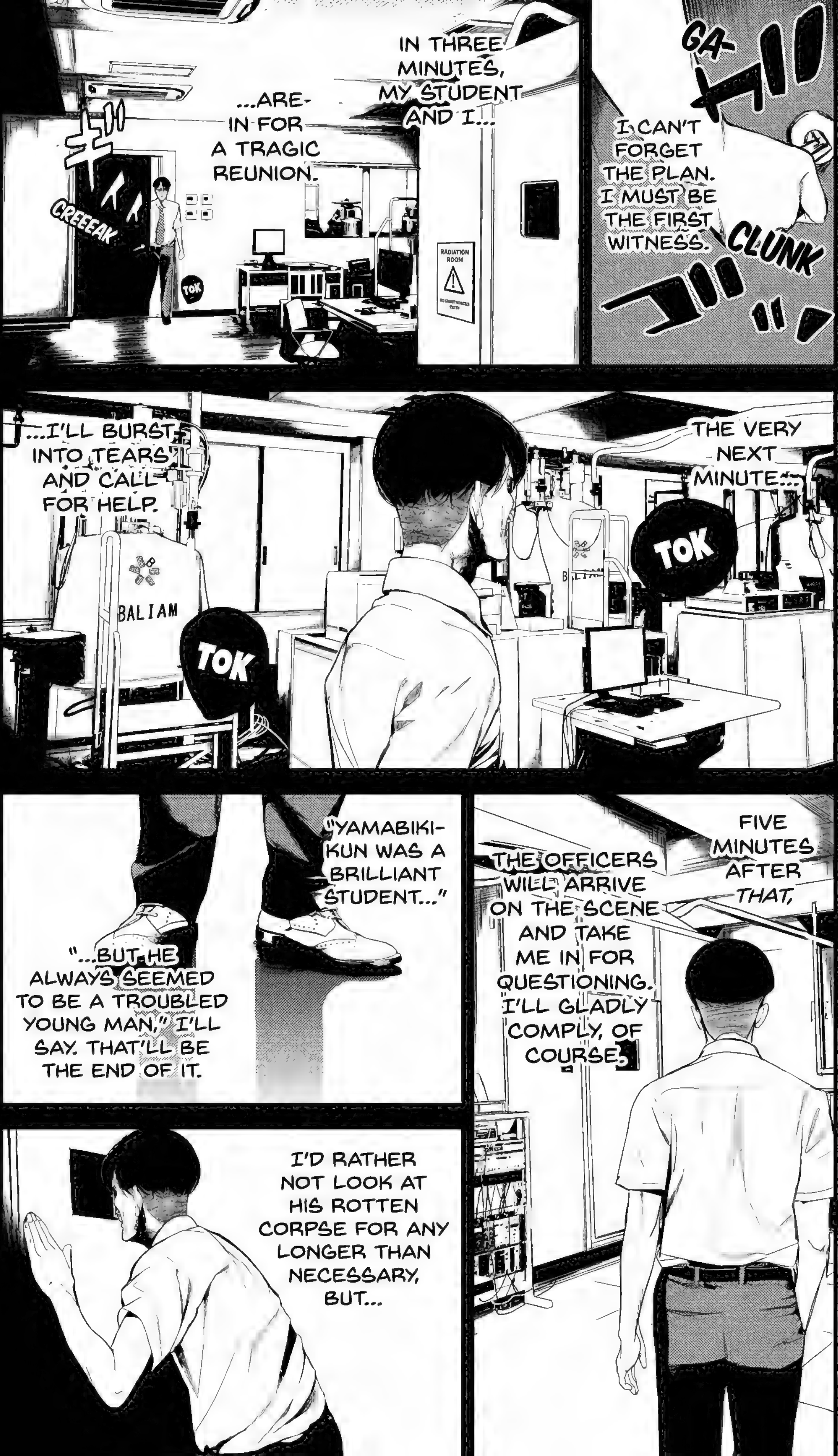

I DID AWAY WITH HIM JUST BEFORE THE START OF SUMMER BREAK.
IT'LL BE ONE WEEK TODAY, I SUPPOSE...
AFTER HE BLACKED OUT...
...I DROWNED HIM IN ENOUGH GAMMA RAYS TO KILL HIM.
IF HE NEVER MANAGED TO REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS...
...THEN THEY'LL FIND HIS BODY AND THINK IT WAS A DRUNKEN PRANK GONE TRAGICALLY WRONG.
AND IF HE *DOES* SOMEHOW MAKE IT TO THE HOSPITAL BEFORE HE DIES...
I KNOW HOW OVERWORKED MEDICAL CORONERS ARE. SURELY, THEY'LL DECLARE IT MULTIORGAN FAILURE OF UNKNOWN CAUSE.
HEH.
FMP

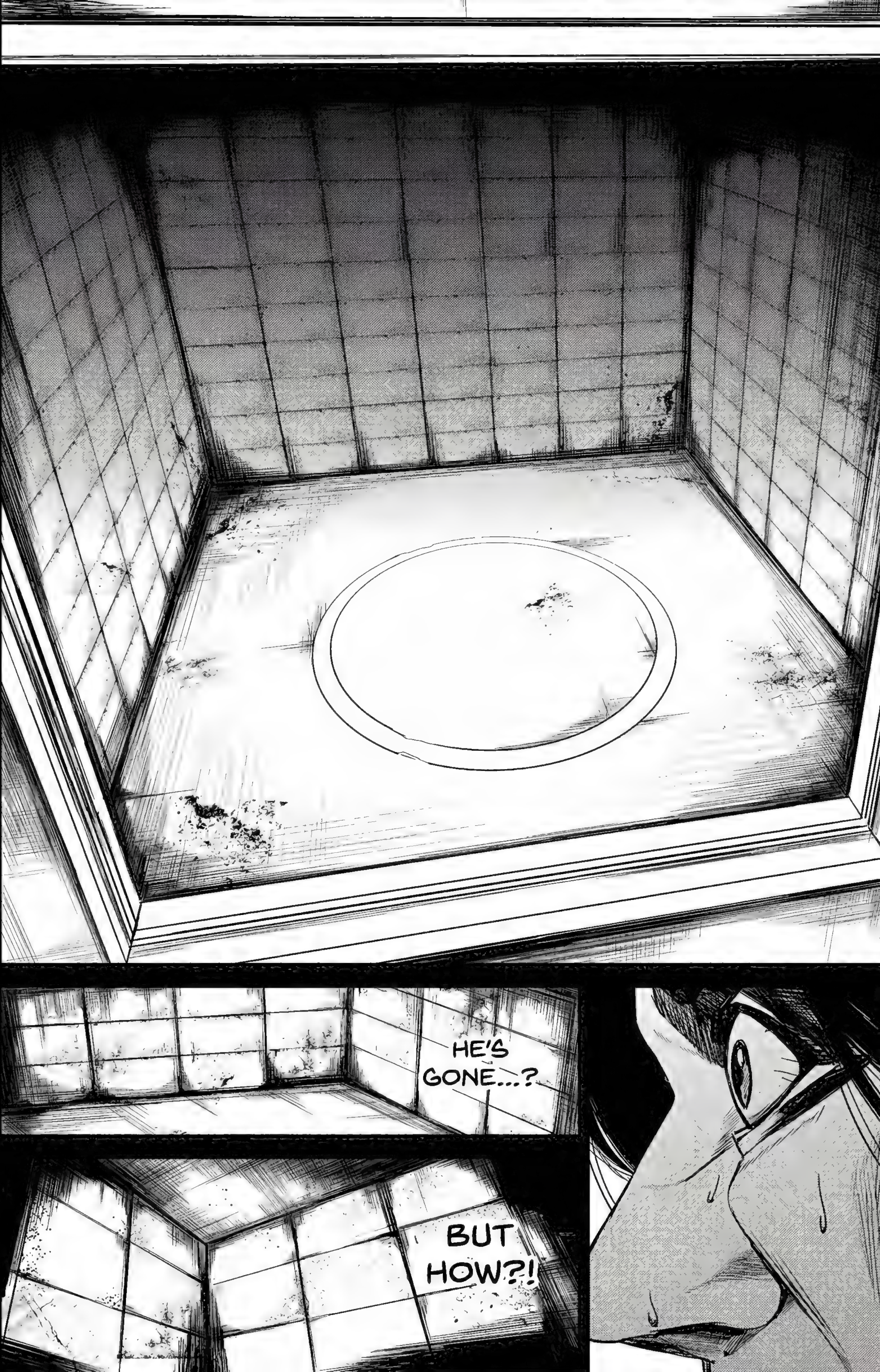

IT'S...
PERFECT!!
VRRMMM
SCREECH
CLNK
SHMP
WELL,
ALMOST PERFECT.
FWIP

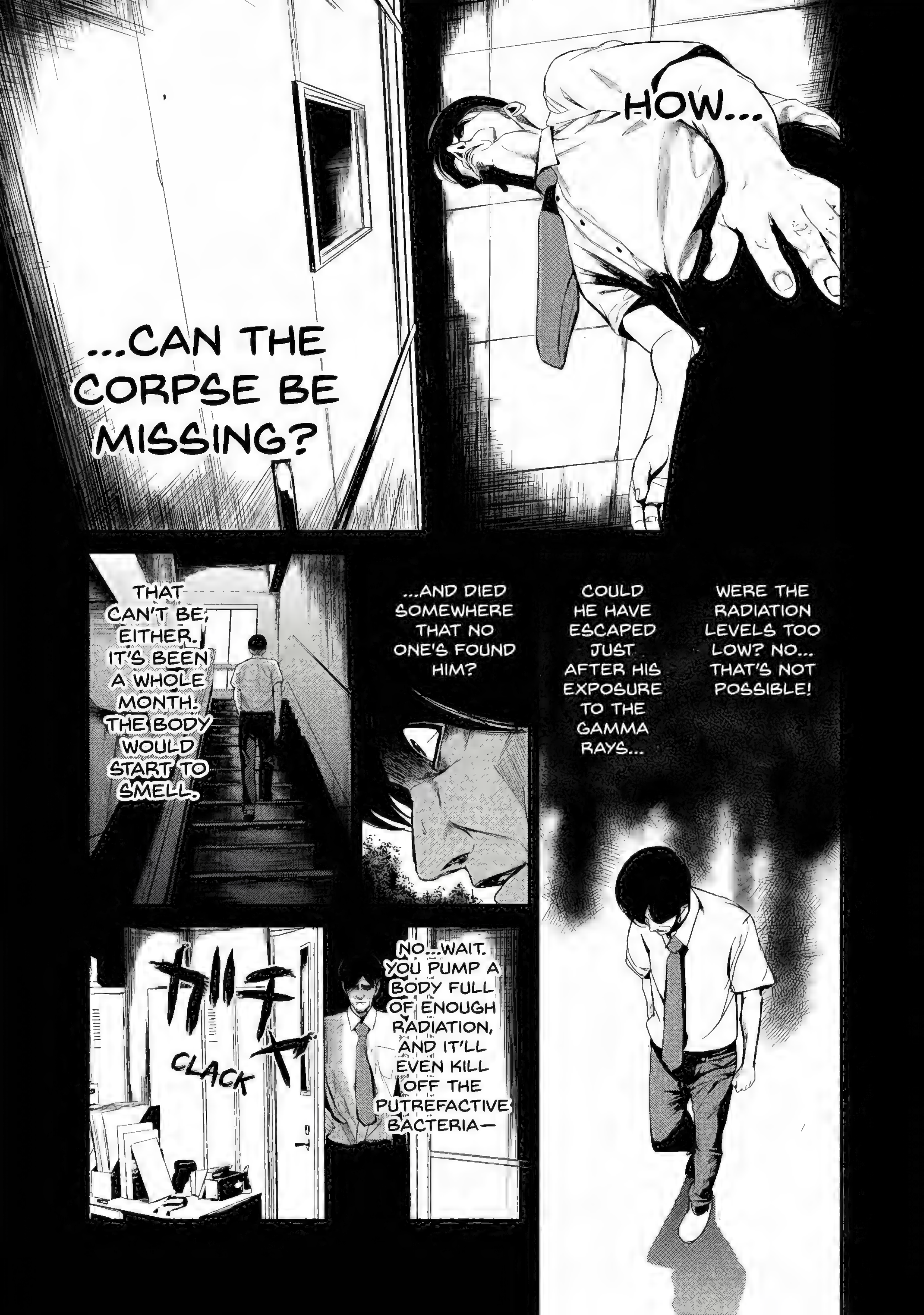

AFTER ALL, I DIDN'T GET TO WATCH YAMABIKI...
...AS HE DIED IN AGONY.
ODEO DR
OH, WELL.
NO USE LAMENTING THAT NOW.
I HAVE THREE WEEKS OF CONFERENCES TO GO.
ALL I NEED DO IS SEE THEM THROUGH.

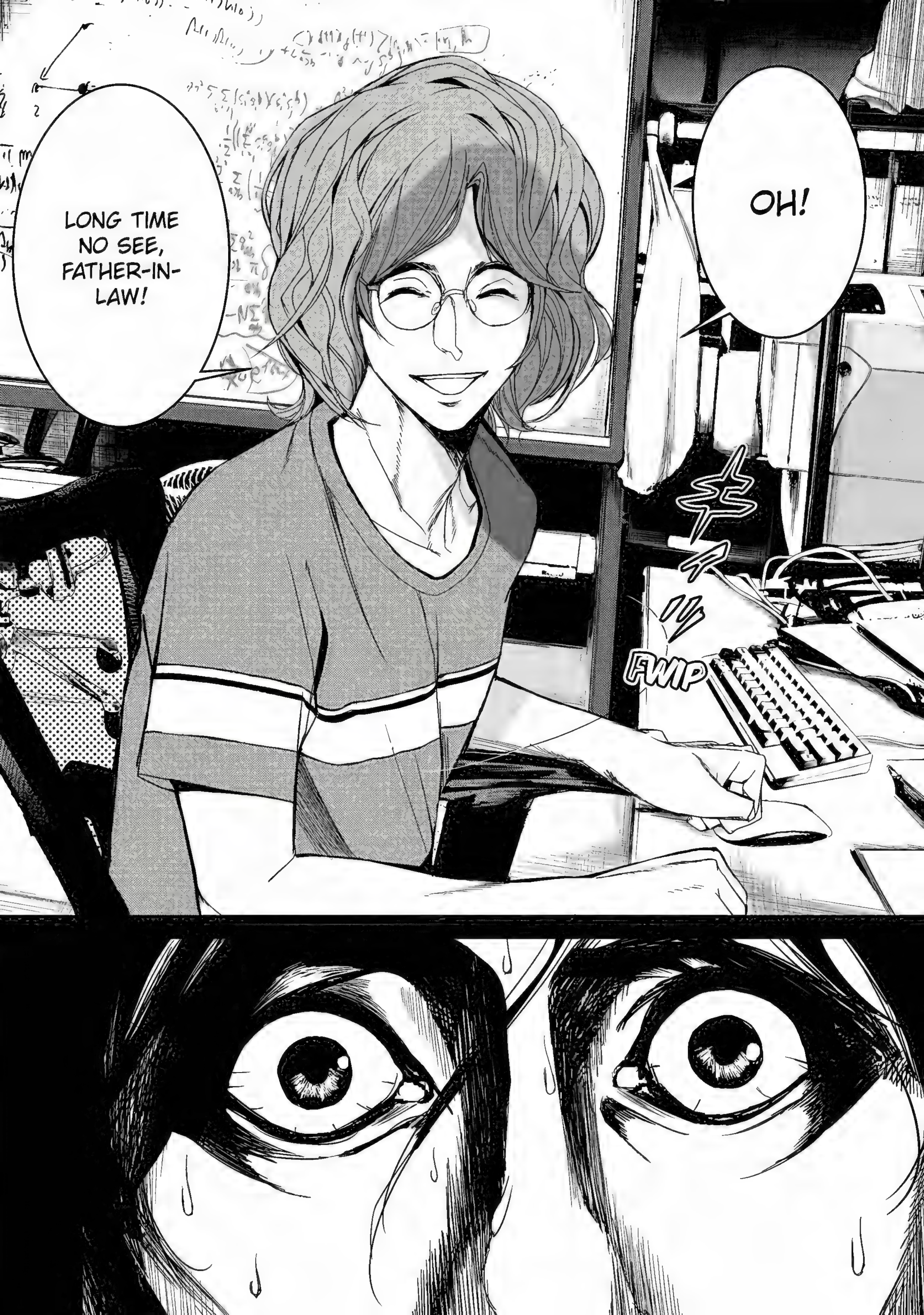

ONE MONTH LATER
HMM...
SUMMER BREAK ENDS TOMORROW.
20
THE CAMPUS IS CERTAINLY DESERTED....
...BUT I SUPPOSE THAT MAKES SENSE.
NO MATTER.
TSHH
I BELIEVE...
...I HAVE SOME LOOSE ENDS TO TIE UP.

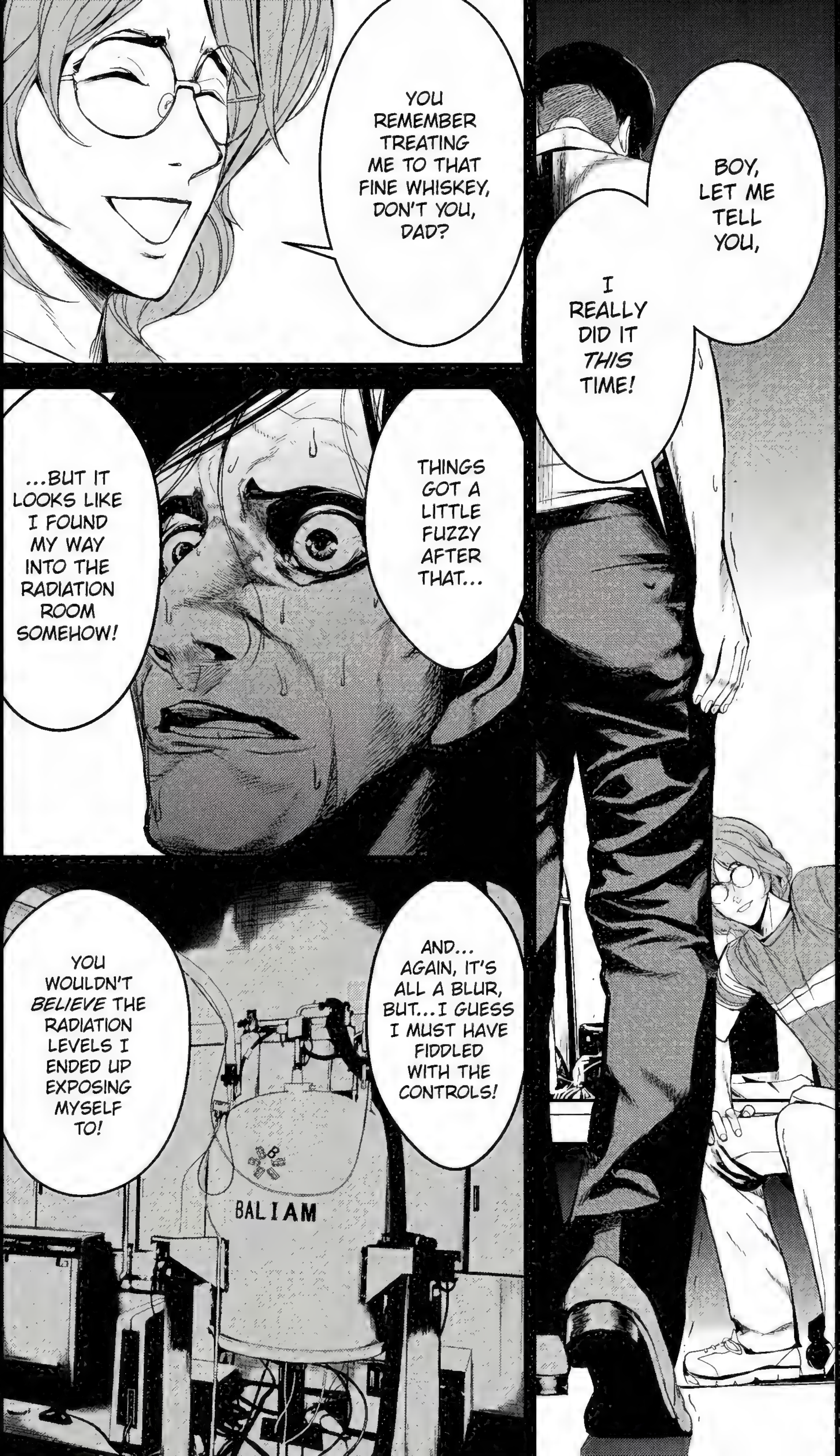

TOK
TOK
YAMABIKI WAS AN ASSISTANT...
...IN MY LABORATORY.
TOK
TOK
IF HE *DID* MANAGE TO ESCAPE THE CHAMBER, FIND HIS WAY TO A HOSPITAL, AND DIE THERE...
...I'M SURE THEY WOULD HAVE CONTACTED THE STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE, WHO WOULD THEN HAVE CONTACTED ME.
TOK
TOK
BUT I HAVEN'T HEARD A THING.
MEANING...
TOK
...YAMABIKI'S REMAINS...
...MUST STILL BE HERE.
RADIATION GENERATOR CONTROL ROOM
RADIATION GENERATOR CONTROL ROOM

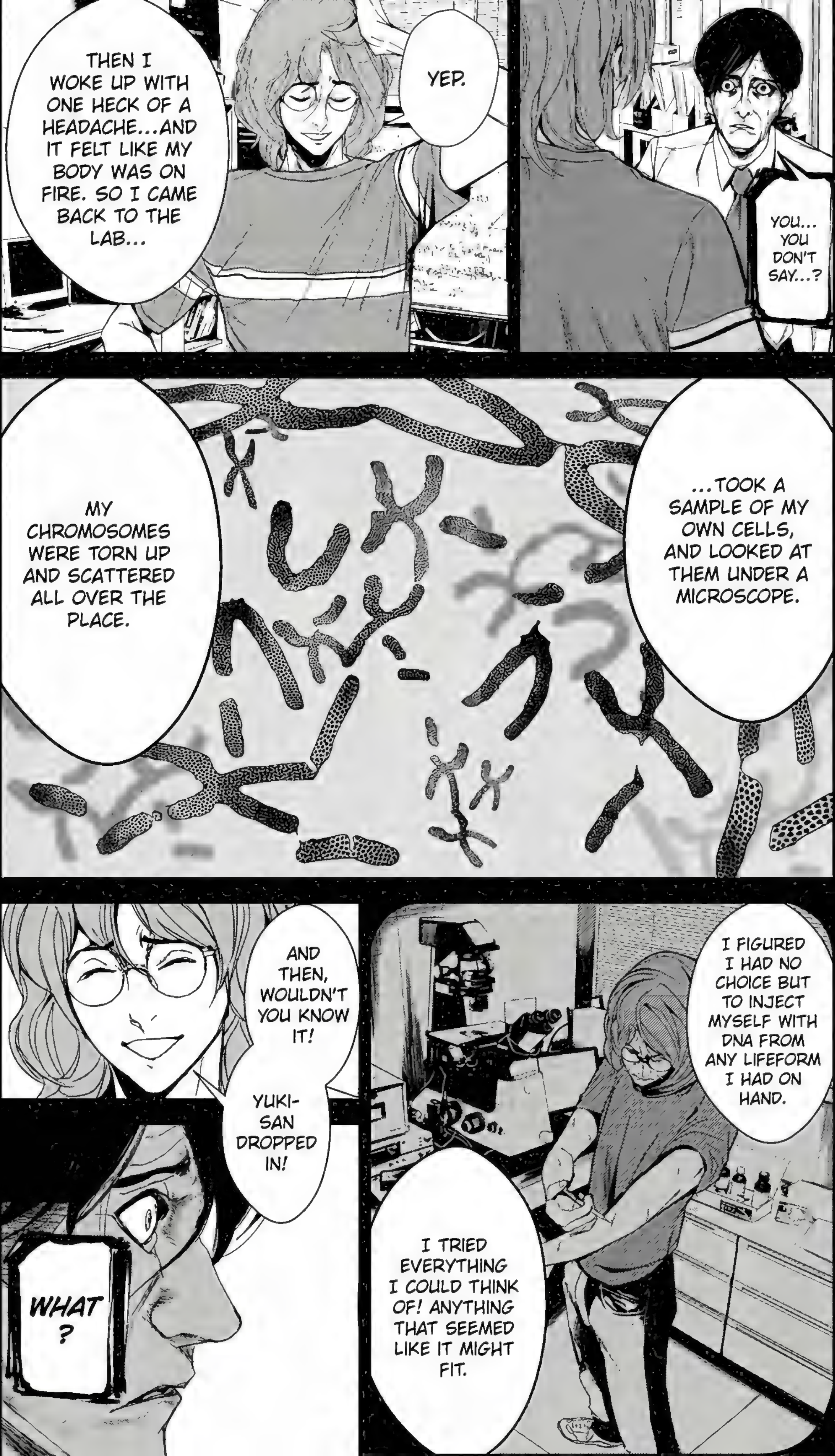

GA
I CAN'T FORGET THE PLAN. I MUST BE THE FIRST WITNESS.
CLUNK
IN THREE MINUTES, MY STUDENT AND I...
...ARE IN FOR A TRAGIC REUNION.
CREEEAK
TOK
RADIATION ROOM
THE VERY NEXT MINUTE...
TOK
...I'LL BURST INTO TEARS AND CALL FOR HELP.
TOK
BALIAM
FIVE MINUTES AFTER *THAT*,
THE OFFICERS WILL ARRIVE ON THE SCENE AND TAKE ME IN FOR QUESTIONING. I'LL GLADLY COMPLY, OF COURSE.
"YAMABIKI-KUN WAS A BRILLIANT STUDENT..."
"...BUT HE ALWAYS SEEMED TO BE A TROUBLED YOUNG MAN," I'LL SAY. THAT'LL BE THE END OF IT.
I'D RATHER NOT LOOK AT HIS ROTTEN CORPSE FOR ANY LONGER THAN NECESSARY, BUT...

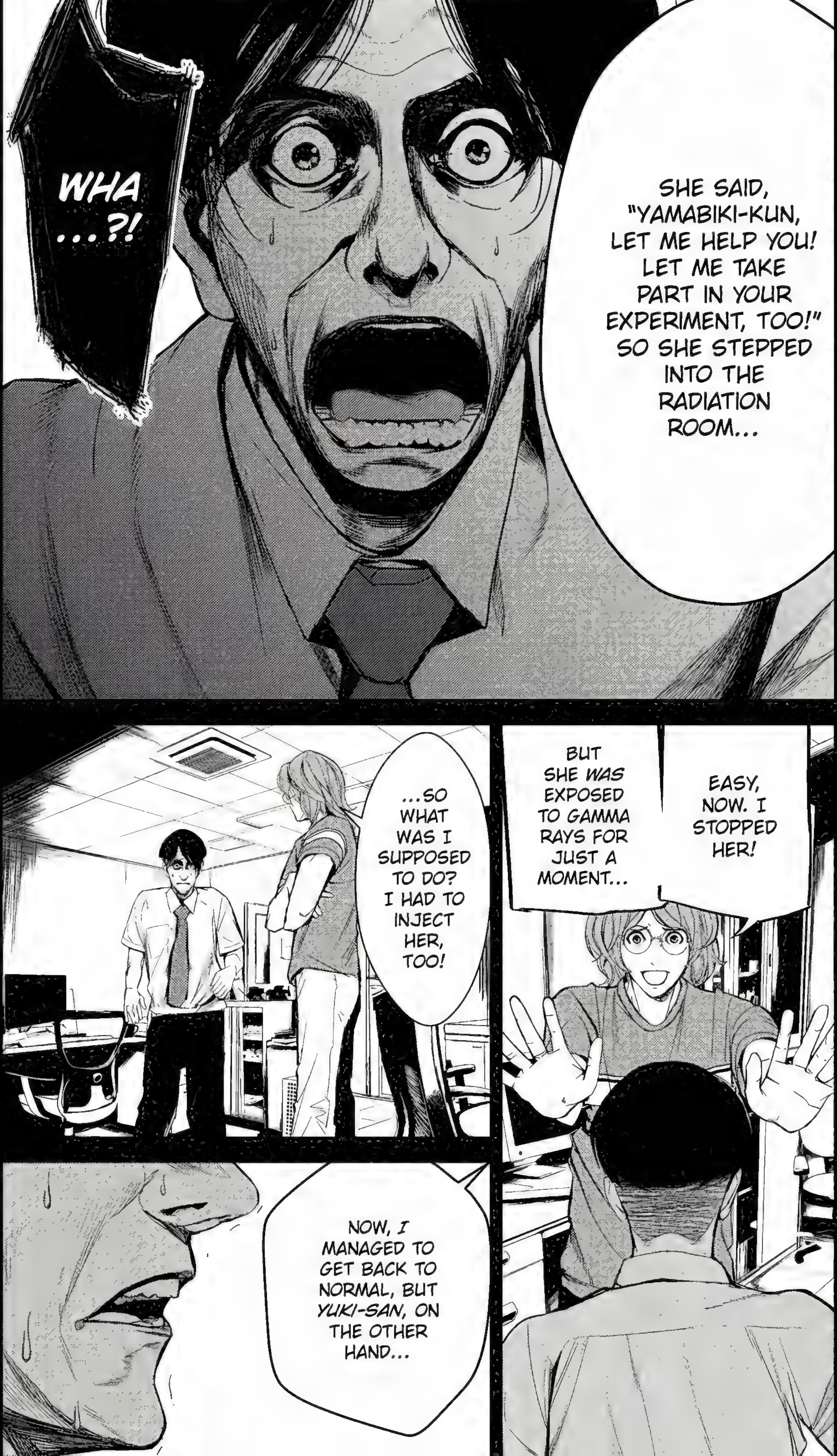

HE'S GONE...?
BUT HOW?!

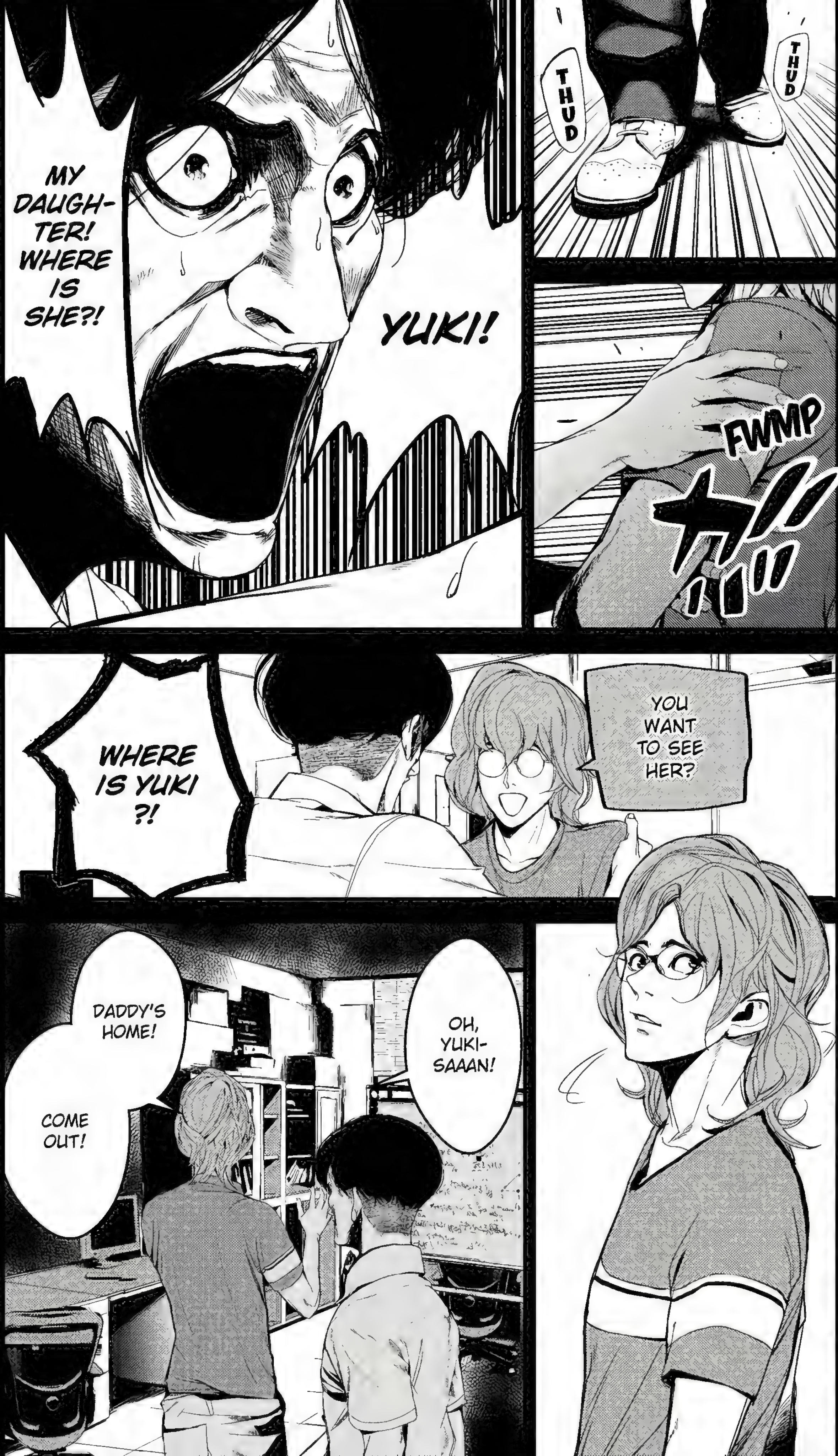

HOW...
...CAN THE CORPSE BE MISSING?
WERE THE RADIATION LEVELS TOO LOW? NO... THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
COULD HE HAVE ESCAPED JUST AFTER HIS EXPOSURE TO THE GAMMA RAYS...
...AND DIED SOMEWHERE THAT NO ONE'S FOUND HIM?
THAT CAN'T BE, EITHER. IT'S BEEN A WHOLE MONTH. THE BODY WOULD START TO SMELL.
NO...WAIT. YOU PUMP A BODY FULL OF ENOUGH RADIATION, AND IT'LL EVEN KILL OFF THE PUTREFACTIVE BACTERIA—
ガチャ
CLACK

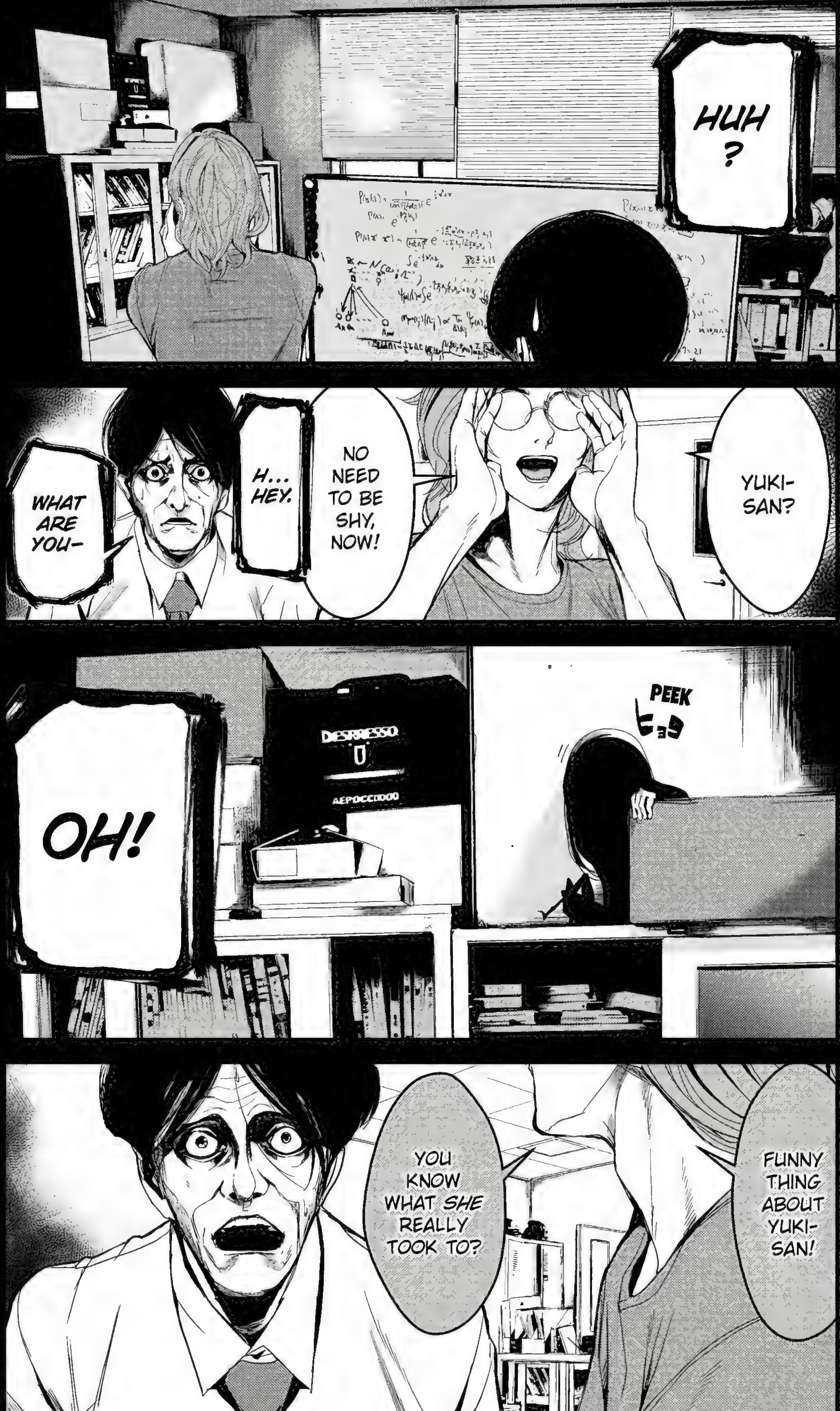

OH!
FWIP
LONG TIME NO SEE, FATHER-IN-LAW!

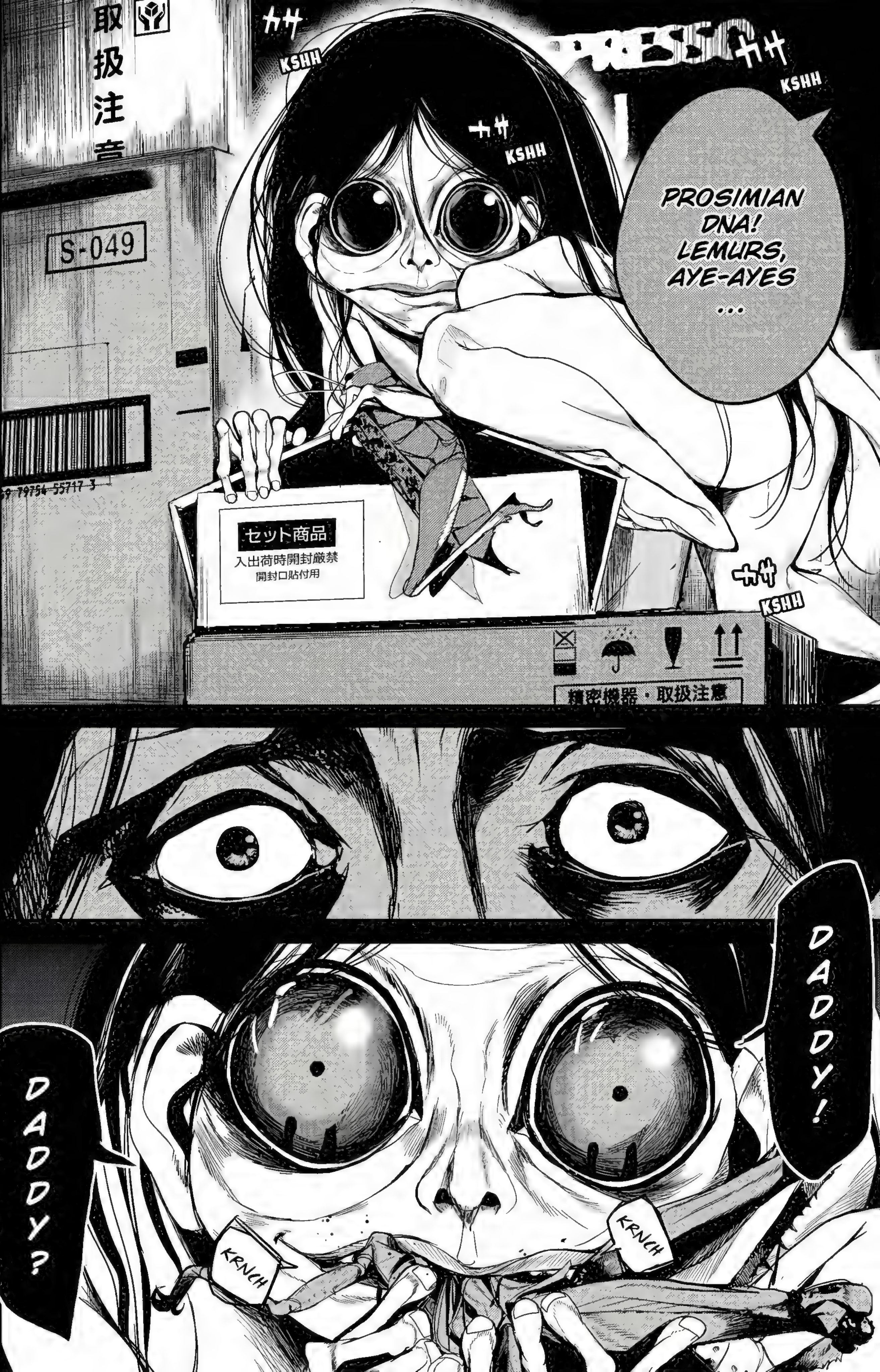

BOY, LET ME TELL YOU,
I REALLY DID IT *THIS* TIME!
YOU REMEMBER TREATING ME TO THAT FINE WHISKEY, DON'T YOU, DAD?
THINGS GOT A LITTLE FUZZY AFTER THAT...
...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I FOUND MY WAY INTO THE RADIATION ROOM SOMEHOW!
AND... AGAIN, IT'S ALL A BLUR, BUT...I GUESS I MUST HAVE FIDDLED WITH THE CONTROLS!
YOU WOULDN'T *BELIEVE* THE RADIATION LEVELS I ENDED UP EXPOSING MYSELF TO!
BALIAM

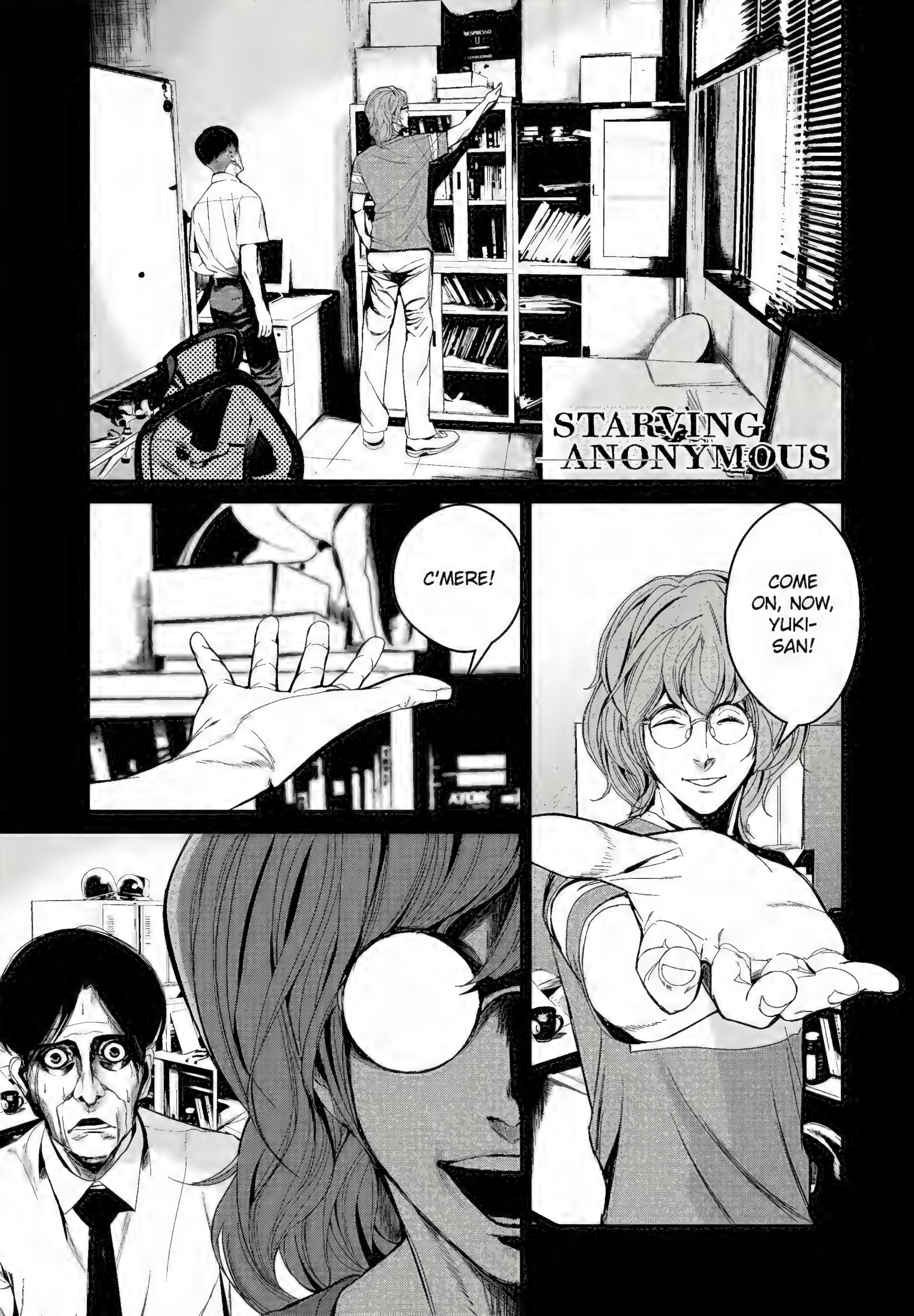

YOU... YOU DON'T SAY...?
YEP.
THEN I WOKE UP WITH ONE HECK OF A HEADACHE...AND IT FELT LIKE MY BODY WAS ON FIRE. SO I CAME BACK TO THE LAB...
...TOOK A SAMPLE OF MY OWN CELLS, AND LOOKED AT THEM UNDER A MICROSCOPE.
MY CHROMOSOMES WERE TORN UP AND SCATTERED ALL OVER THE PLACE.
I FIGURED I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO INJECT MYSELF WITH DNA FROM ANY LIFEFORM I HAD ON HAND.
I TRIED EVERYTHING I COULD THINK OF! ANYTHING THAT SEEMED LIKE IT MIGHT FIT.
AND THEN, WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT!
YUKI-SAN DROPPED IN!
WHAT?


SHE SAID, "YAMABIKI-KUN, LET ME HELP YOU! LET ME TAKE PART IN YOUR EXPERIMENT, TOO!" SO SHE STEPPED INTO THE RADIATION ROOM...
WHA ...?!
EASY, NOW. I STOPPED HER!
BUT SHE *WAS* EXPOSED TO GAMMA RAYS FOR JUST A MOMENT...
...SO WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO? I HAD TO INJECT HER, TOO!
NOW, *I* MANAGED TO GET BACK TO NORMAL, BUT *YUKI-SAN*, ON THE OTHER HAND...

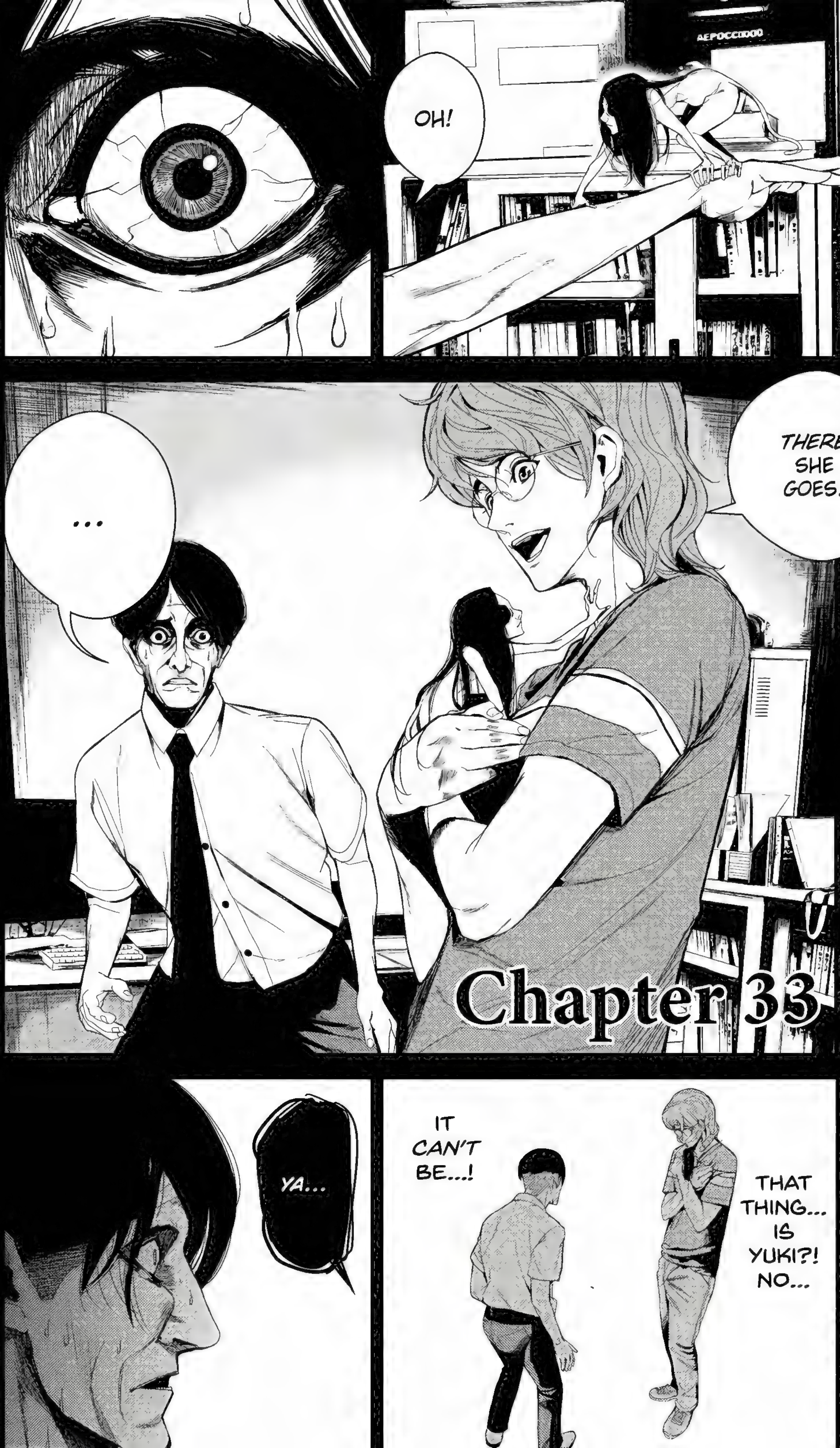

THUD
THUD
FWMP
ガッ
YUKI!
MY DAUGHTER! WHERE IS SHE?!
WHERE IS YUKI?!
YOU WANT TO SEE HER?
OH, YUKI-SAAAN!
DADDY'S HOME!
COME OUT!

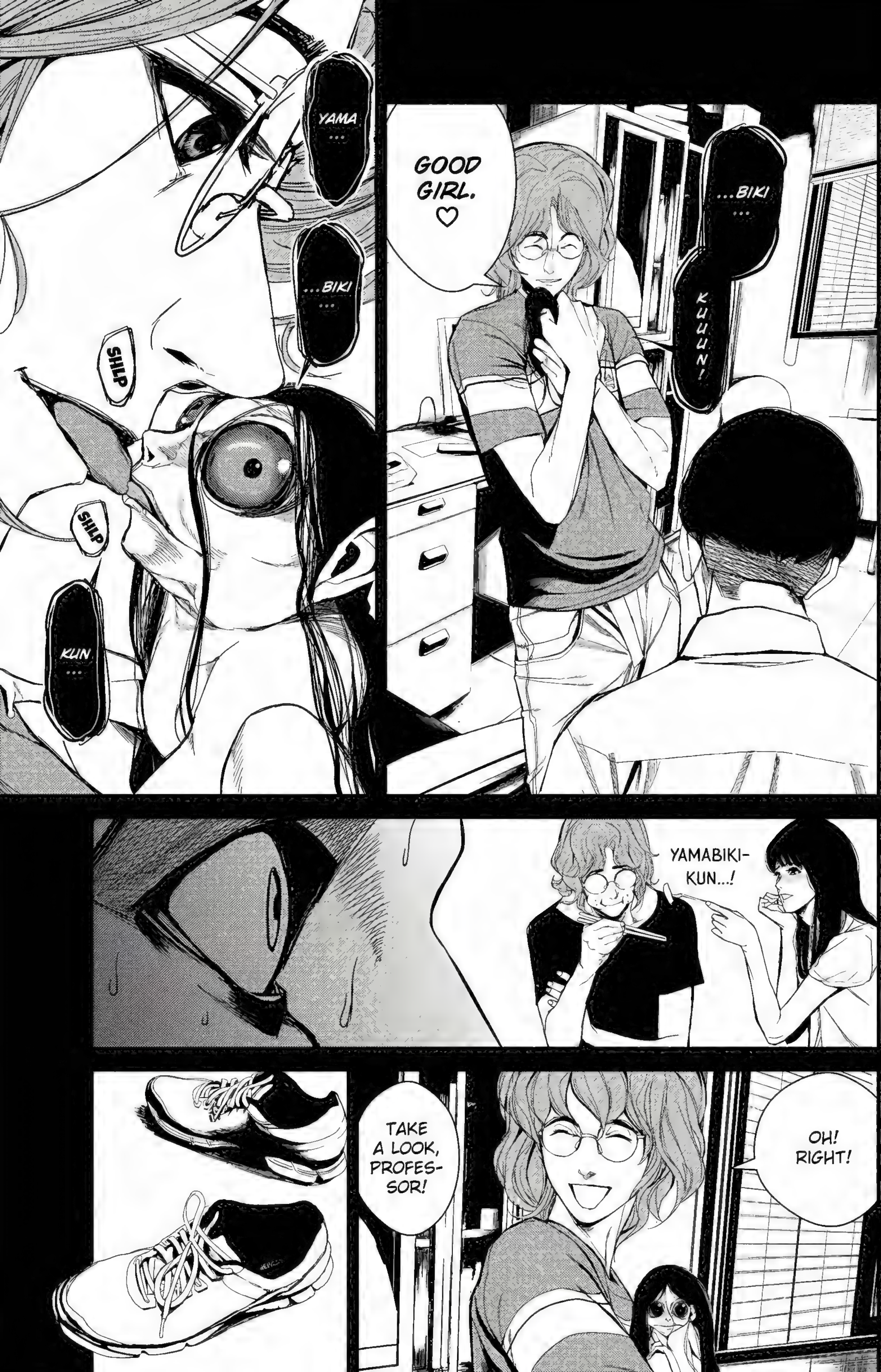

HUH ?
YUKI-SAN?
NO NEED TO BE SHY, NOW!
H... HEY.
WHAT ARE YOU-
PEEK ヒョコ
DESPRESSO
OH!
FUNNY THING ABOUT YUKI-SAN!
YOU KNOW WHAT SHE REALLY TOOK TO?

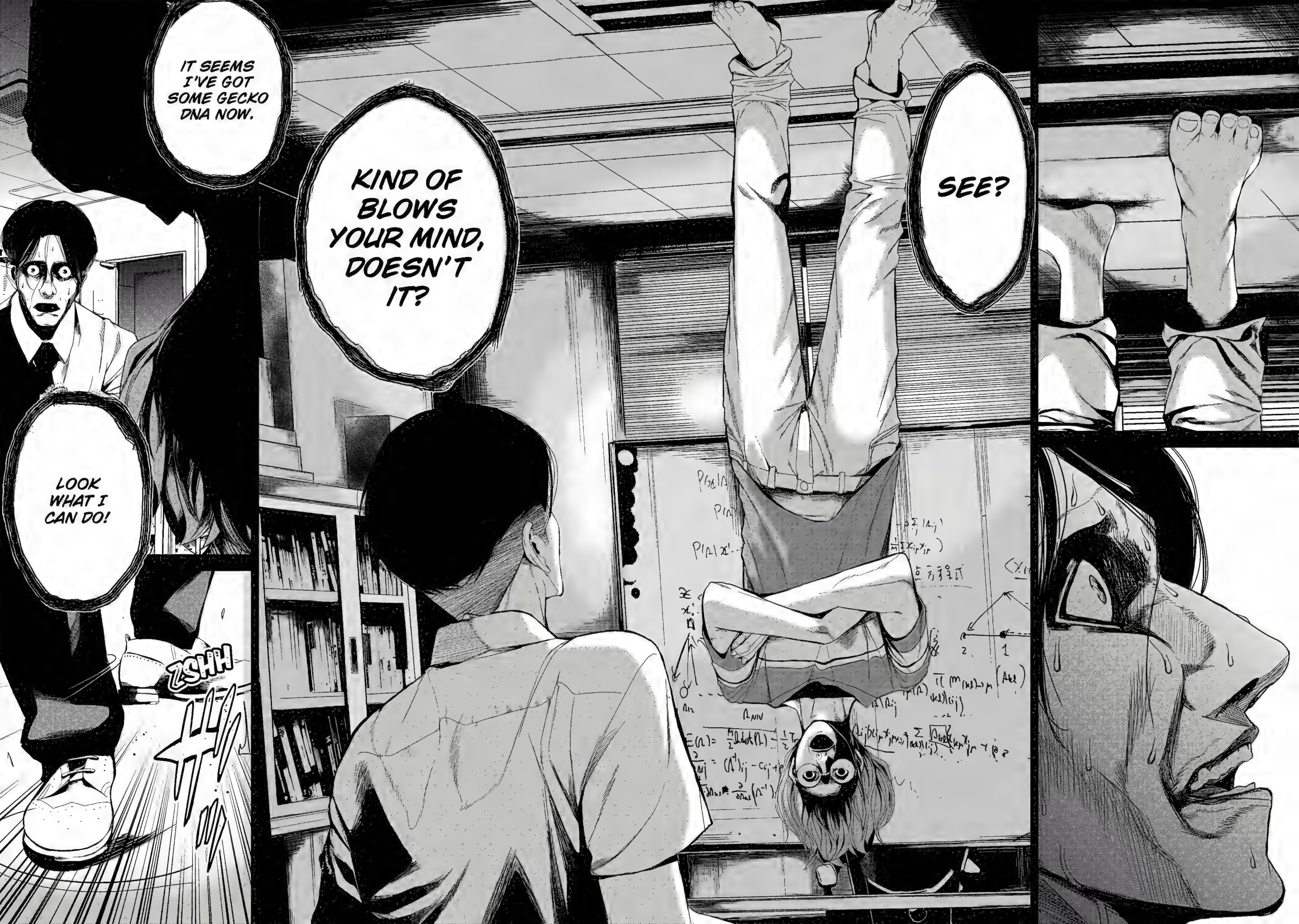

カサ
KSHH
PROSIMIAN DNA! LEMURS, AYE-AYES ...
カサ
KSHH
カサ
KSHH
取扱注意
S-049
79754-55717 3
カサ
KSHH
セット商品
入出荷時開封厳禁
開封口貼付用
精密機器・取扱注意
DADDY!
KRNCH
KRNCH
DADDY?

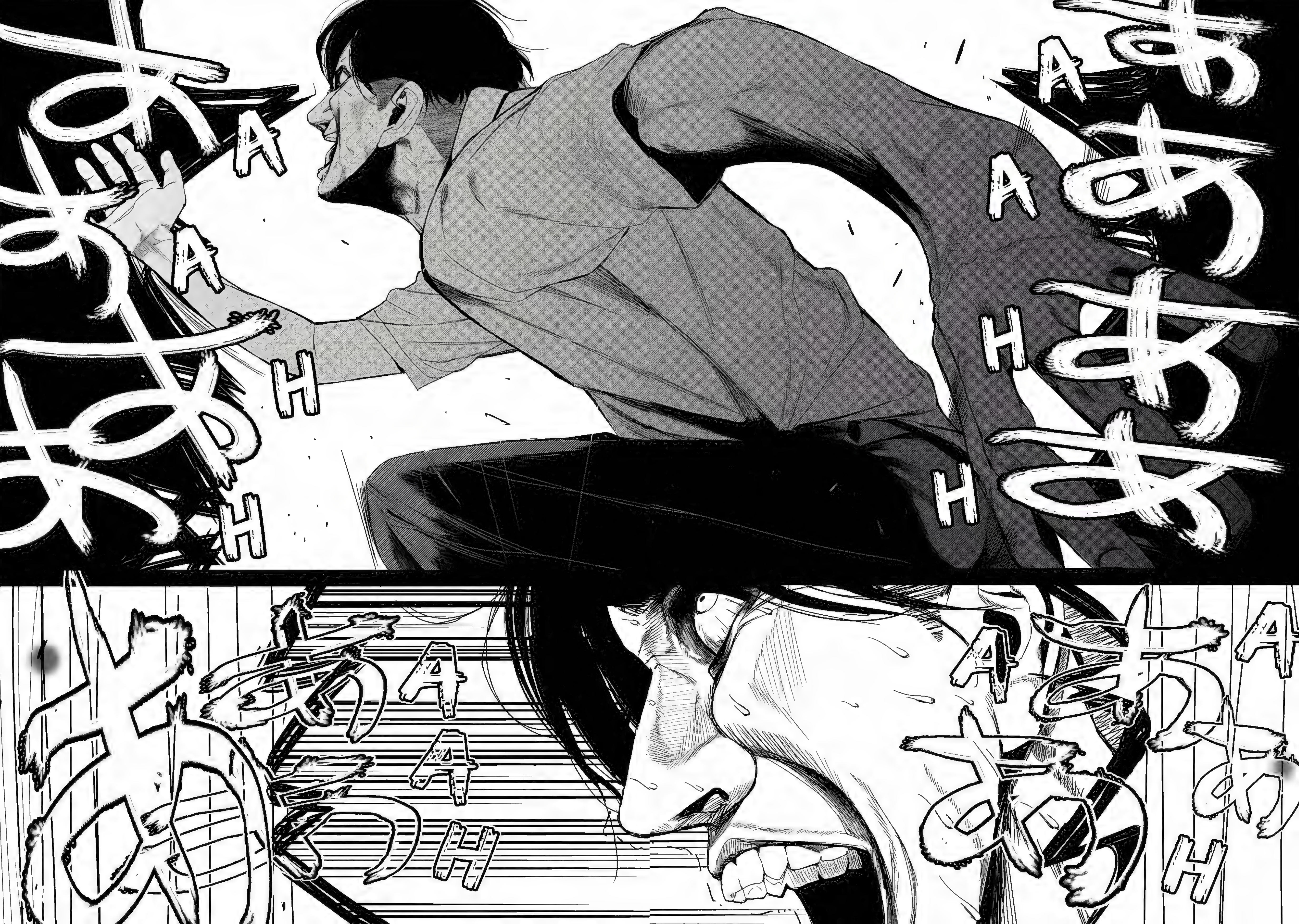

STARVING ANONYMOUS
COME ON, NOW, YUKI-SAN!
C'MERE!

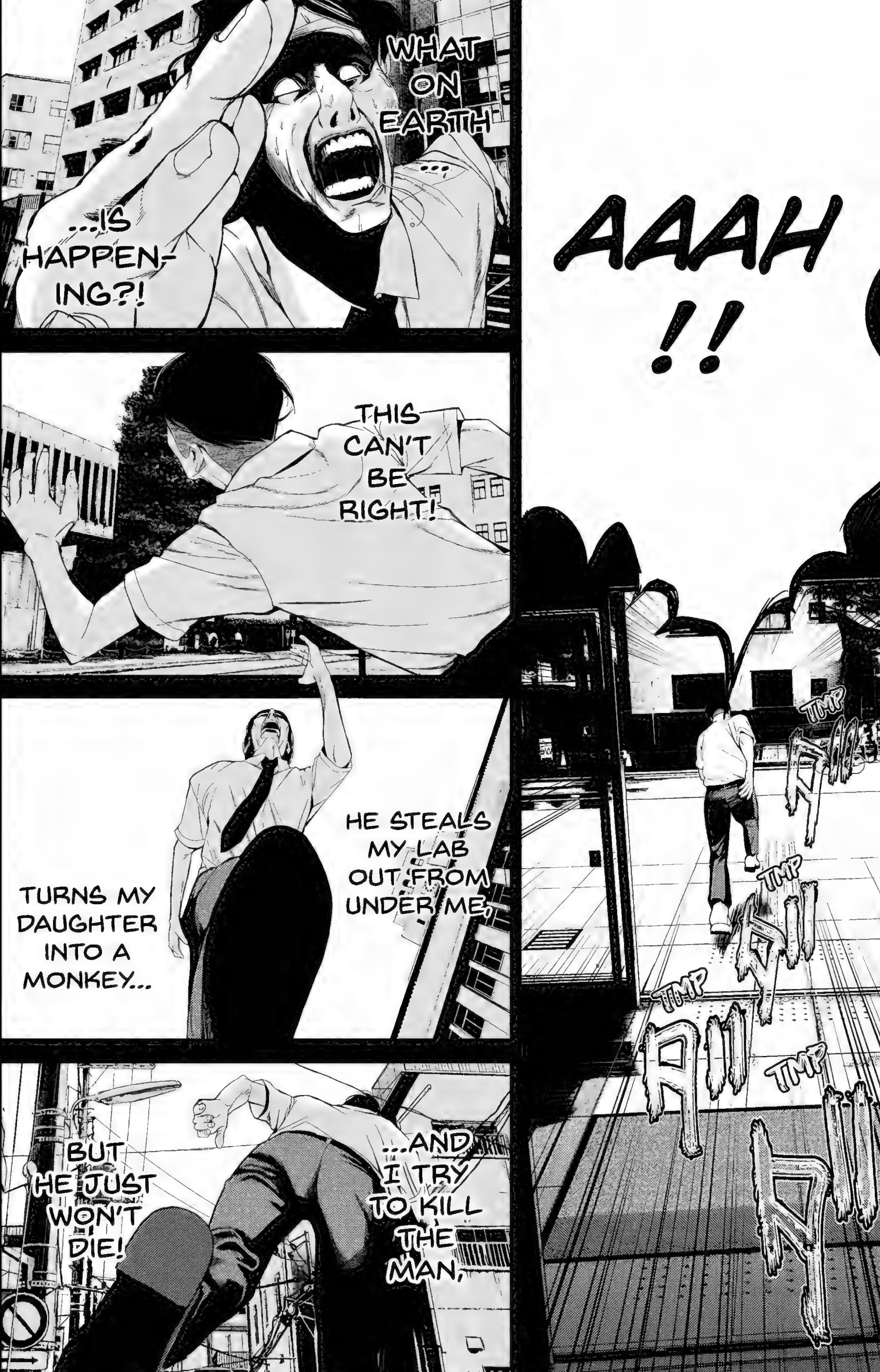
Chapter 33

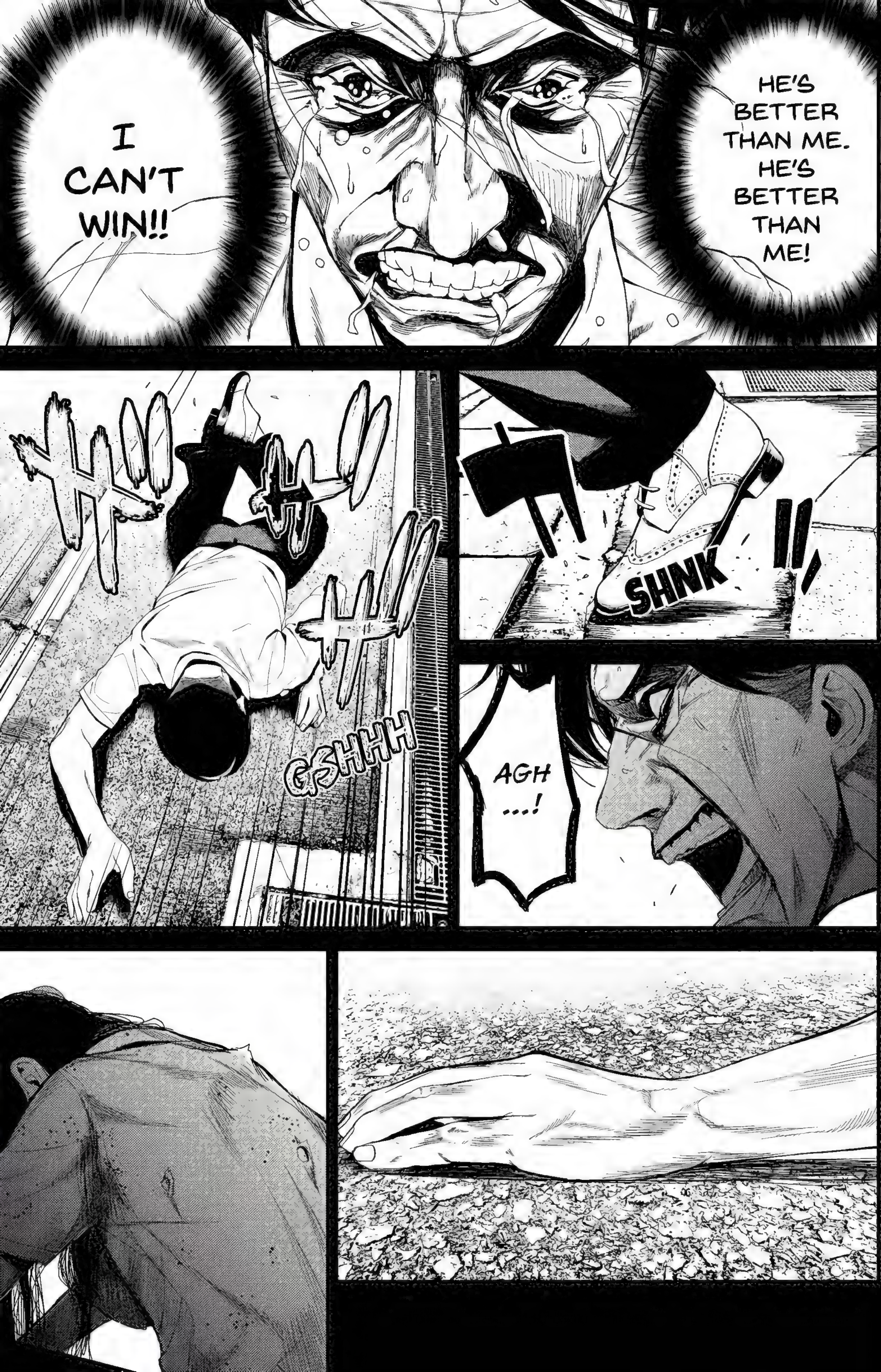

OH!
THERE SHE GOES!
...
THAT THING... IS YUKI?! NO...
IT CAN'T BE...!
YA...

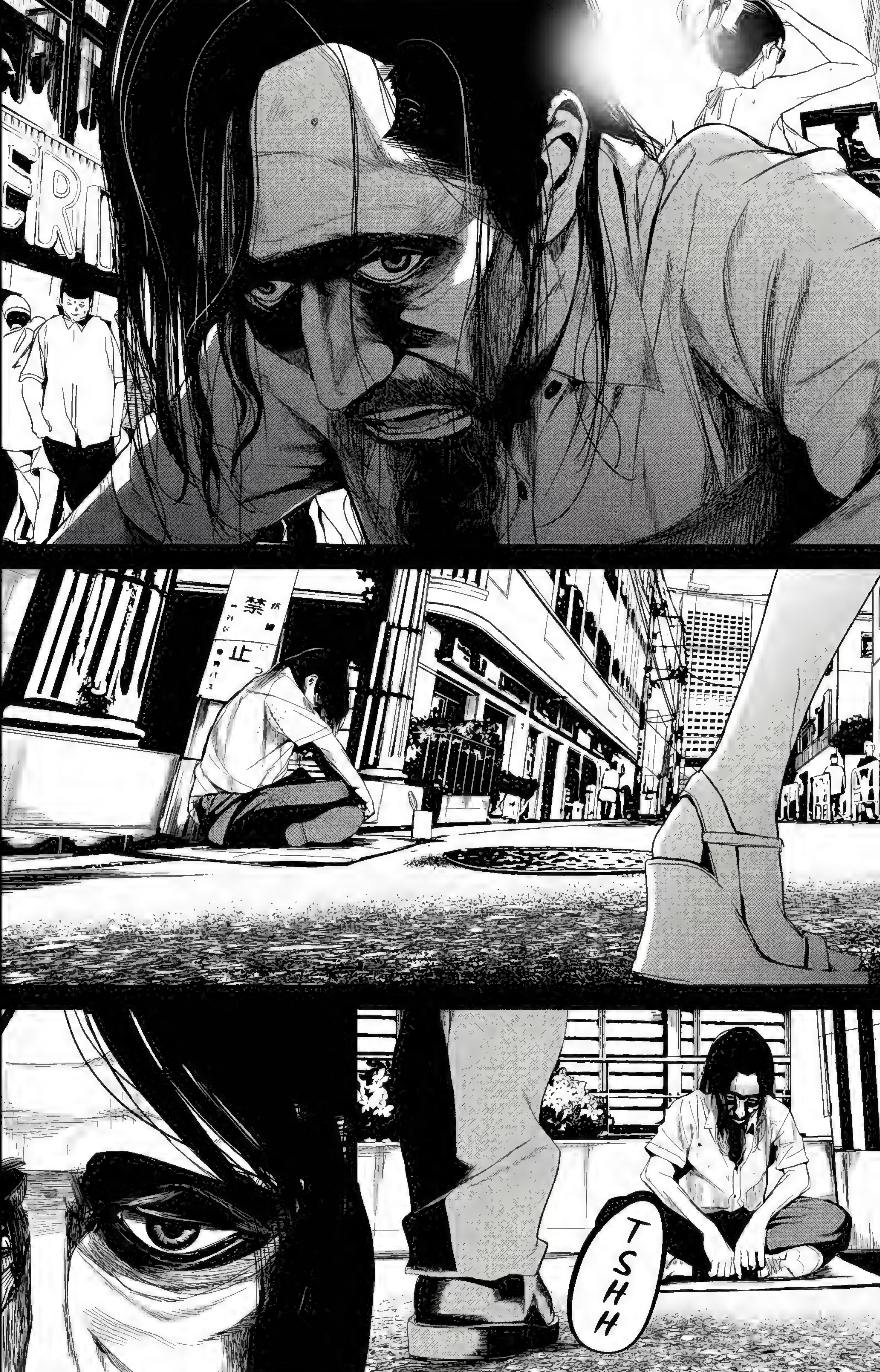

GOOD GIRL. ♡
...BIKI...
KUUUN!
YAMA...
...BIKI...
SHLP
SHLP
KUN...
YAMABIKI-KUN...!
OH! RIGHT!
TAKE A LOOK, PROFESSOR!

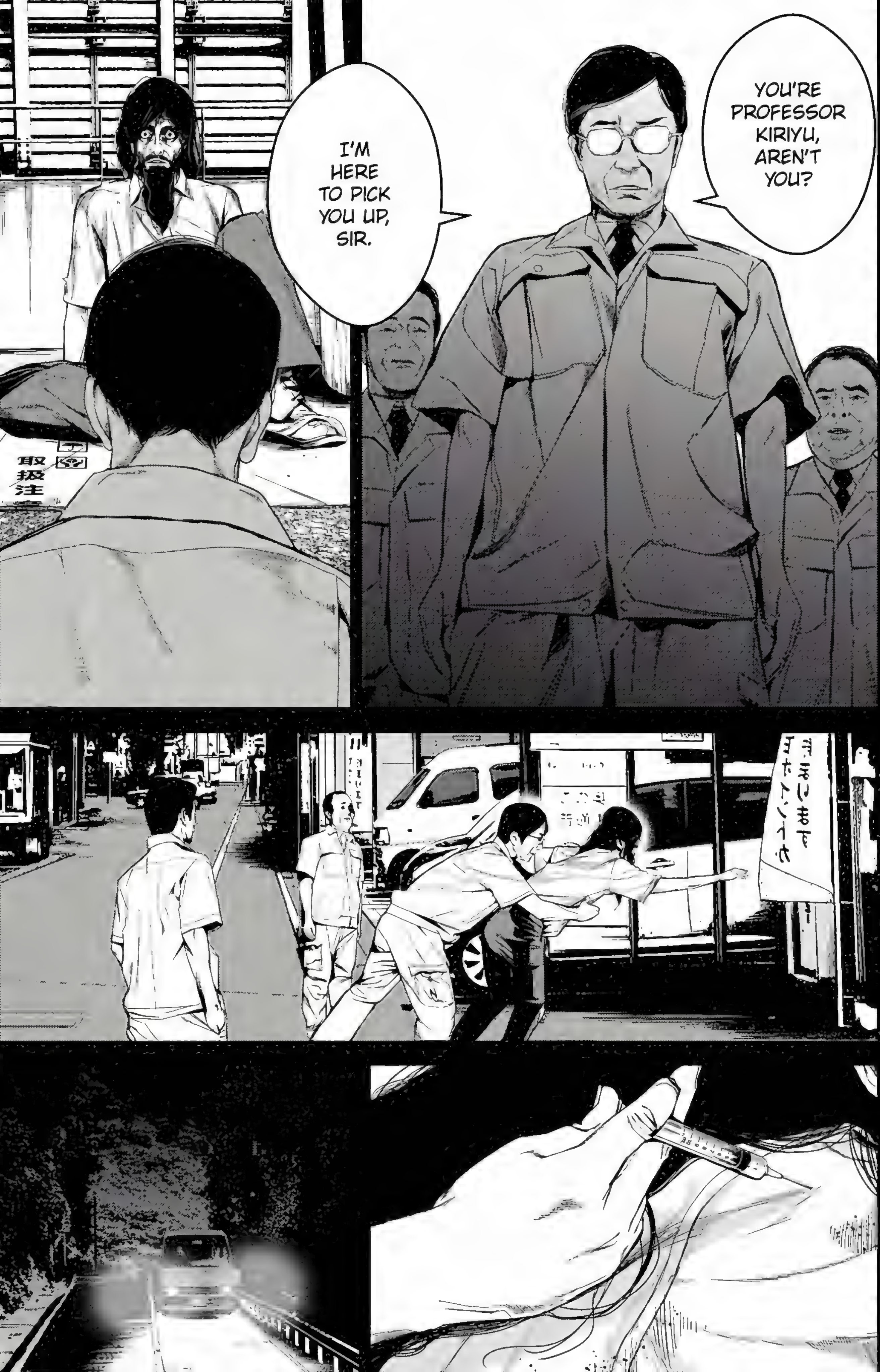

IT SEEMS I'VE GOT SOME GECKO DNA NOW.
LOOK WHAT I CAN DO!
ZSHH
SEE?
KIND OF BLOWS YOUR MIND, DOESN'T IT?

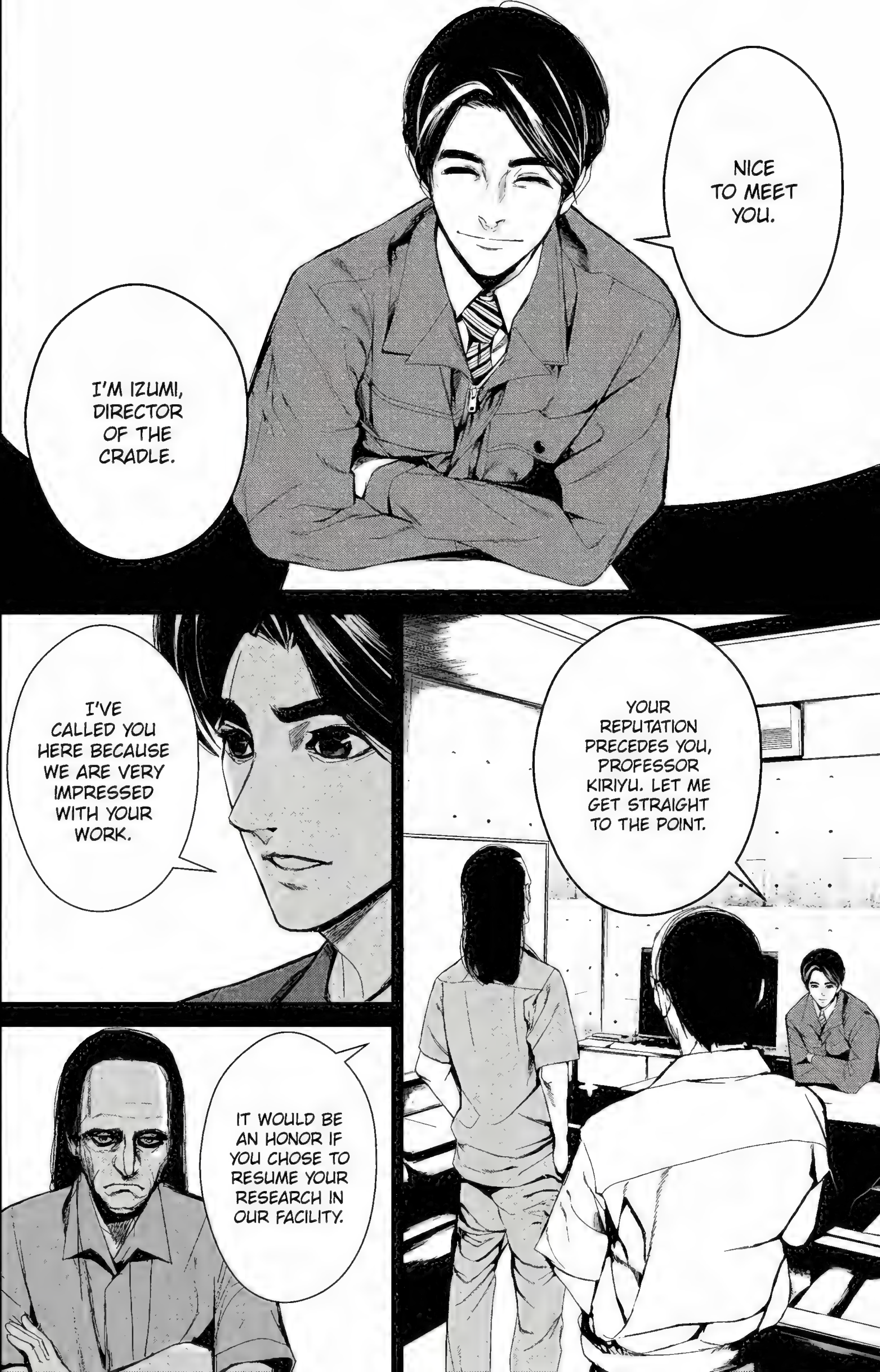

あああああ
AAAHH
あああああ
AAHH
あああ
AAAH
あああ
AAH

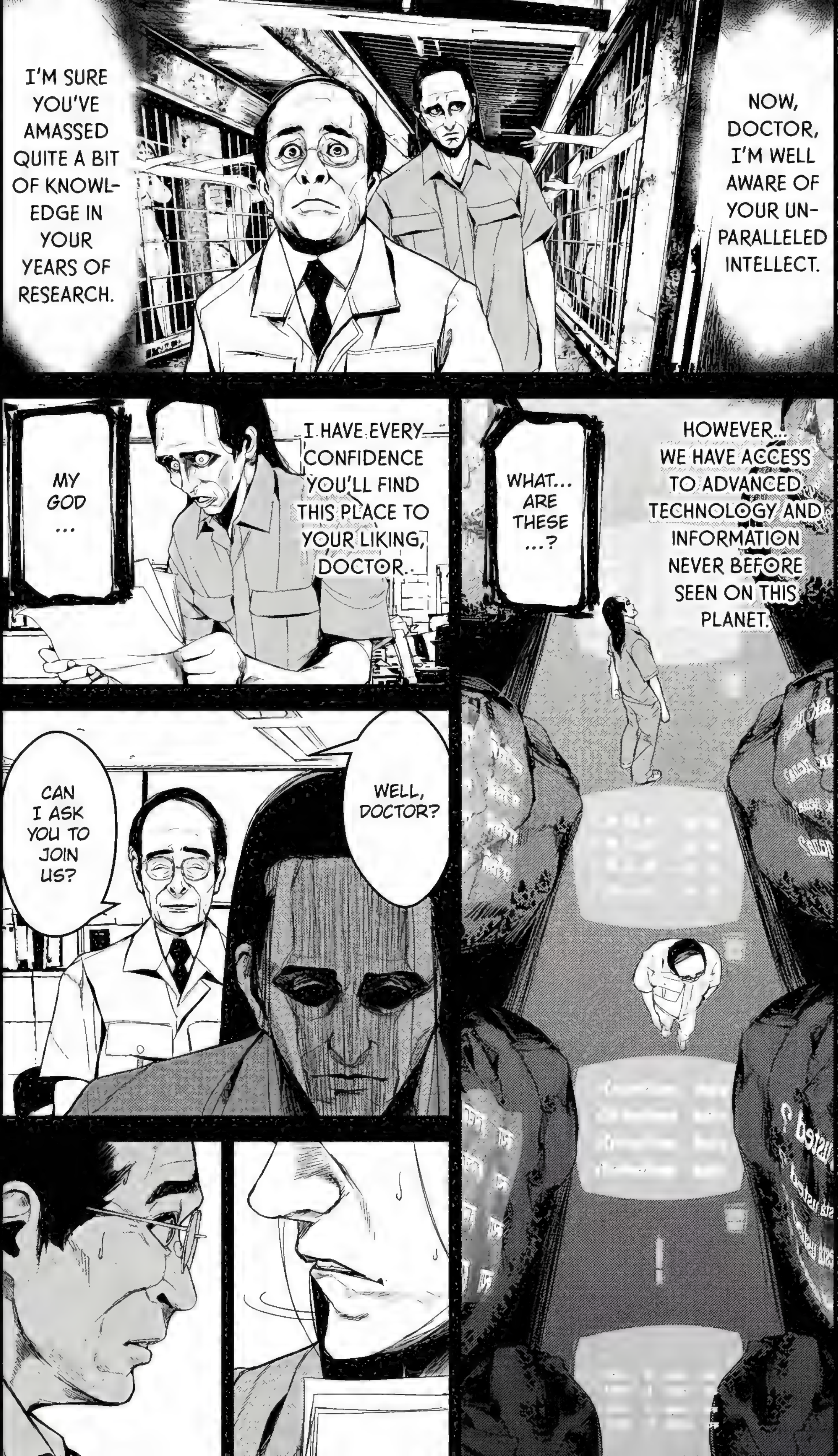

WHAT ON EARTH ...
...IS HAPPENING?!
THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT!
HE STEALS MY LAB OUT FROM UNDER ME,
TURNS MY DAUGHTER INTO A MONKEY...
...AND I TRY TO KILL THE MAN,
BUT HE JUST WON'T DIE!
AAAH!!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

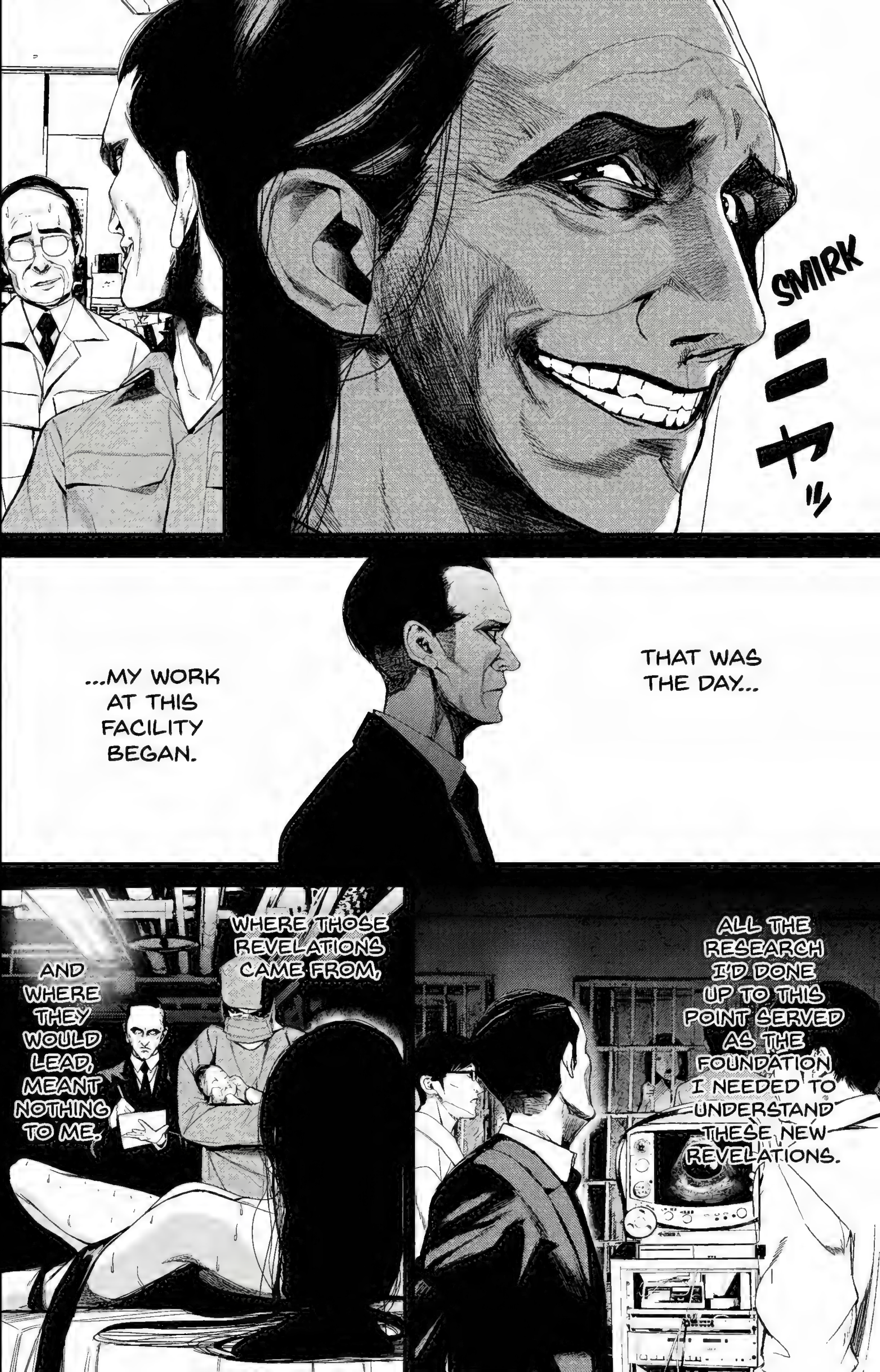

HE'S BETTER THAN ME. HE'S BETTER THAN ME!
I CAN'T WIN!!
SHNK
AGH ...!
GSHHH

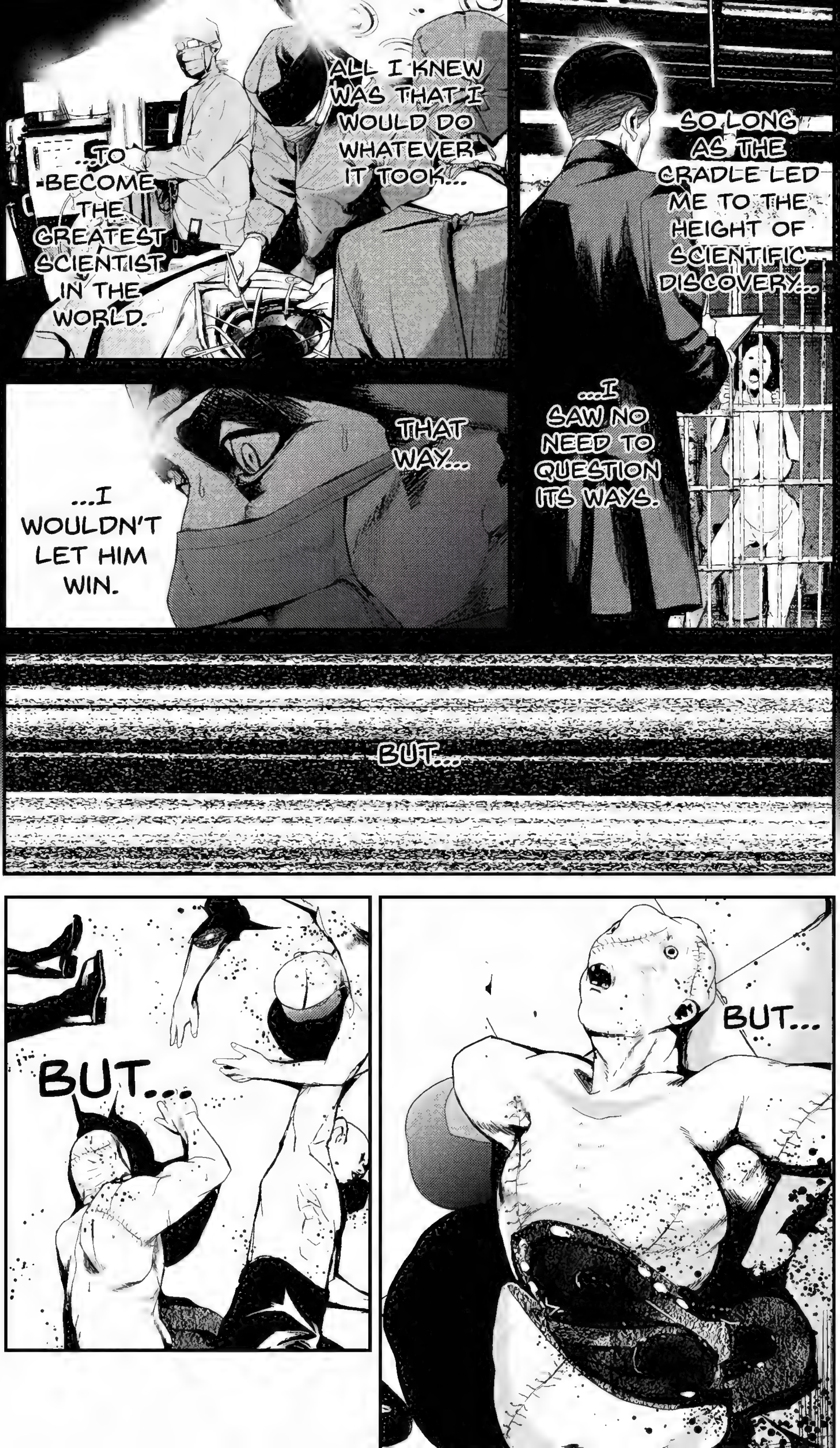

禁止
TSHH

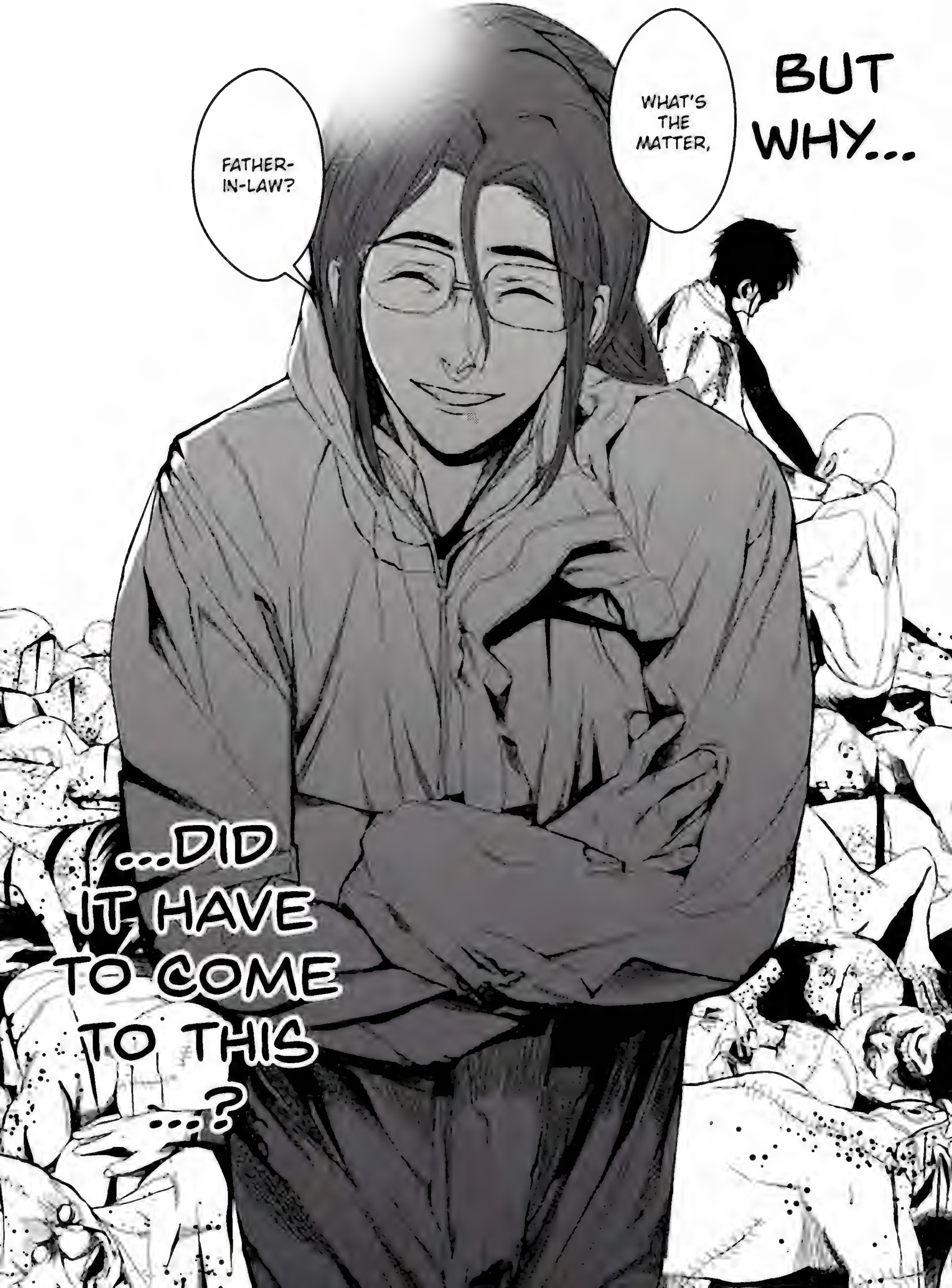

YOU'RE PROFESSOR KIRIYU, AREN'T YOU?
I'M HERE TO PICK YOU UP, SIR.
取扱注

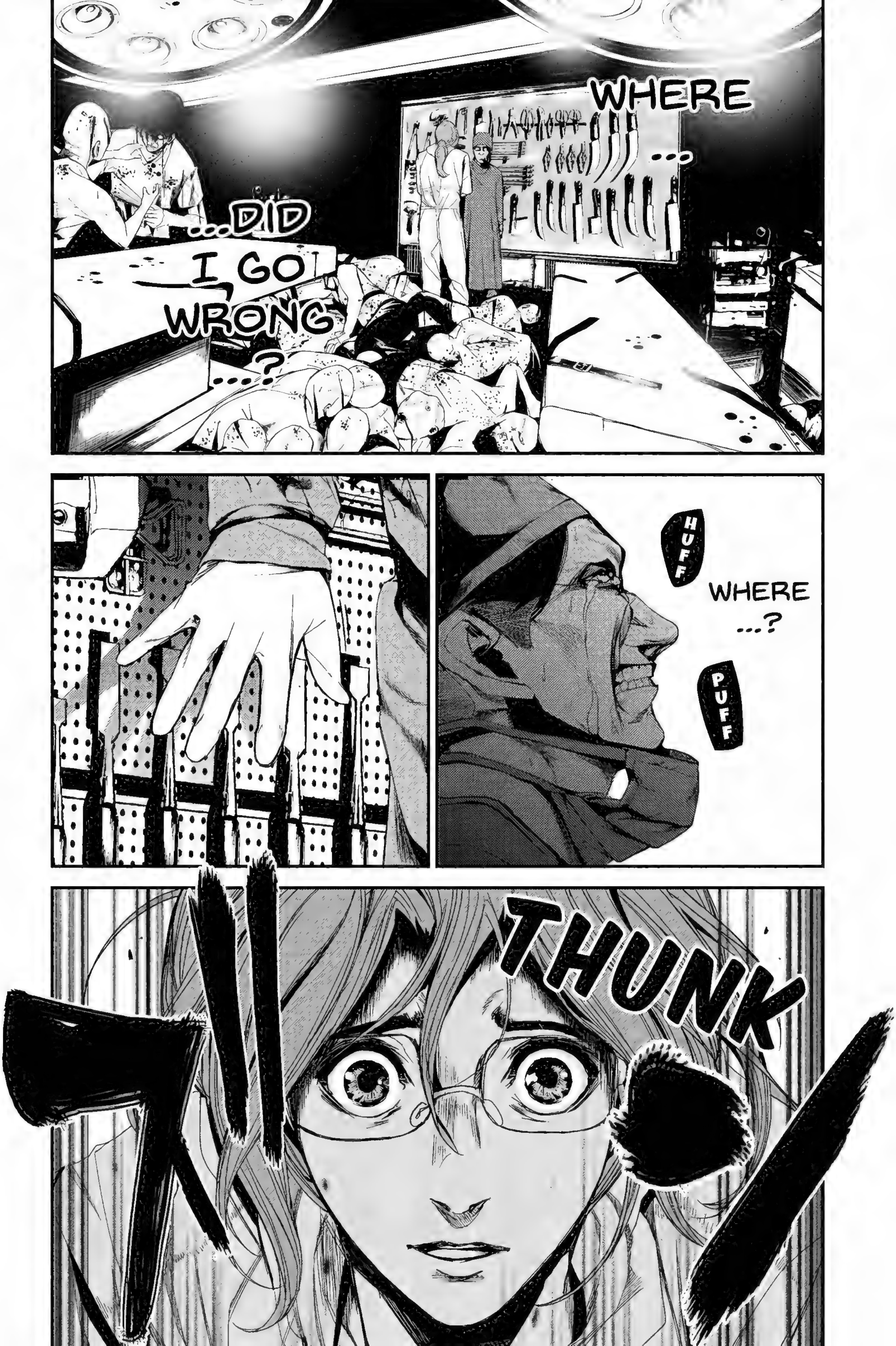

NICE TO MEET YOU.
I'M IZUMI, DIRECTOR OF THE CRADLE.
YOUR REPUTATION PRECEDES YOU, PROFESSOR KIRIYU. LET ME GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT.
I'VE CALLED YOU HERE BECAUSE WE ARE VERY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR WORK.
IT WOULD BE AN HONOR IF YOU CHOSE TO RESUME YOUR RESEARCH IN OUR FACILITY.

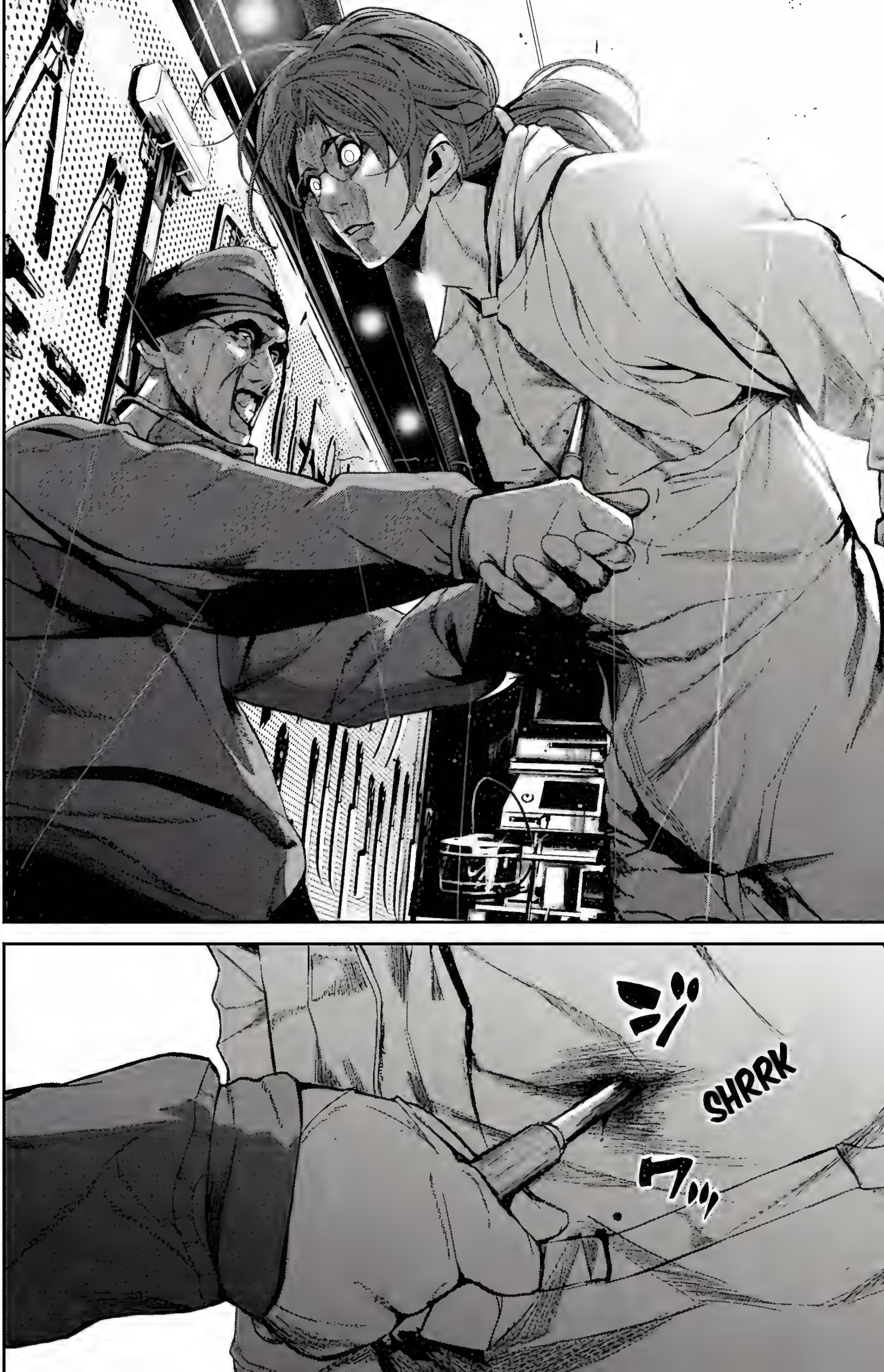

NOW, DOCTOR, I'M WELL AWARE OF YOUR UNPARALLELED INTELLECT.
I'M SURE YOU'VE AMASSED QUITE A BIT OF KNOWLEDGE IN YOUR YEARS OF RESEARCH.
HOWEVER... WE HAVE ACCESS TO ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION NEVER BEFORE SEEN ON THIS PLANET.
WHAT... ARE THESE ...?
I HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE YOU'LL FIND THIS PLACE TO YOUR LIKING, DOCTOR.
MY GOD ...
WELL, DOCTOR?
CAN I ASK YOU TO JOIN US?

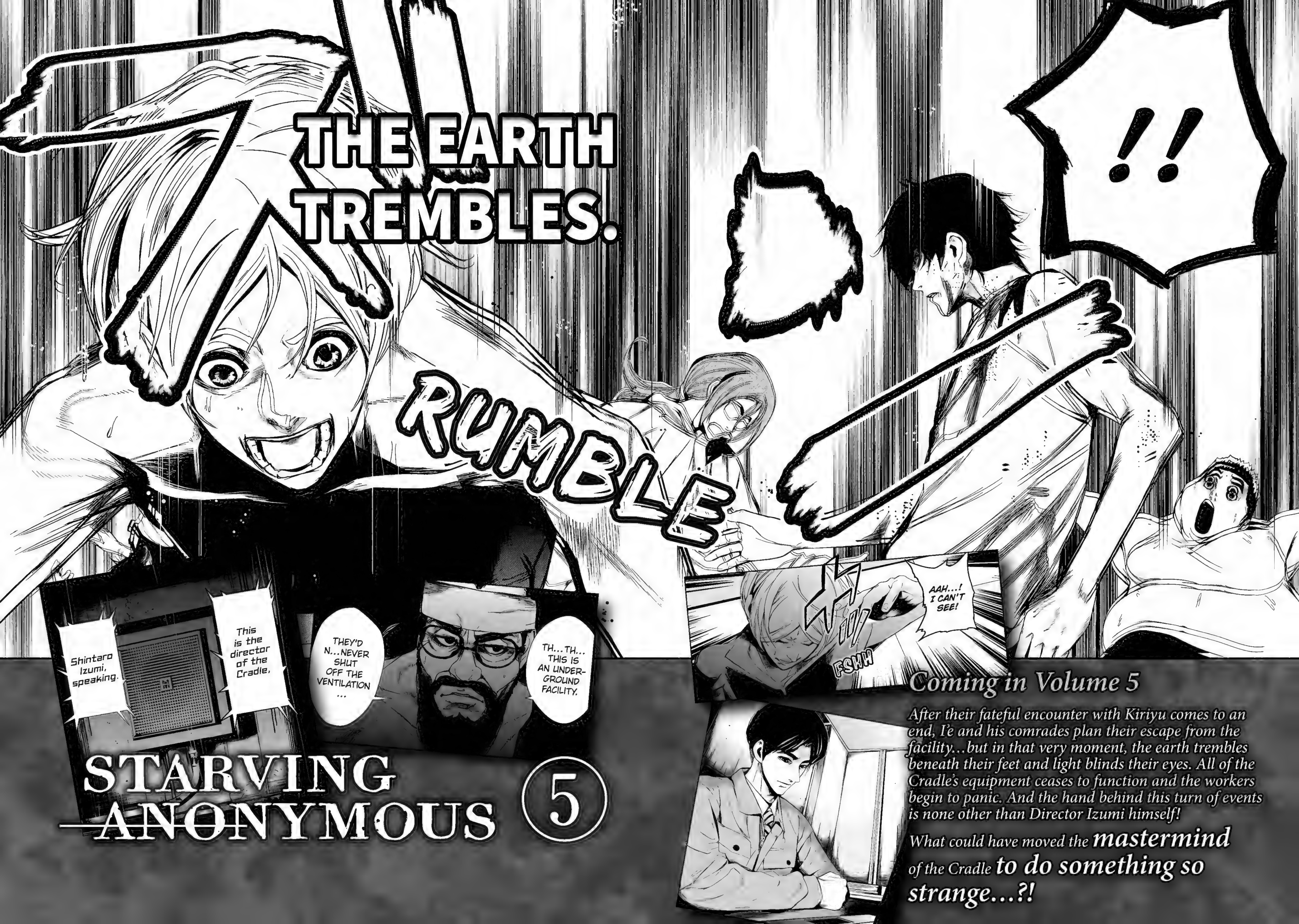

SMIRK
ニヤッ
THAT WAS THE DAY...
...MY WORK AT THIS FACILITY BEGAN.
ALL THE RESEARCH I'D DONE UP TO THIS POINT SERVED AS THE FOUNDATION I NEEDED TO UNDERSTAND THESE NEW REVELATIONS.
WHERE THOSE REVELATIONS CAME FROM,
AND WHERE THEY WOULD LEAD, MEANT NOTHING TO ME.


SO LONG AS THE CRADLE LED ME TO THE HEIGHT OF SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY...
...I SAW NO NEED TO QUESTION ITS WAYS.
ALL I KNEW WAS THAT I WOULD DO WHATEVER IT TOOK...
...TO BECOME THE GREATEST SCIENTIST IN THE WORLD.
THAT WAY...
...I WOULDN'T LET HIM WIN.
BUT...
BUT...
BUT...


BUT WHY...
WHAT'S THE MATTER,
FATHER-IN-LAW?
...DID IT HAVE TO COME TO THIS ...?


WHERE ...
...DID I GO WRONG ...?
HUFF
WHERE ...?
PUFF
THUNK


ジ
SHRRK
ワッ


!!
THE EARTH TREMBLES.
RUMBLE
AAH...! I CAN'T SEE!
FSHH
TH...TH... THIS IS AN UNDERGROUND FACILITY.
THEY'D N...NEVER SHUT OFF THE VENTILATION...
This is the director of the Cradle,
Shintaro Izumi, speaking.

STARVING ANONYMOUS ⑤

Coming in Volume 5

After their fateful encounter with Kiriyu comes to an end, I'e and his comrades plan their escape from the facility…but in that very moment, the earth trembles beneath their feet and light blinds their eyes. All of the Cradle's equipment ceases to function and the workers begin to panic. And the hand behind this turn of events is none other than Director Izumi himself!

What could have moved the **mastermind** of the Cradle **to do something so strange…?!**

Starving Anonymous 4

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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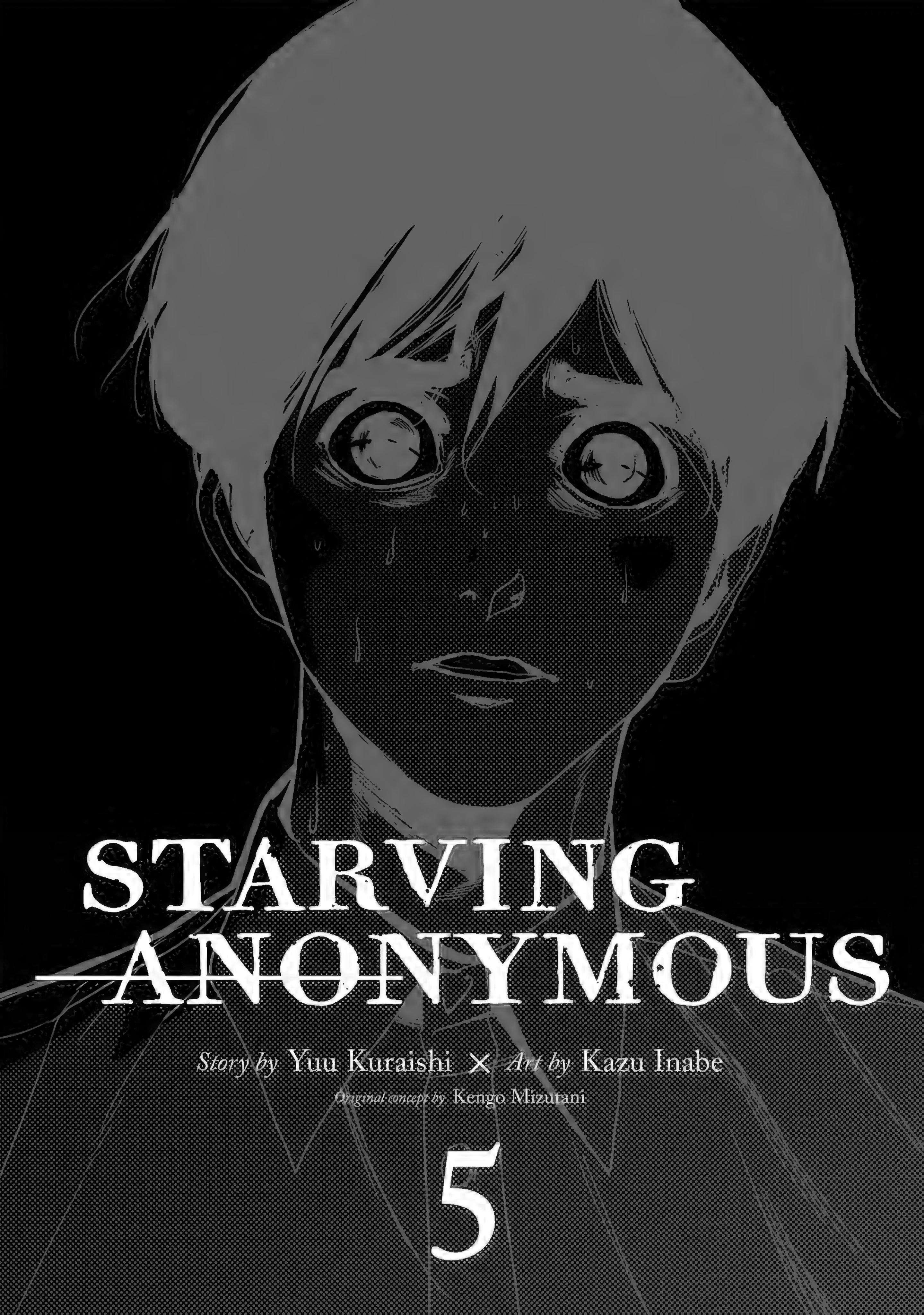
Story by Yuu Kuraishi × *Art by* Kazu Inabe

Original concept by Kengo Mizutani

5



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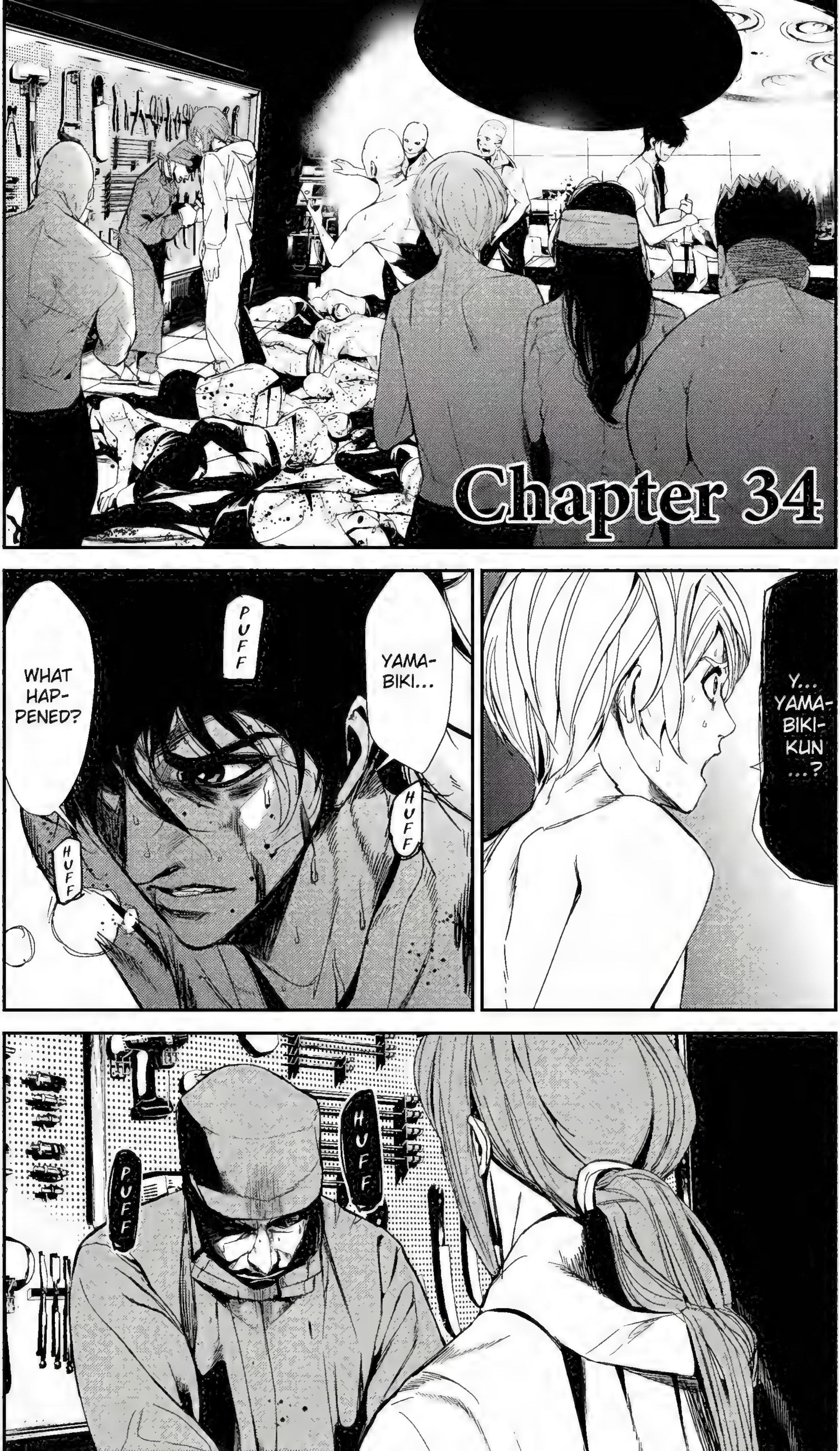
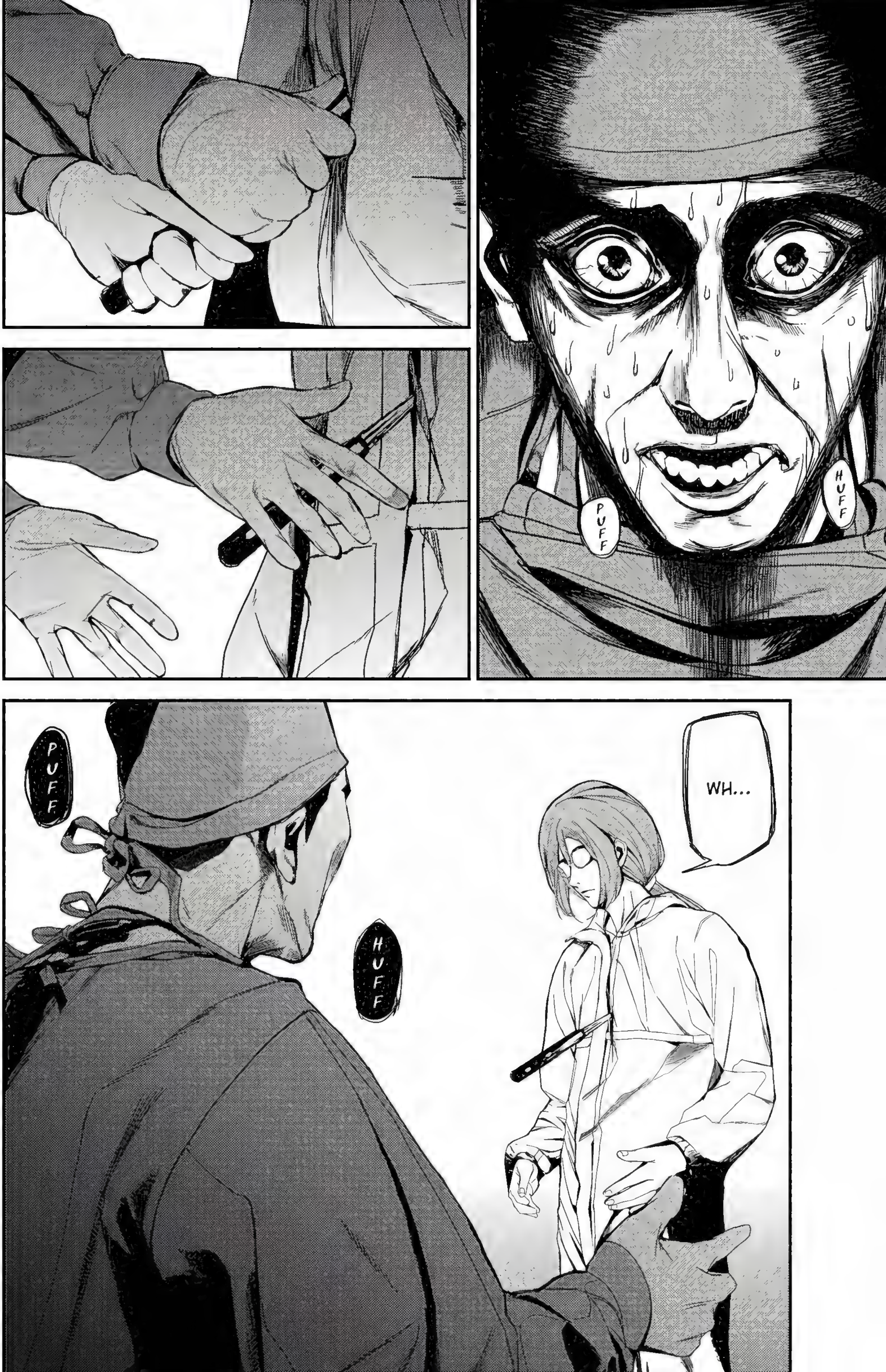
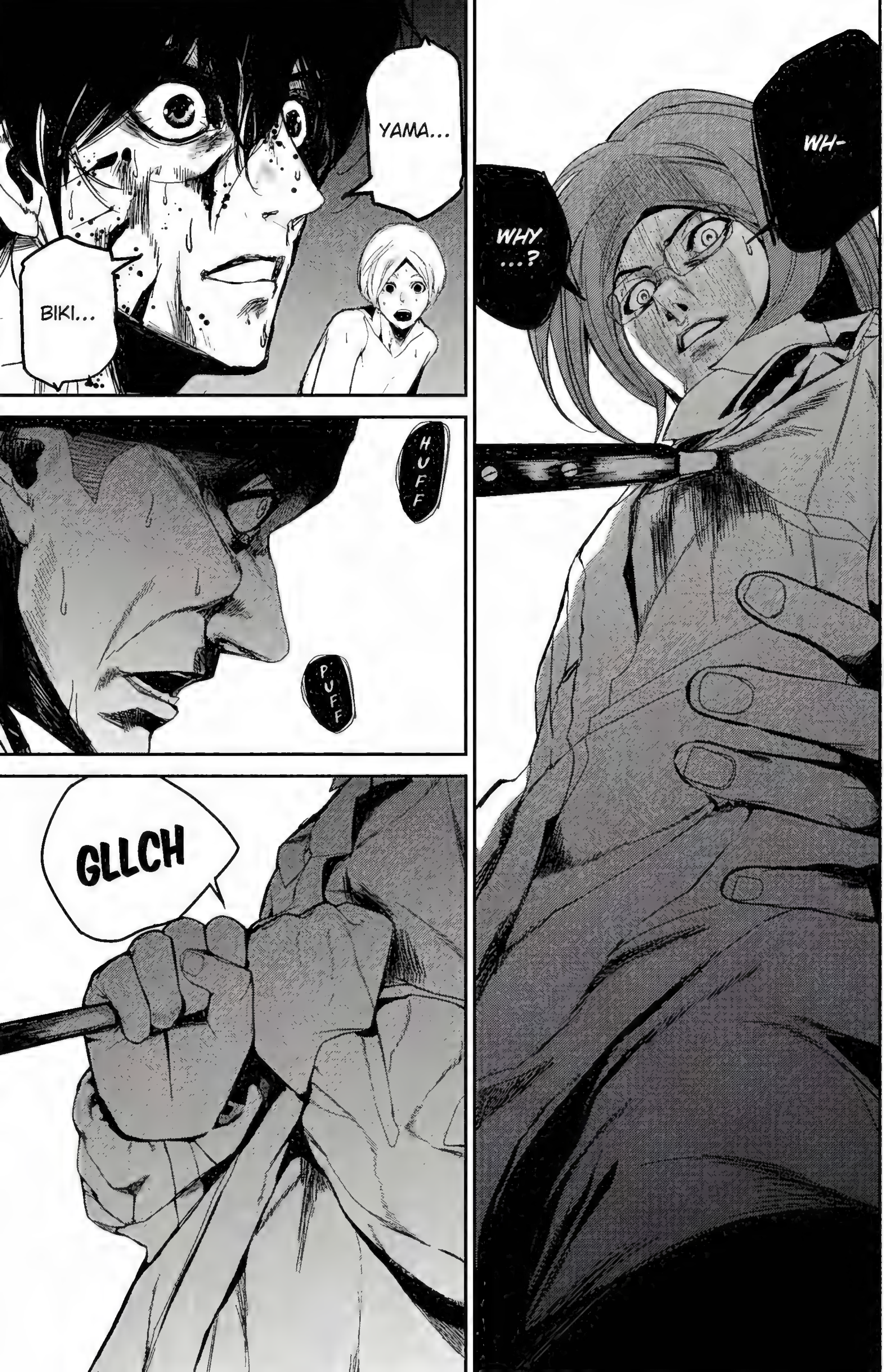
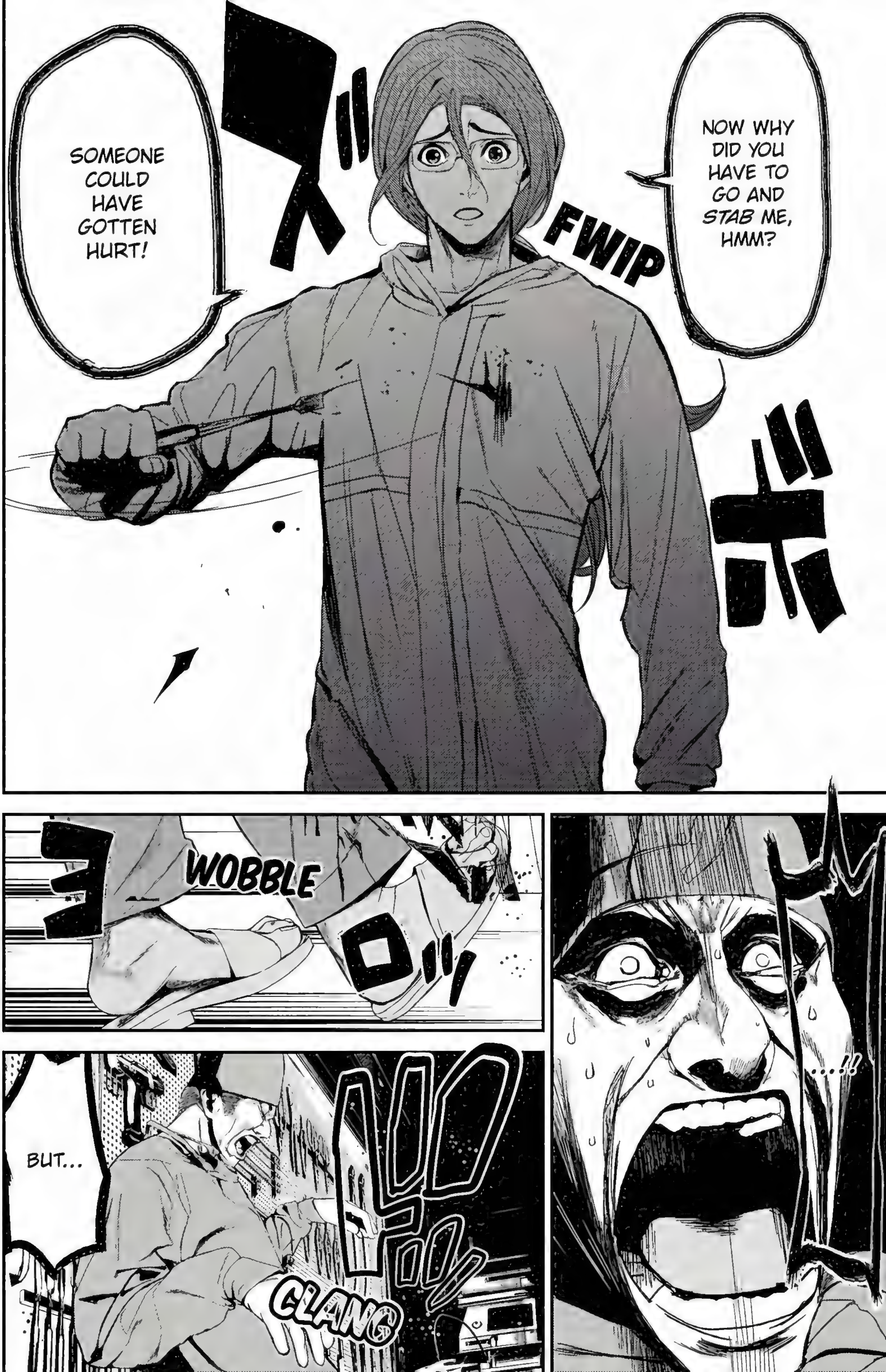
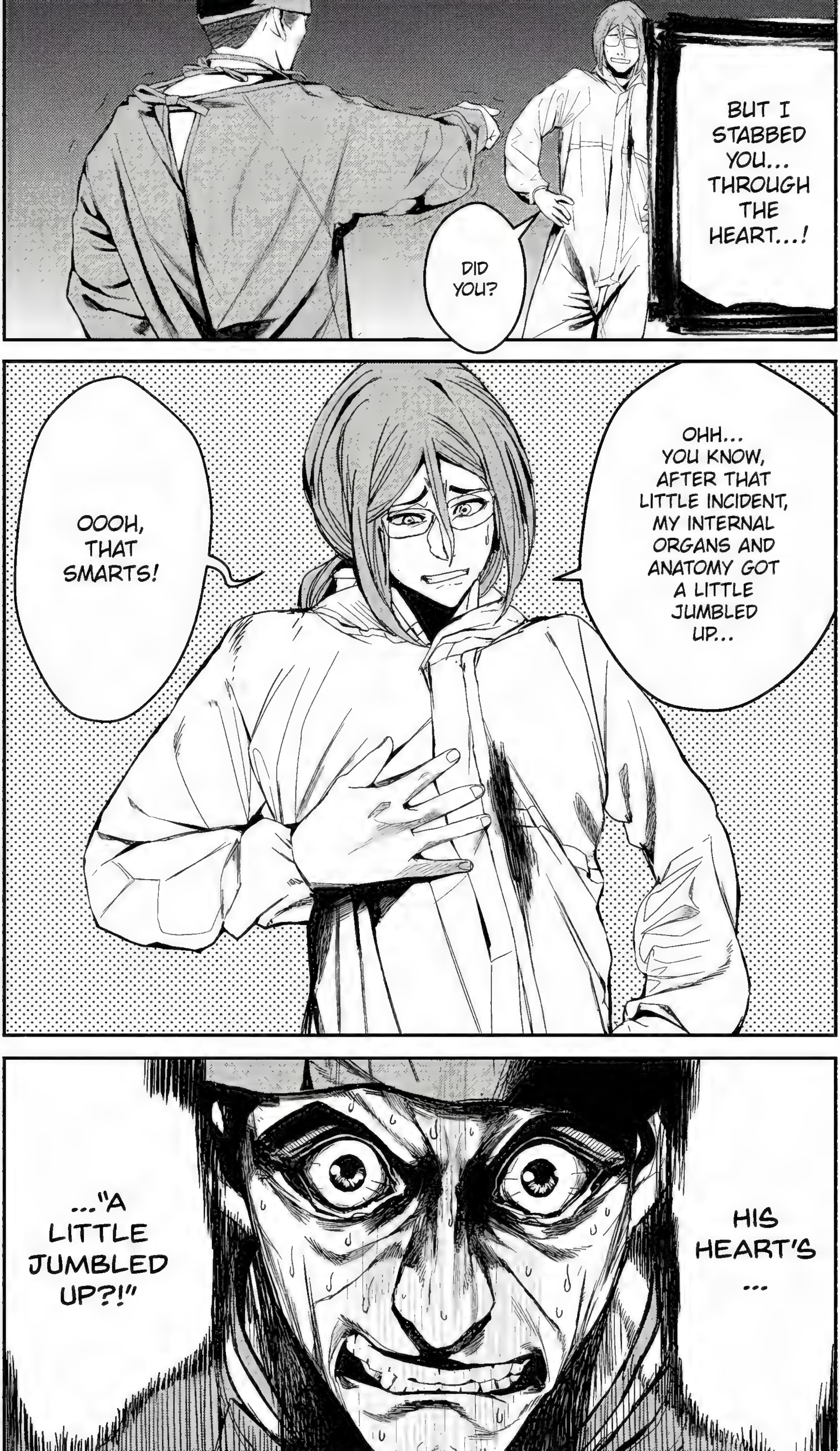
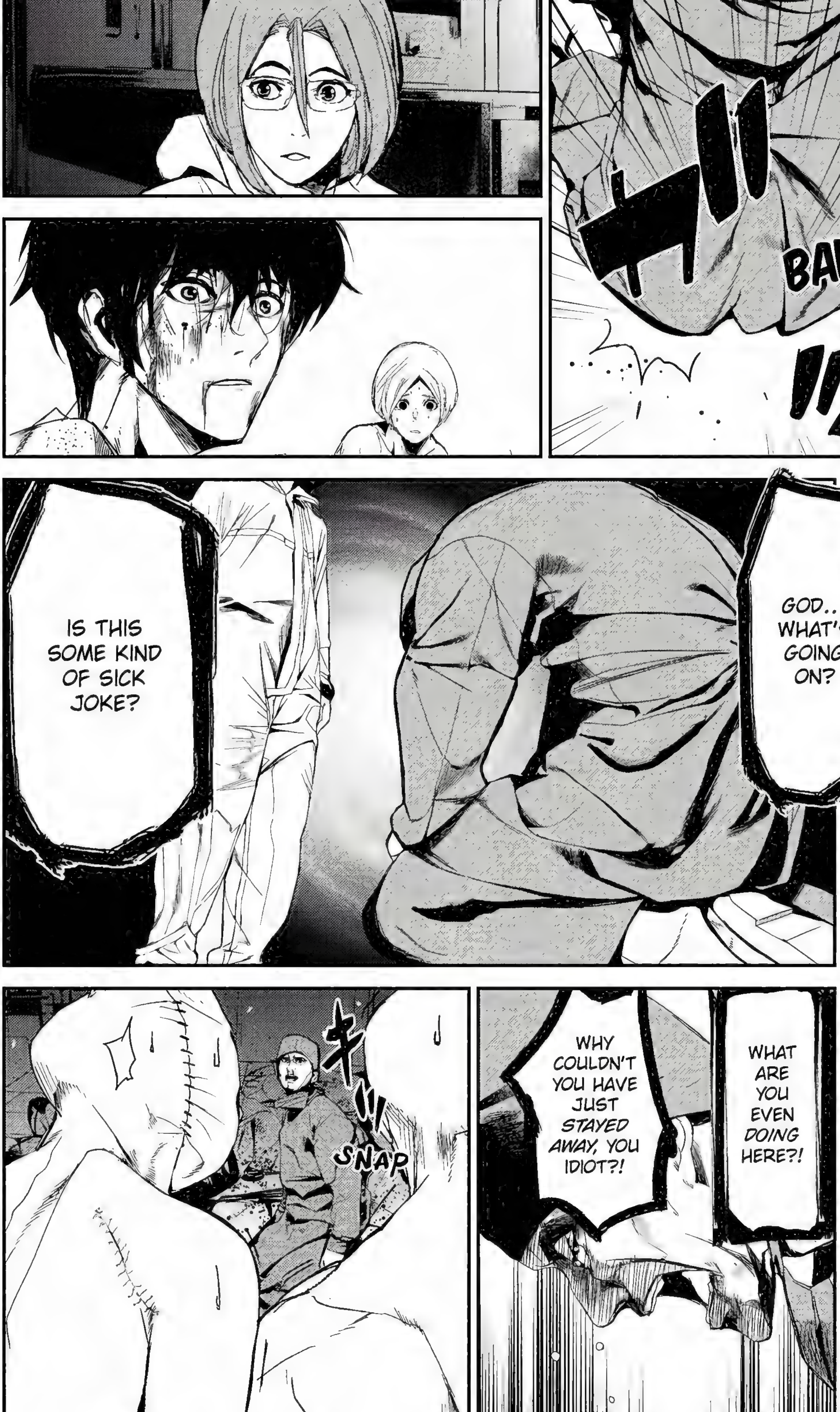

Y... YAMABIKI-KUN...?
PUFF
YAMABIKI...
WHAT HAPPENED?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF

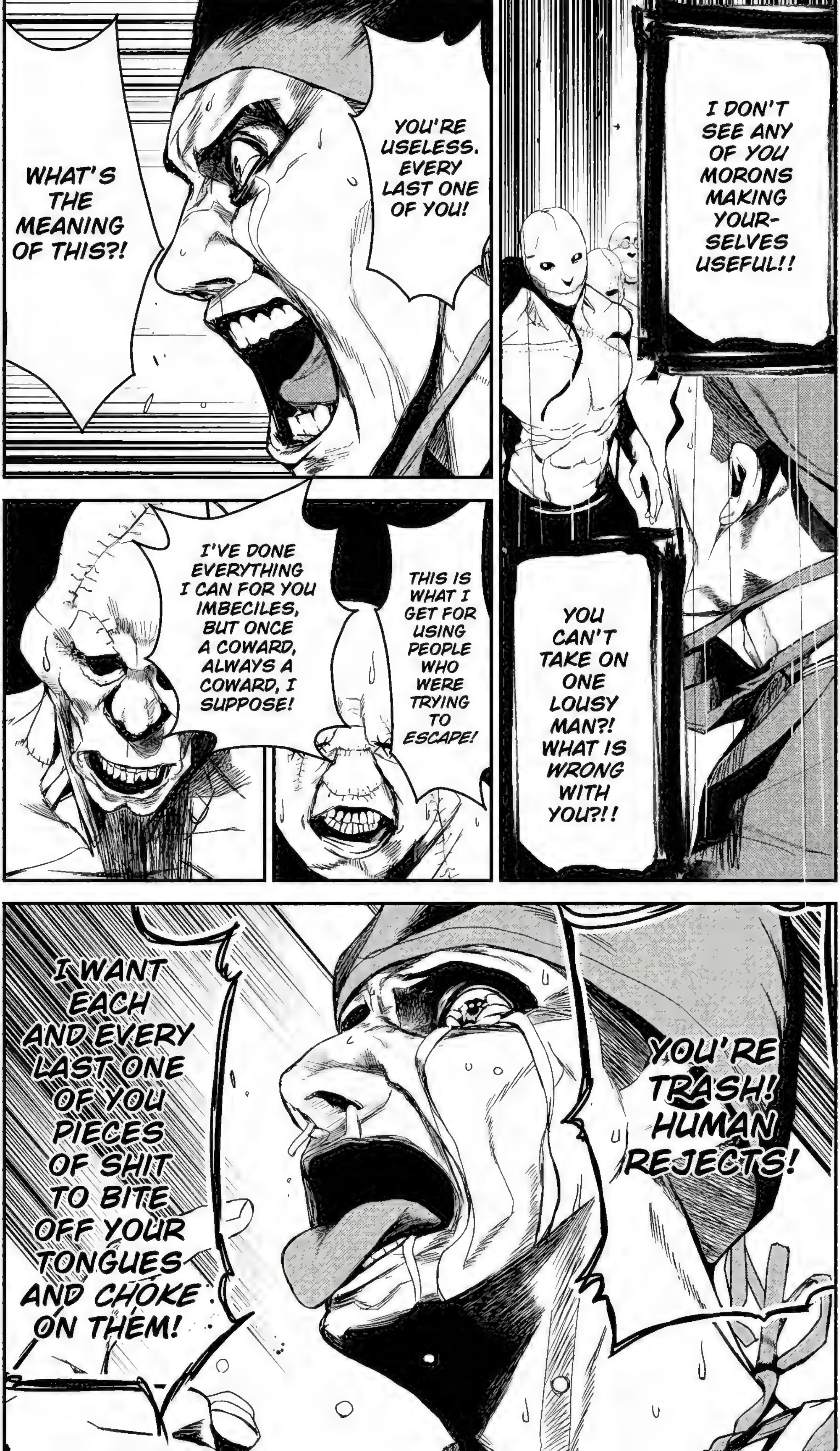

PUFF
HUFF
WH...
PUFF
HUFF

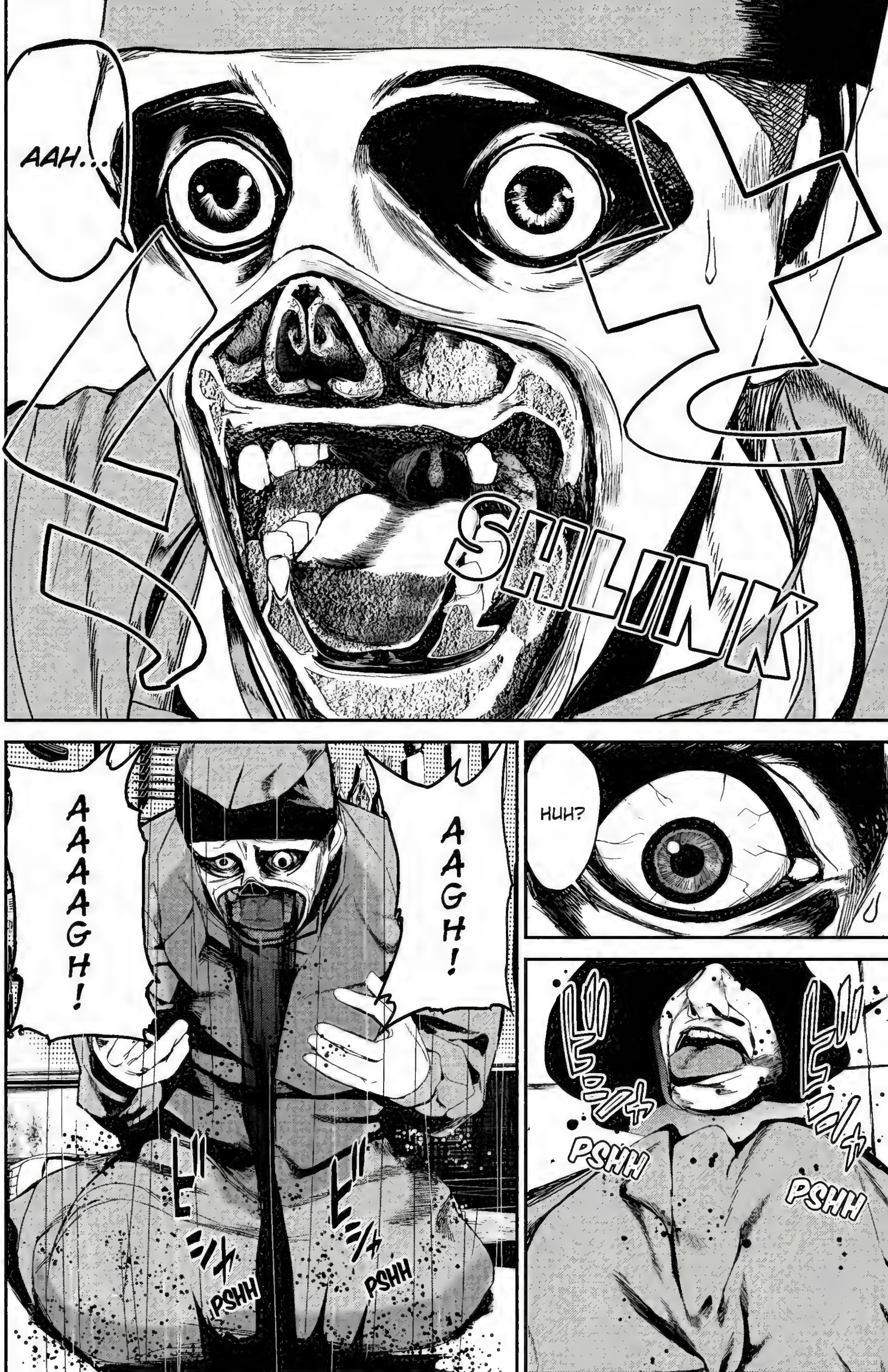

YAMA...
BIKI...
WH-
WHY ...?
HUFF
PUFF
GLLCH

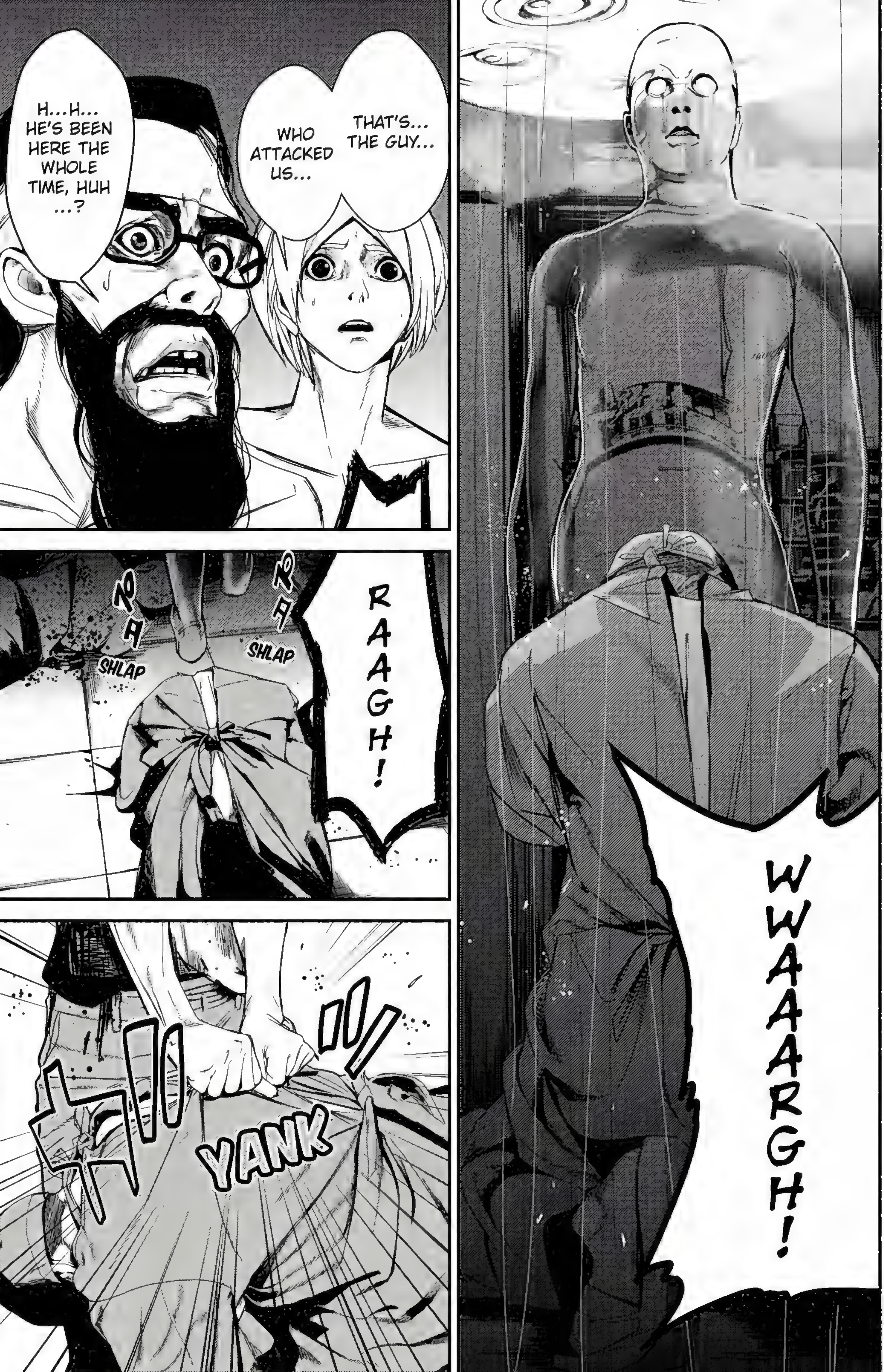

NOW WHY DID YOU HAVE TO GO AND STAB ME, HMM?
FWIP
SOMEONE COULD HAVE GOTTEN HURT!
...!!
WOBBLE
BUT...
CLANG

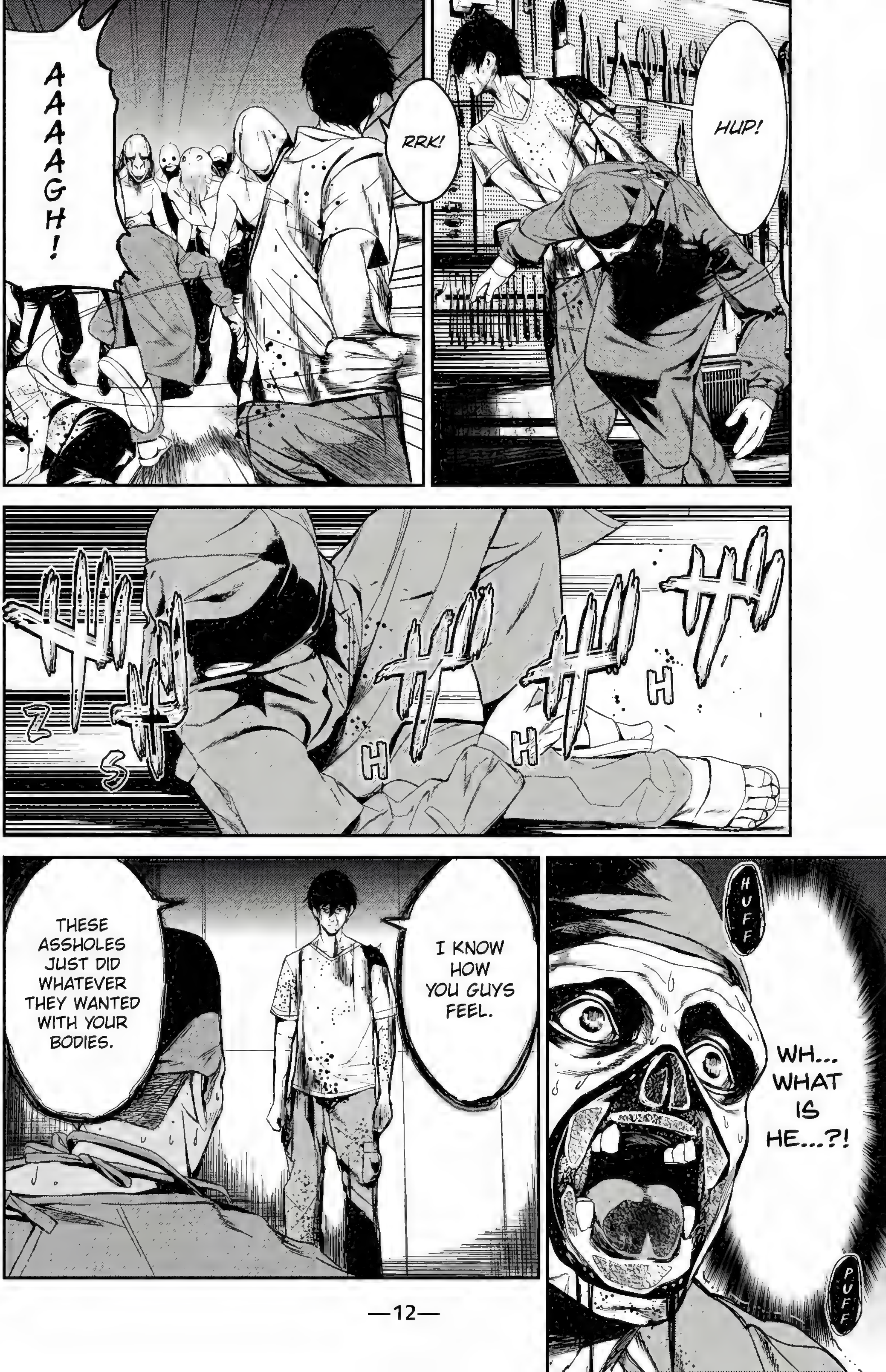

BUT I STABBED YOU... THROUGH THE HEART...!
DID YOU?
OHH... YOU KNOW, AFTER THAT LITTLE INCIDENT, MY INTERNAL ORGANS AND ANATOMY GOT A LITTLE JUMBLED UP...
OOOH, THAT SMARTS!
HIS HEART'S...
..."A LITTLE JUMBLED UP?!"

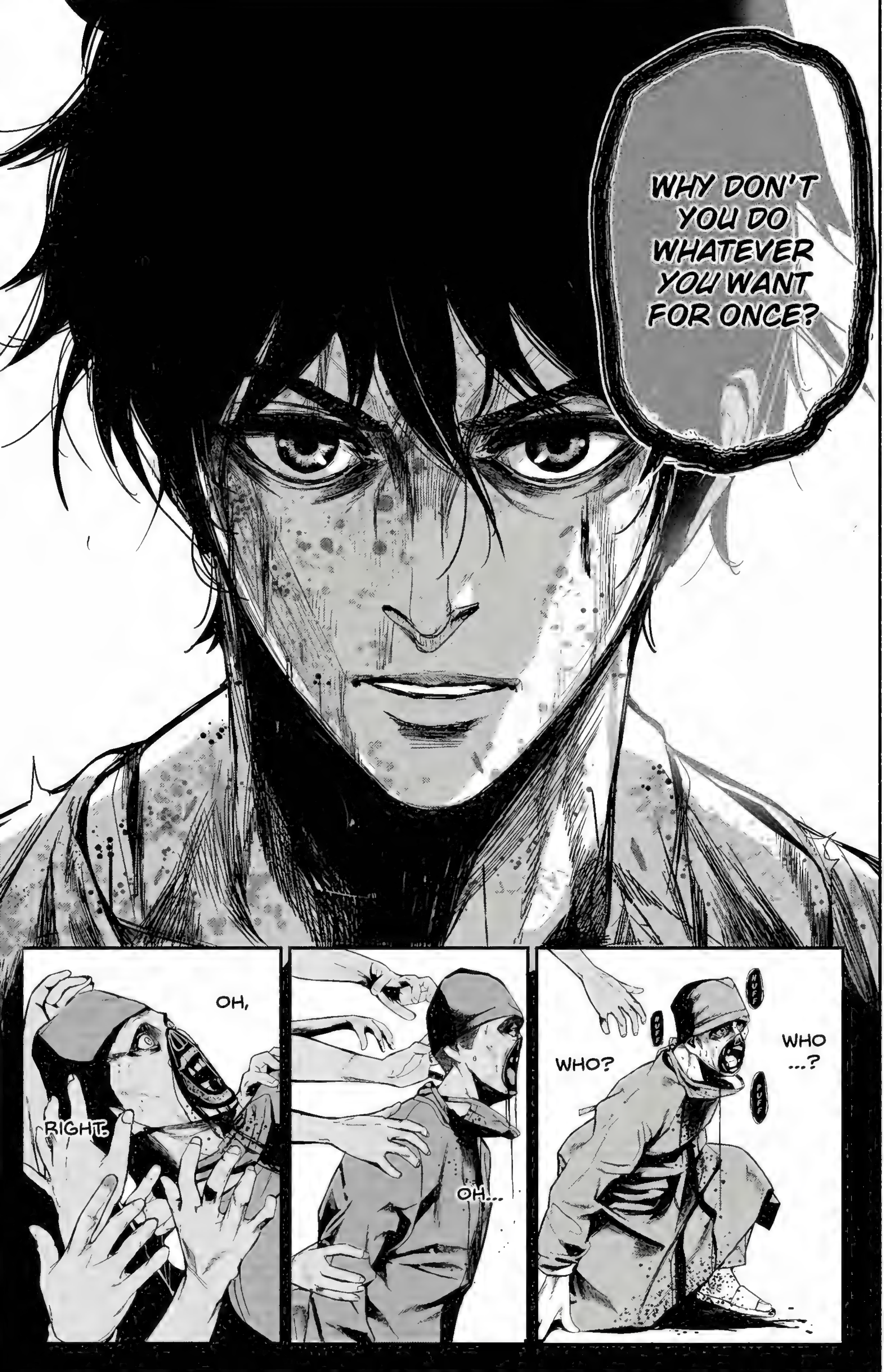

BAM
GOD... WHAT'S GOING ON?
IS THIS SOME KIND OF SICK JOKE?
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN *DOING* HERE?!
WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE JUST *STAYED AWAY*, YOU IDIOT?!
SNAP

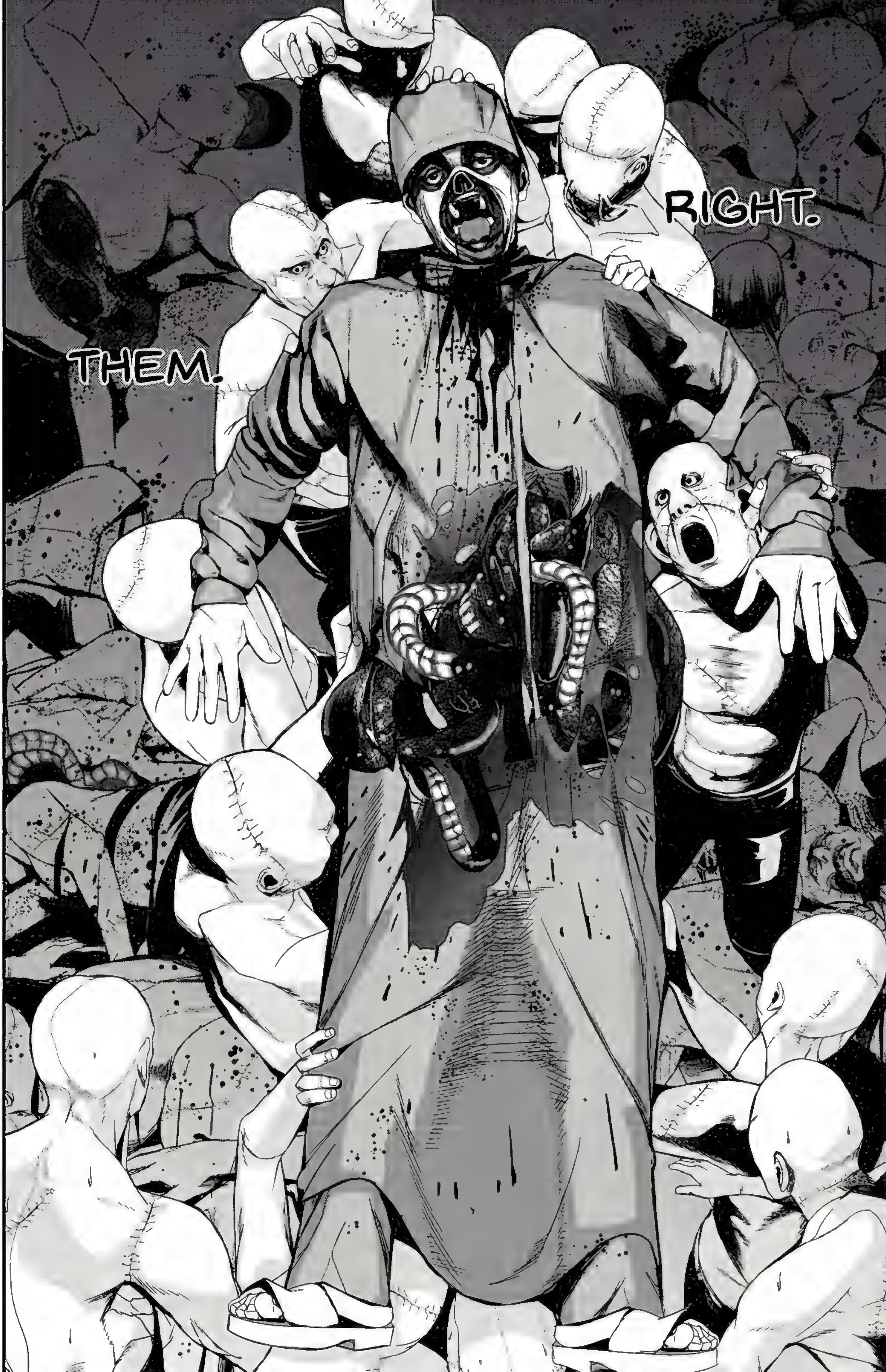

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?!
YOU'RE USELESS. EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU!
I DON'T SEE ANY OF YOU MORONS MAKING YOURSELVES USEFUL!!
YOU CAN'T TAKE ON ONE LOUSY MAN?! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?!!
THIS IS WHAT I GET FOR USING PEOPLE WHO WERE TRYING TO ESCAPE!
I'VE DONE EVERYTHING I CAN FOR YOU IMBECILES, BUT ONCE A COWARD, ALWAYS A COWARD, I SUPPOSE!
YOU'RE TRASH! HUMAN REJECTS!
I WANT EACH AND EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU PIECES OF SHIT TO BITE OFF YOUR TONGUES AND CHOKE ON THEM!

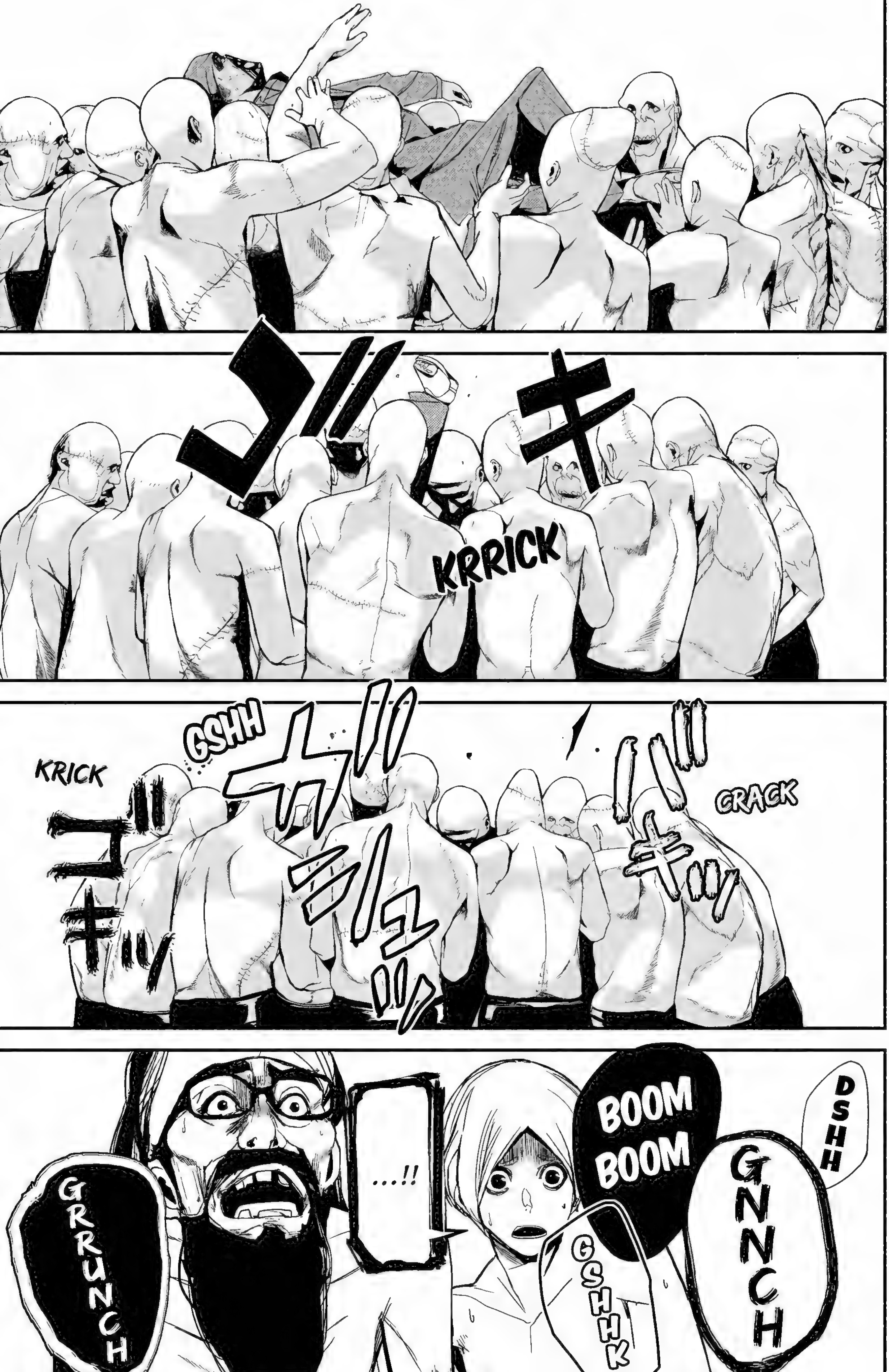

AAH...
SHLINK
HUH?
PSHH
PSHH
AAGH!
AAAAAGH!
PSHH
PSHH

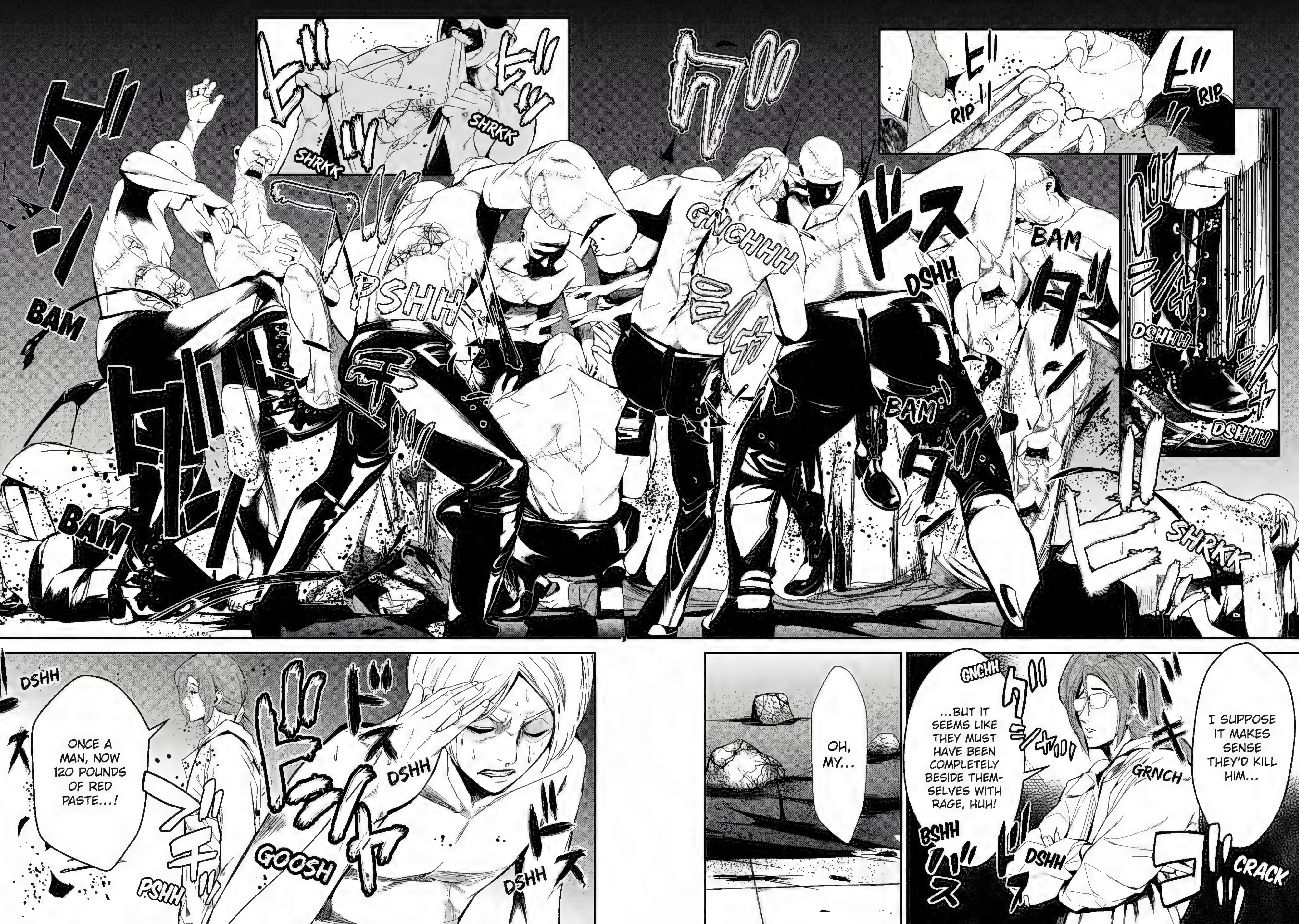

THAT'S... THE GUY... WHO ATTACKED US...
H...H... HE'S BEEN HERE THE WHOLE TIME, HUH ...?
RAAAGH!
SHLAP
SHLAP
YANK
WWAAAARGH!

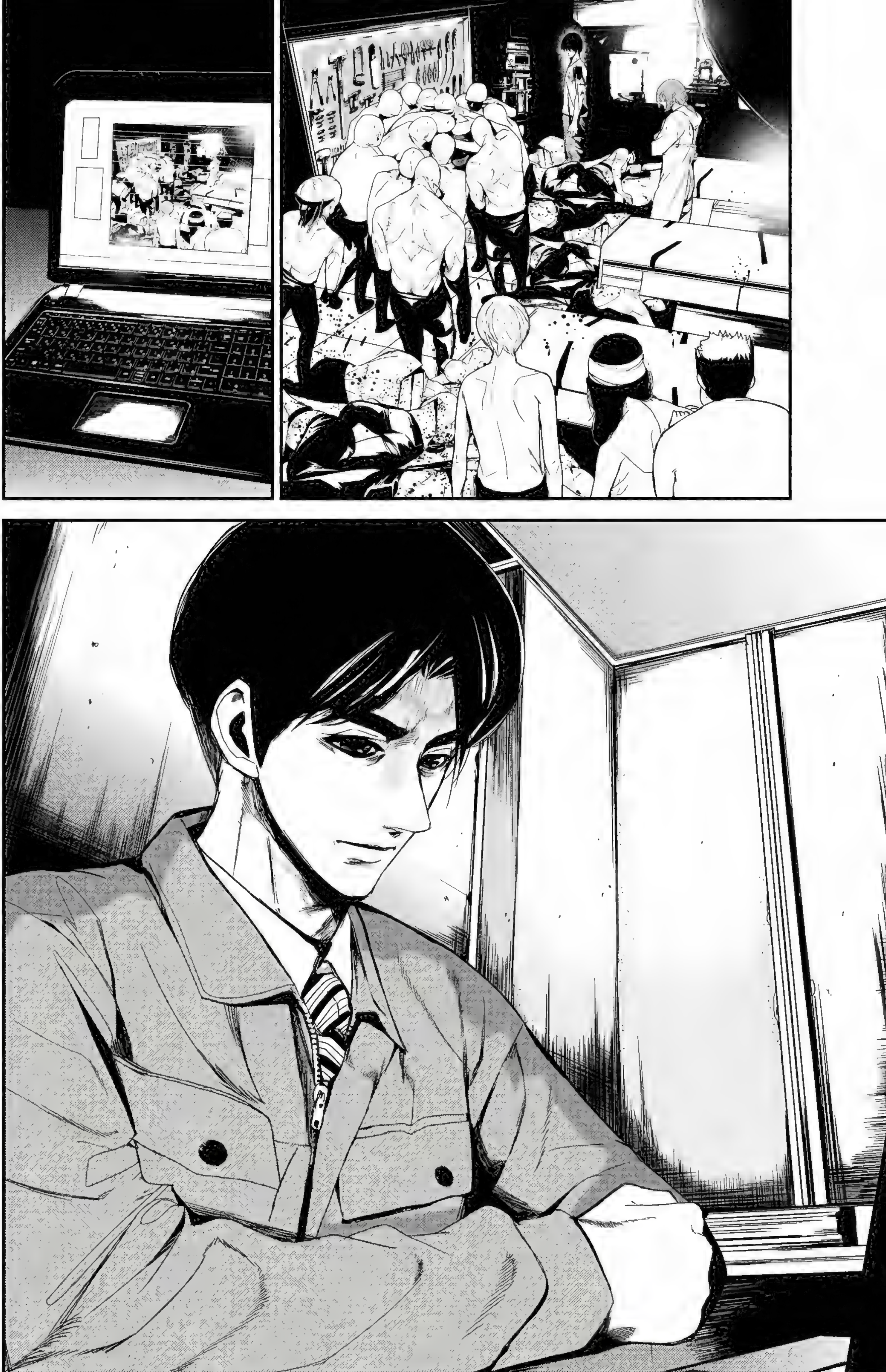

HUP!
RRK!
AAAAAGH!
Z
S
H
H
H
HUFF
WH... WHAT IS HE...?!
PUFF
I KNOW HOW YOU GUYS FEEL.
THESE ASSHOLES JUST DID WHATEVER THEY WANTED WITH YOUR BODIES.


WHY DON'T YOU DO WHATEVER YOU WANT FOR ONCE?
HUFF
WHO ...?
HUFF
PUFF
WHO?
OH...
OH,
RIGHT.

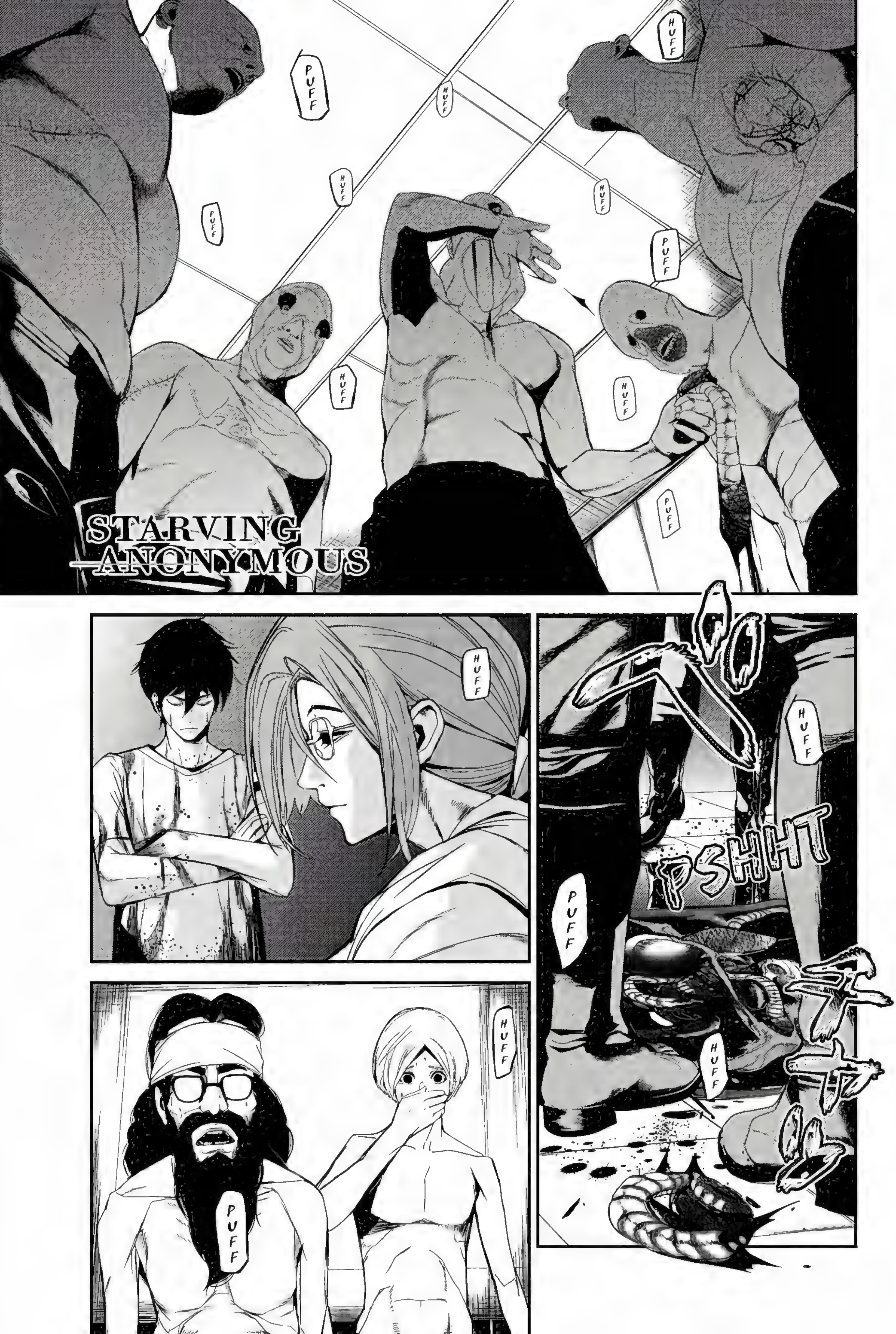

RIGHT.
THEM.


ゴリキ
KRRICK
バキッ
CRACK
ガ!!シュ!!
GSHH
ゴキッ
KRICK
DSHH
GNNCH
BOOM BOOM
GSHHK
...!!
GRRUNCH

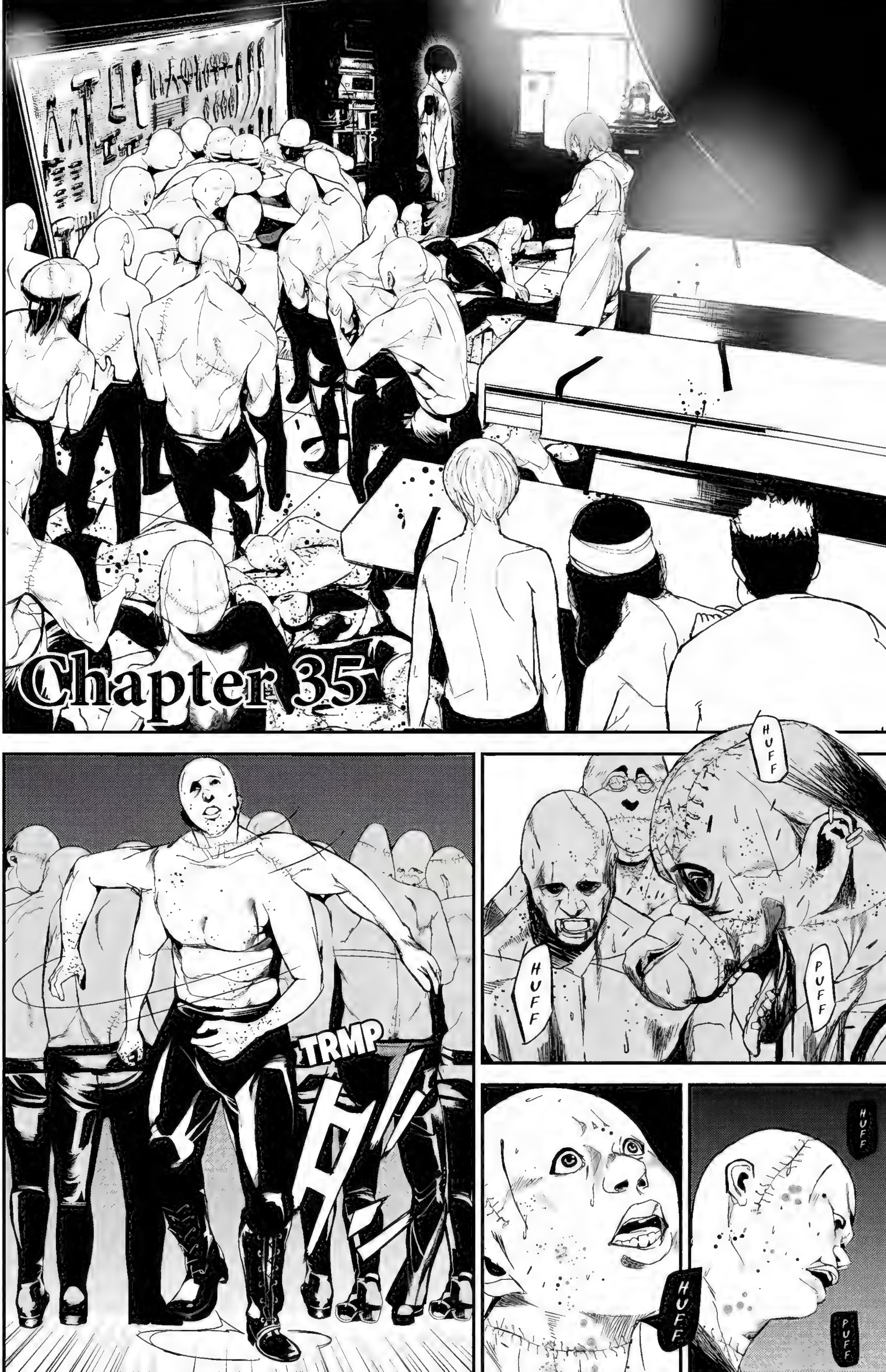

RIP
RIP
DSHHH
BAM
DSHHH
ドス
DSHH
GNCHHH
BAM
SHRKK
PSHH
SHRKK
SHRKK
BAM
BAM
I SUPPOSE IT MAKES SENSE THEY'D KILL HIM...
GNCHH
...BUT IT SEEMS LIKE THEY MUST HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY BESIDE THEM-SELVES WITH RAGE, HUH!
GRNCH
BSHH
DSHH
CRACK
OH, MY...
DSHH
DSHH
ONCE A MAN, NOW 120 POUNDS OF RED PASTE...!
GOOSH
PSHH
DSHH

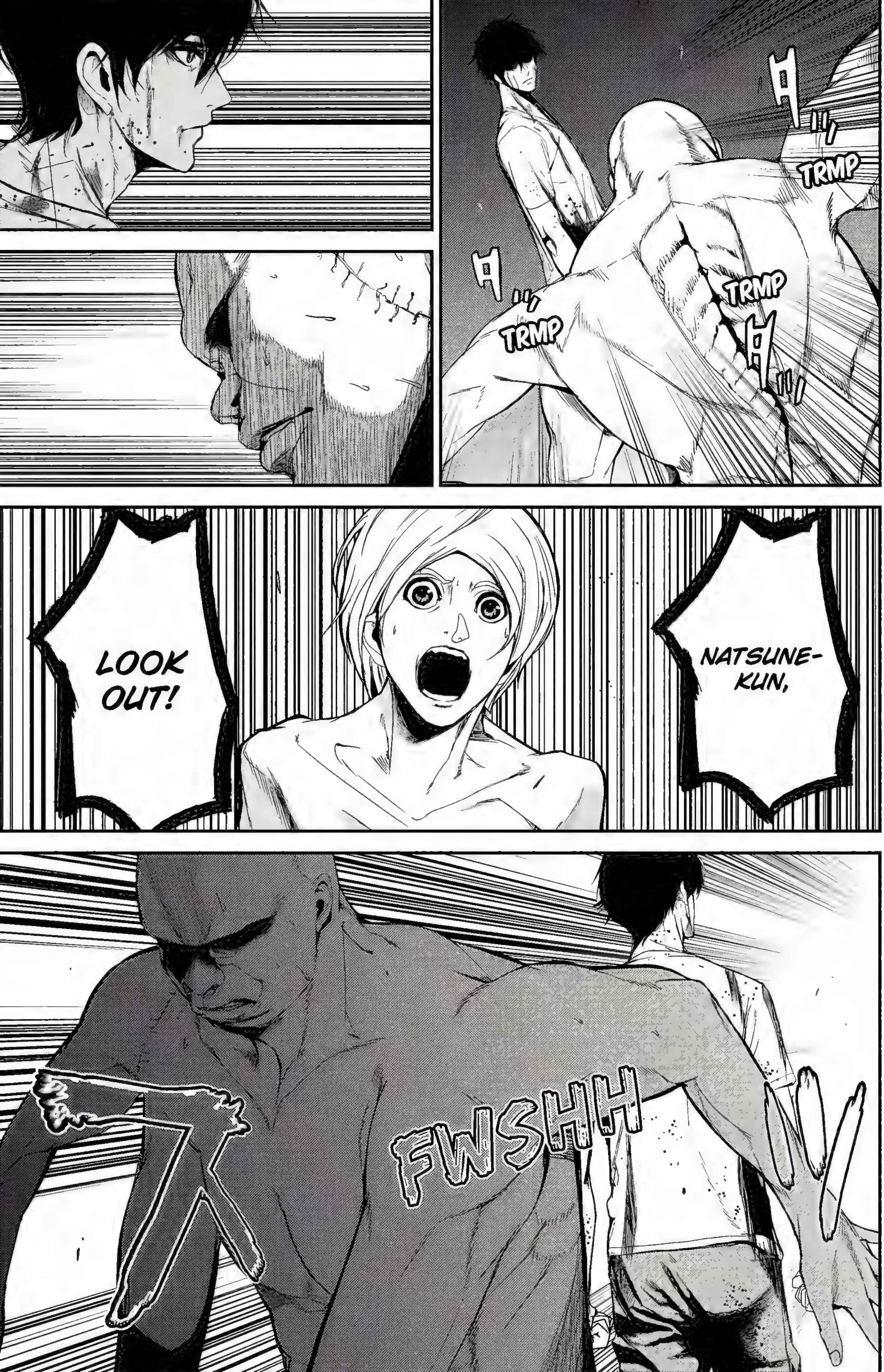


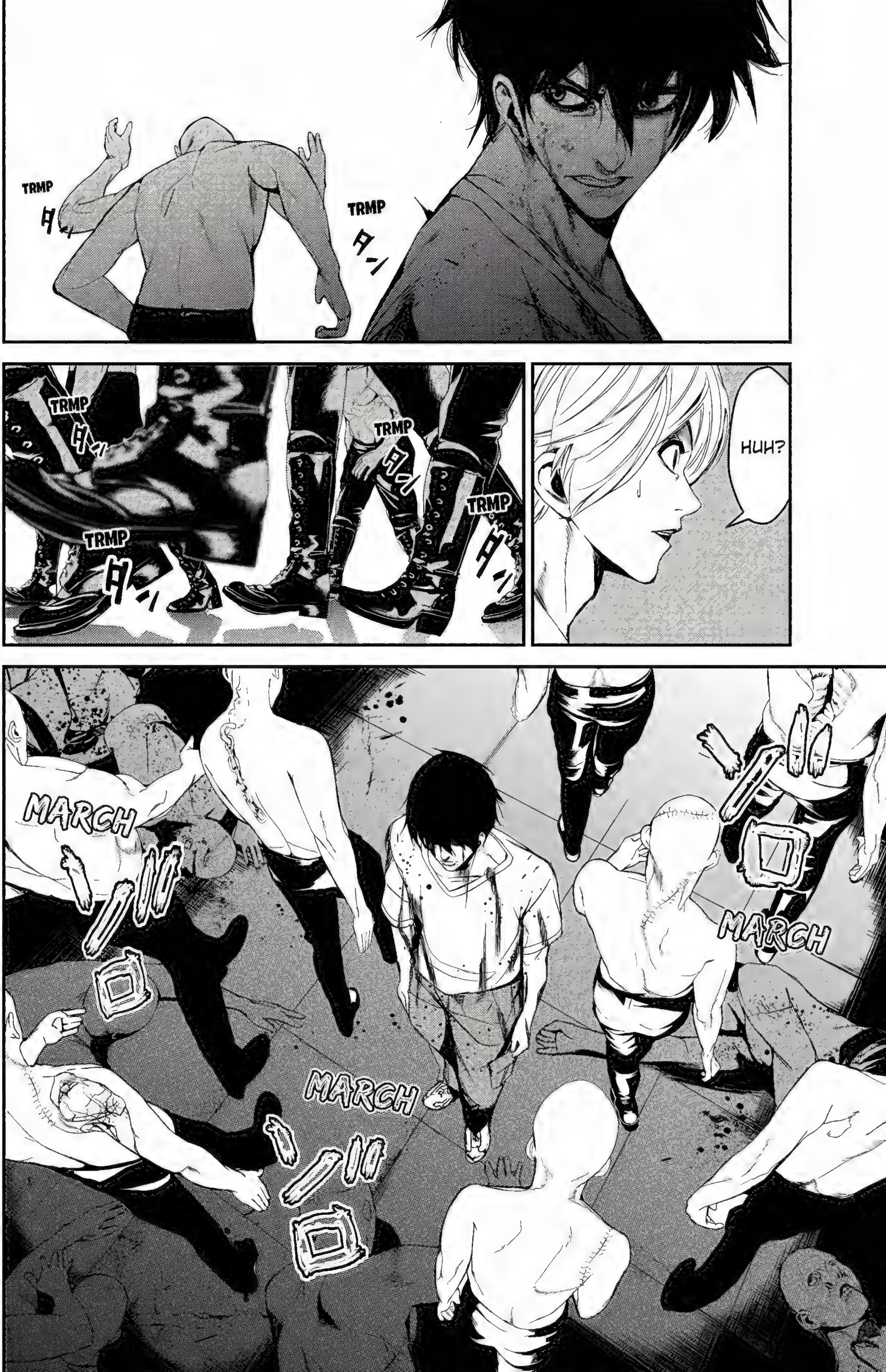
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

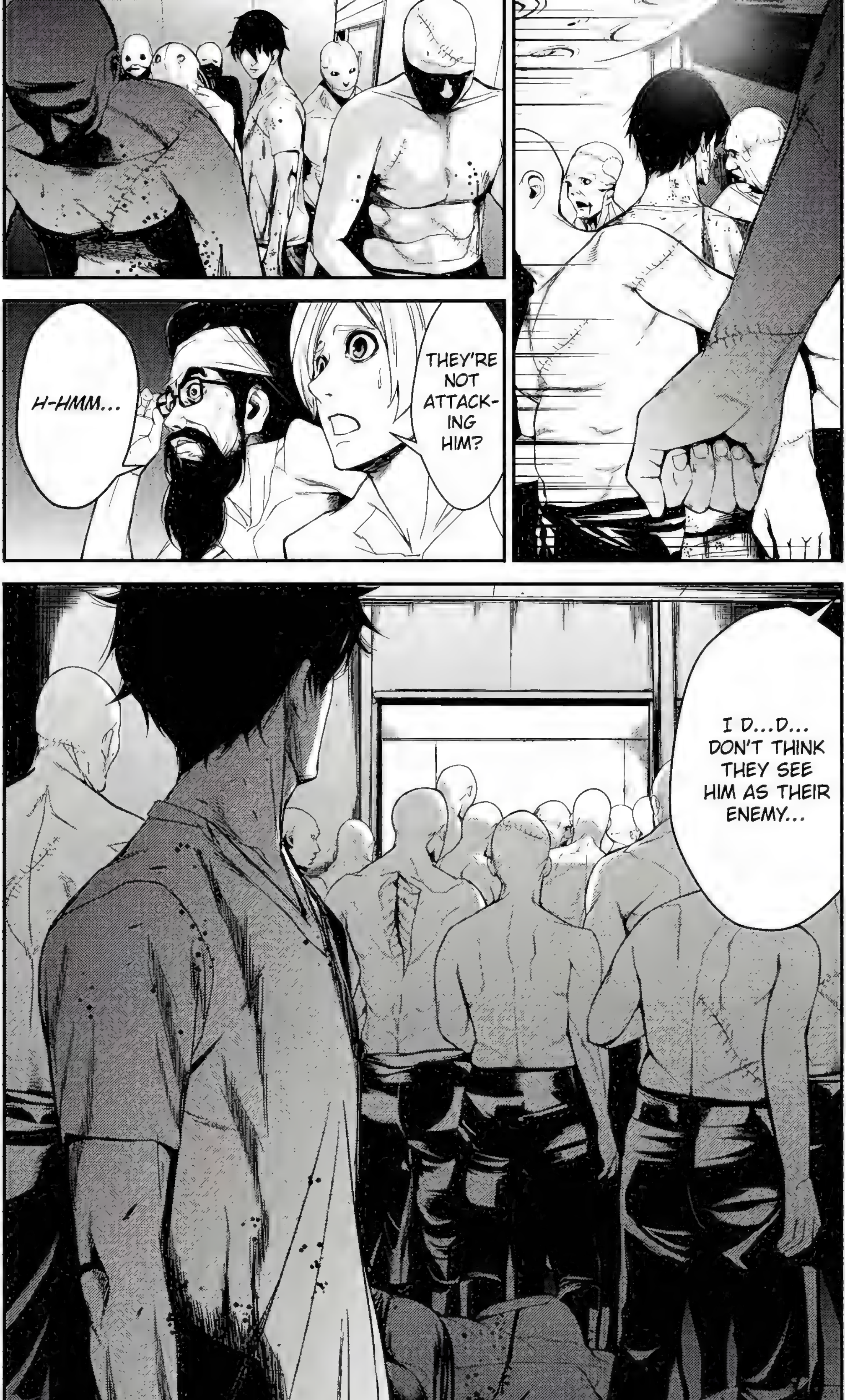

HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
STARVING ANONYMOUS
HUFF
HUFF
PSHHT
PUFF
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF

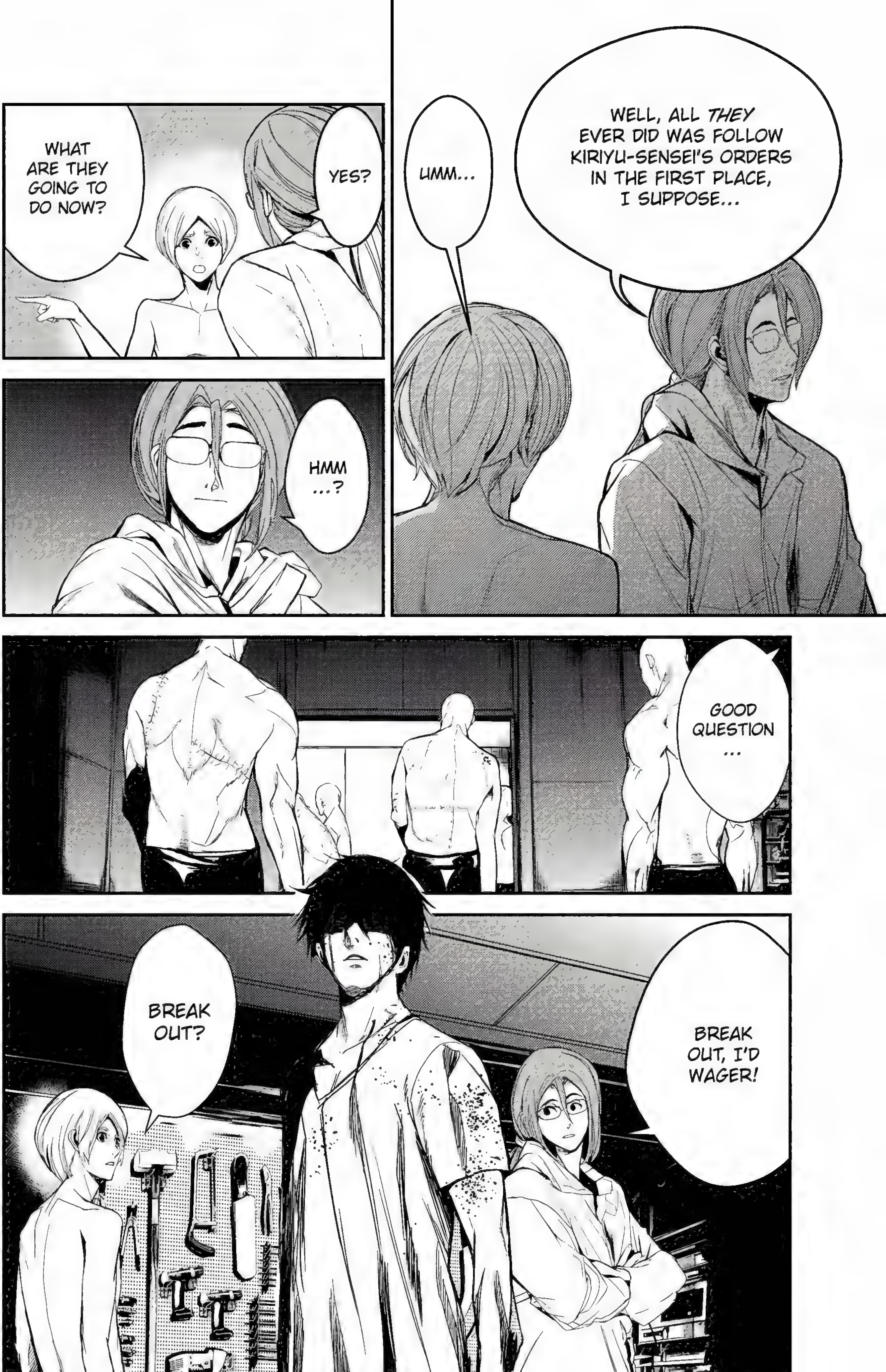
Chapter 35

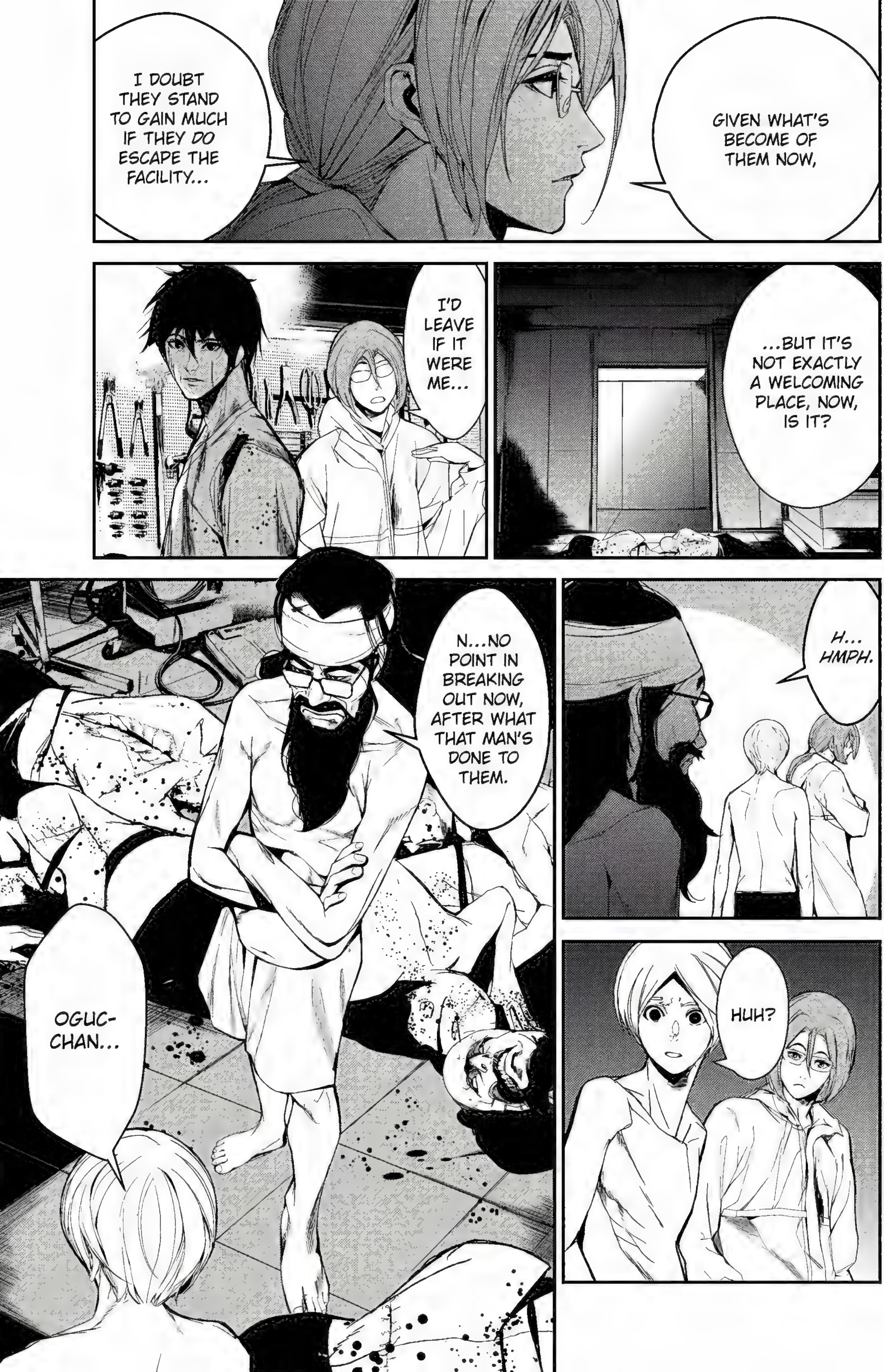

HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
TRMP
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF

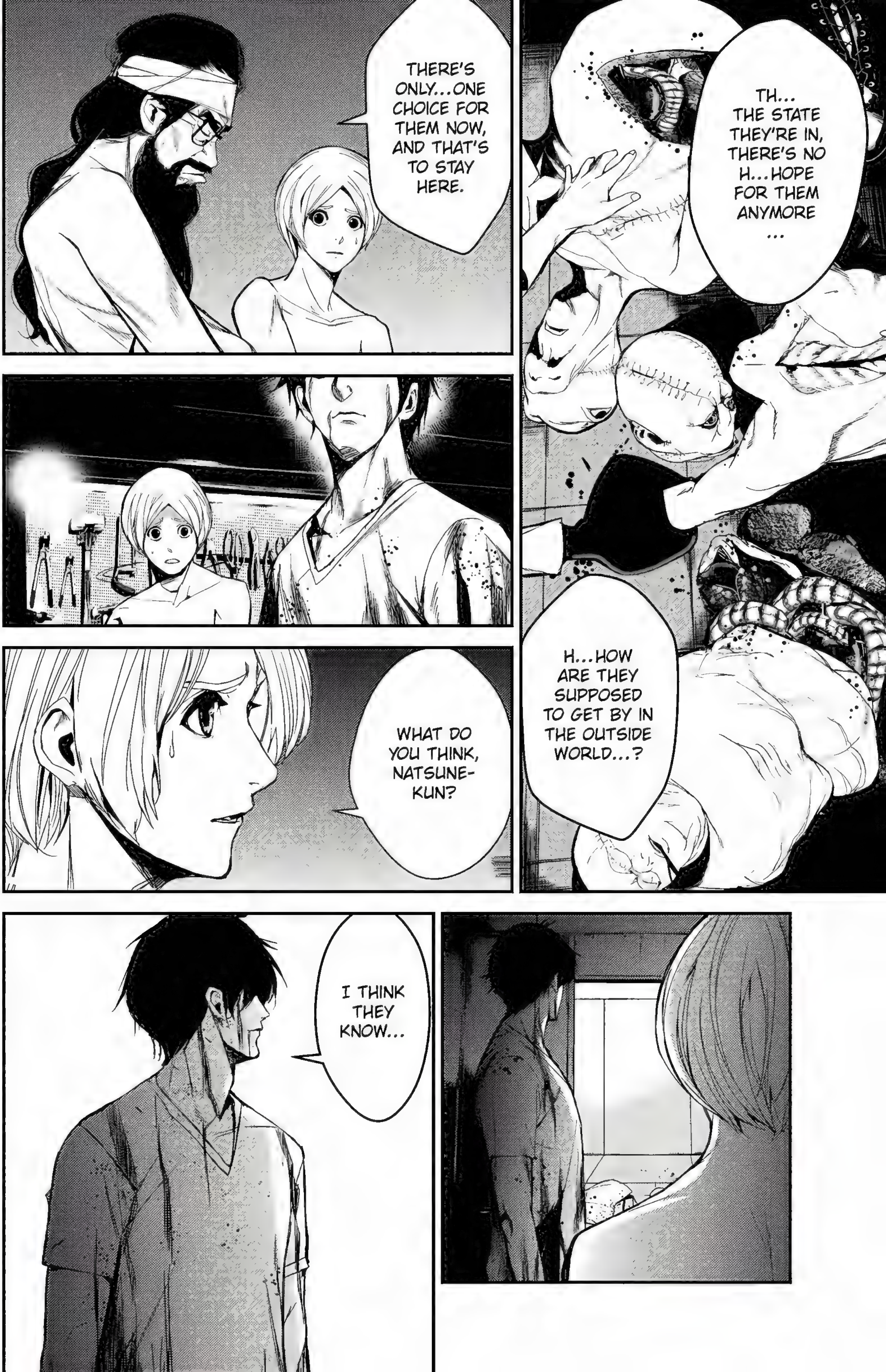

TRMP
TRMP
TRMP
NATSUNE-KUN,
LOOK OUT!
FWSHH

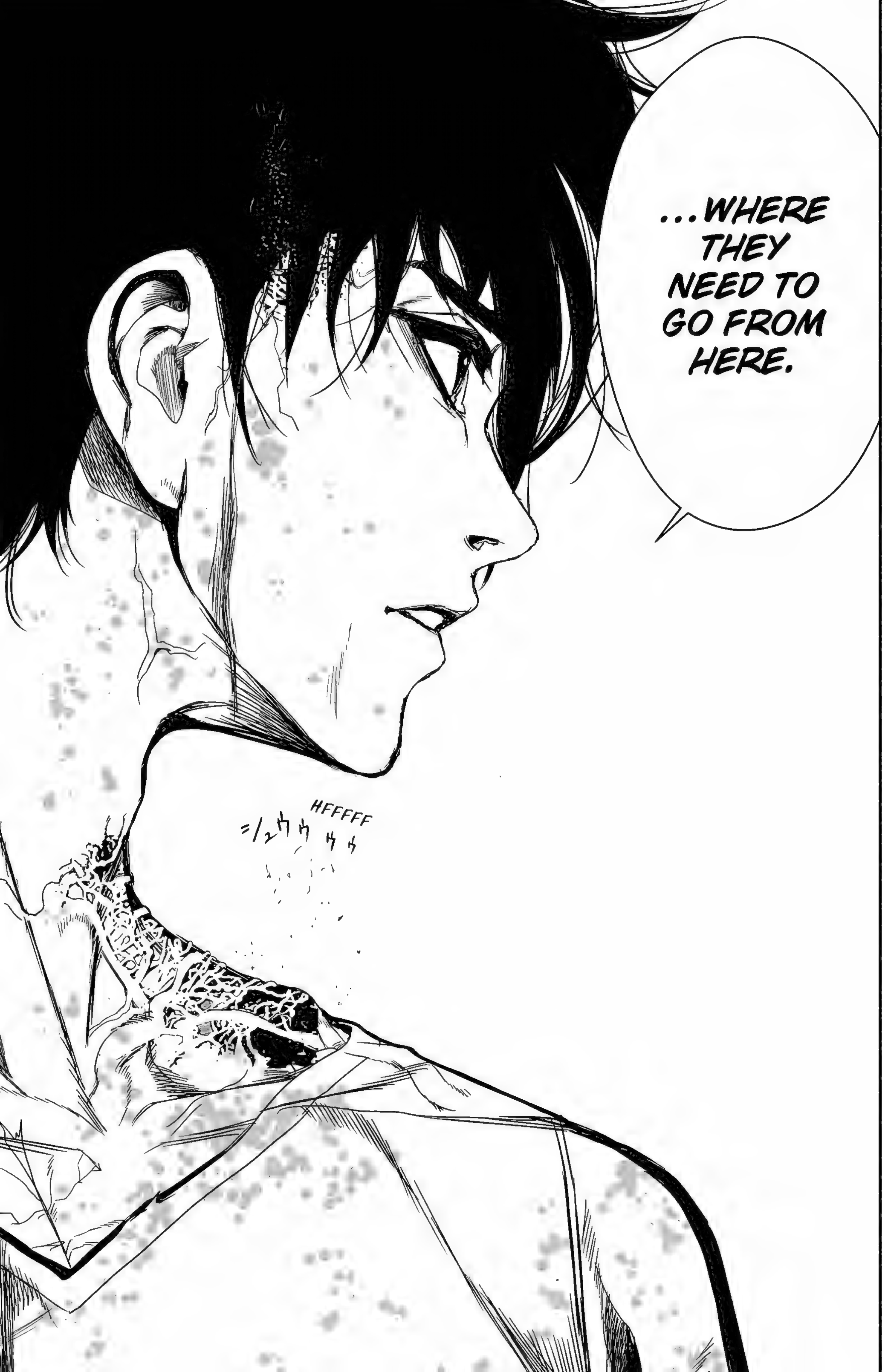

TRMP
TRMP
HUH?
TRMP
TRMP
TRMP
TRMP
MARCH
MARCH
MARCH

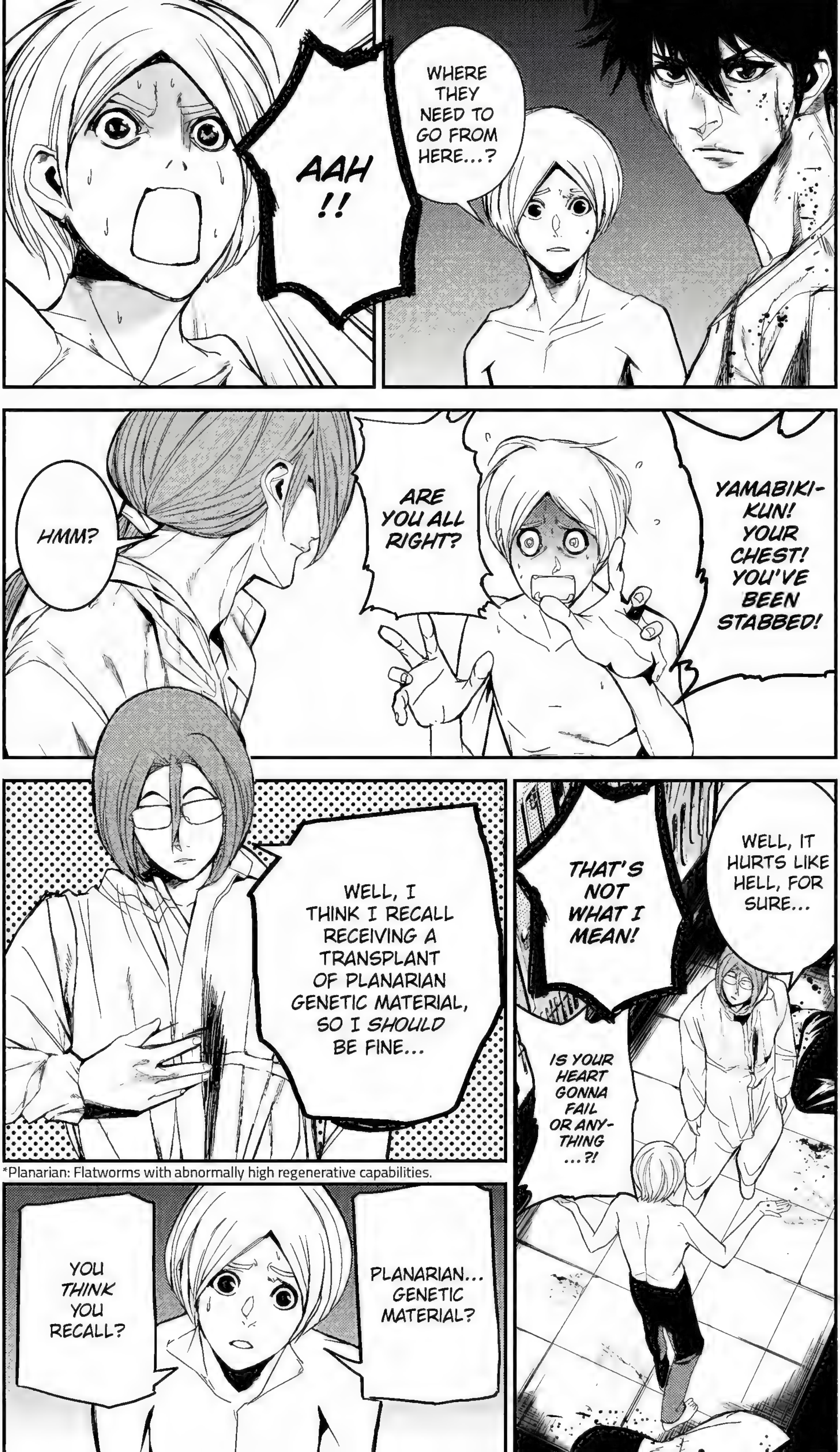

THEY'RE NOT ATTACKING HIM?
H-HMM...
I D...D... DON'T THINK THEY SEE HIM AS THEIR ENEMY...


YES?
WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO DO NOW?
HMM ...?
WELL, ALL *THEY* EVER DID WAS FOLLOW KIRIYU-SENSEI'S ORDERS IN THE FIRST PLACE, I SUPPOSE...
UMM...
GOOD QUESTION ...
BREAK OUT, I'D WAGER!
BREAK OUT?

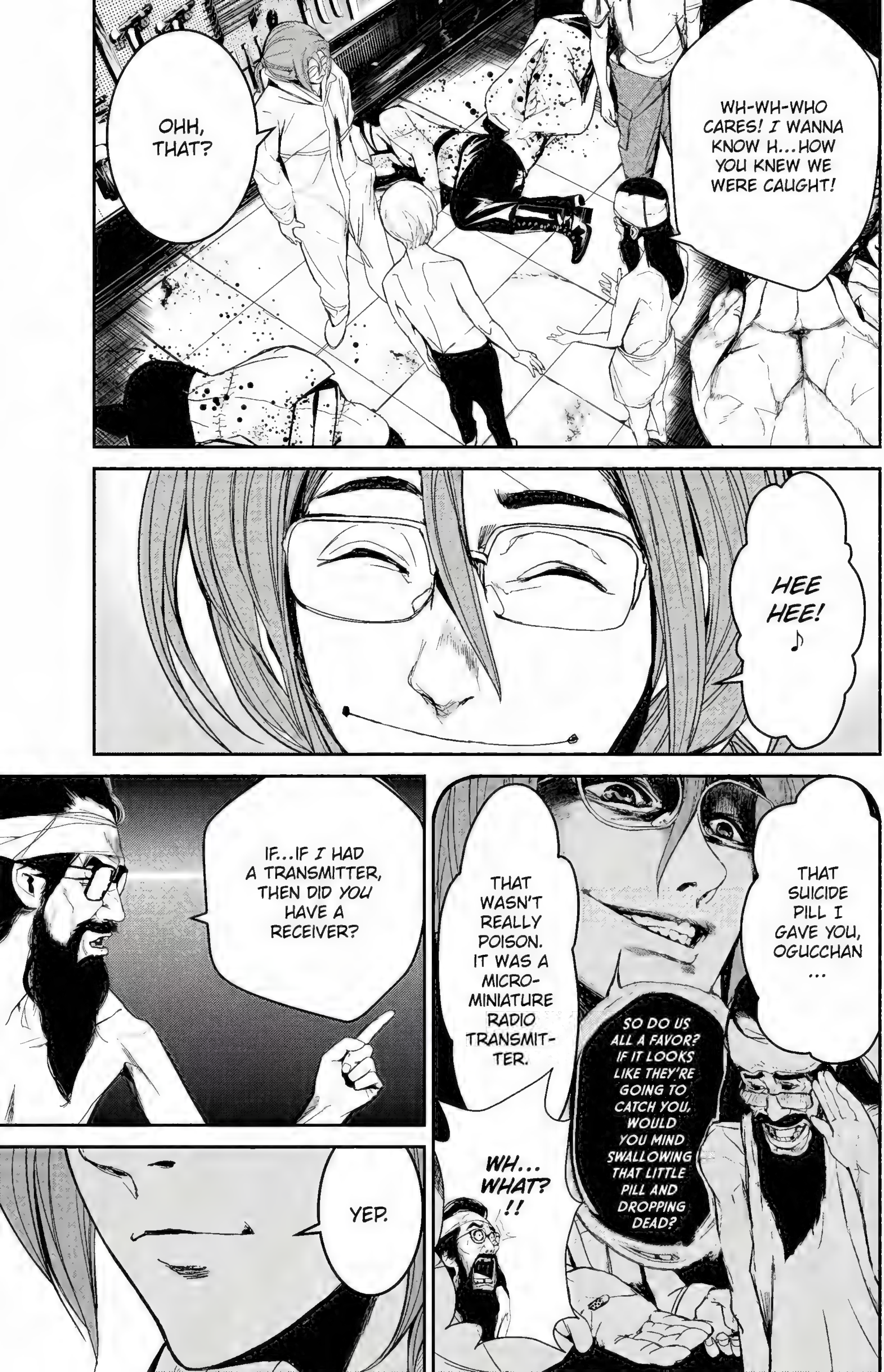

GIVEN WHAT'S BECOME OF THEM NOW,
I DOUBT THEY STAND TO GAIN MUCH IF THEY *DO* ESCAPE THE FACILITY...
I'D LEAVE IF IT WERE ME...
...BUT IT'S NOT EXACTLY A WELCOMING PLACE, NOW, IS IT?
N...NO POINT IN BREAKING OUT NOW, AFTER WHAT THAT MAN'S DONE TO THEM.
H... HMPH.
OGUC-CHAN...
HUH?

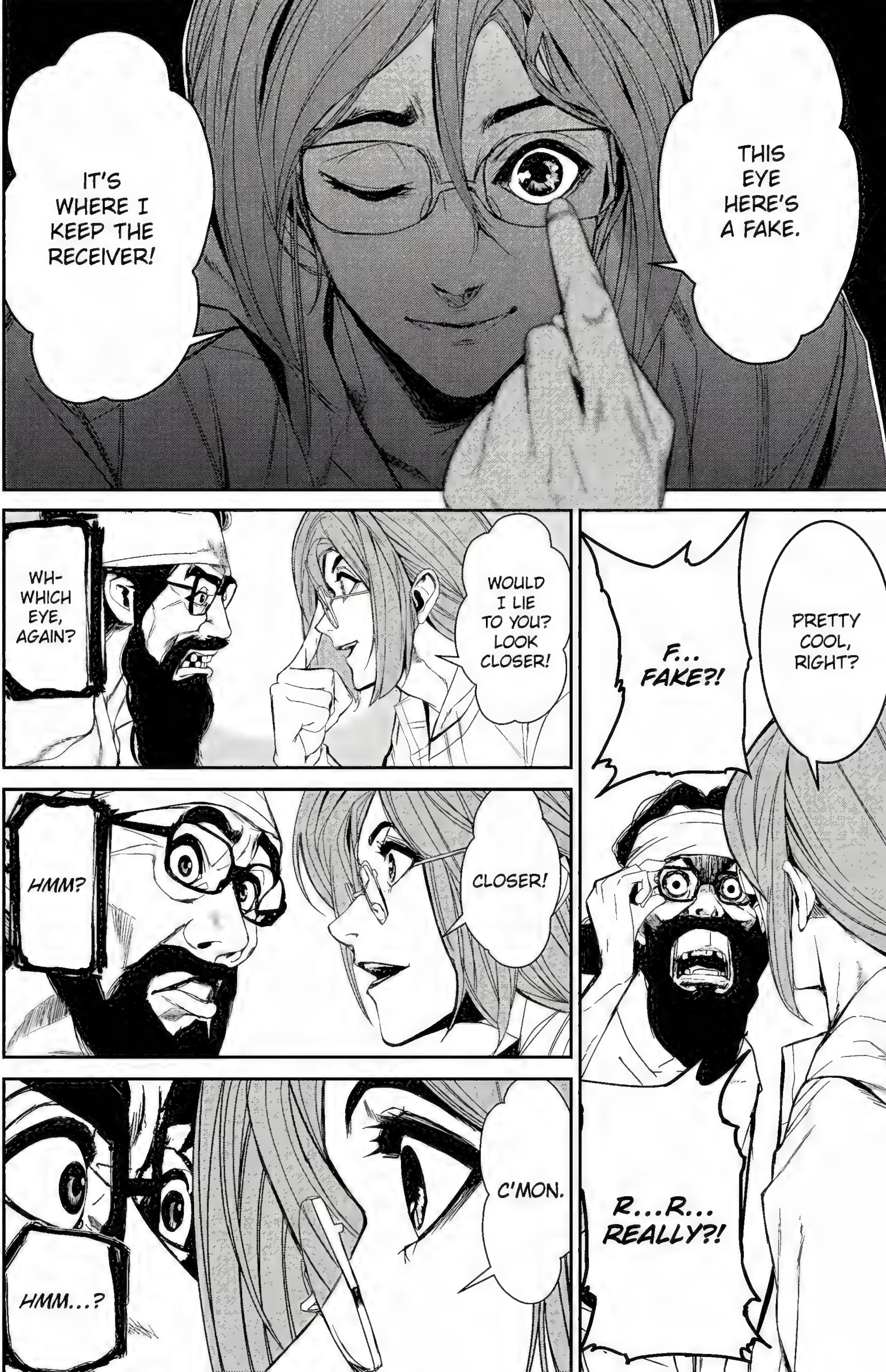

TH... THE STATE THEY'RE IN, THERE'S NO H...HOPE FOR THEM ANYMORE ...
THERE'S ONLY...ONE CHOICE FOR THEM NOW, AND THAT'S TO STAY HERE.
H...HOW ARE THEY SUPPOSED TO GET BY IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD...?
WHAT DO YOU THINK, NATSUNE-KUN?
I THINK THEY KNOW...

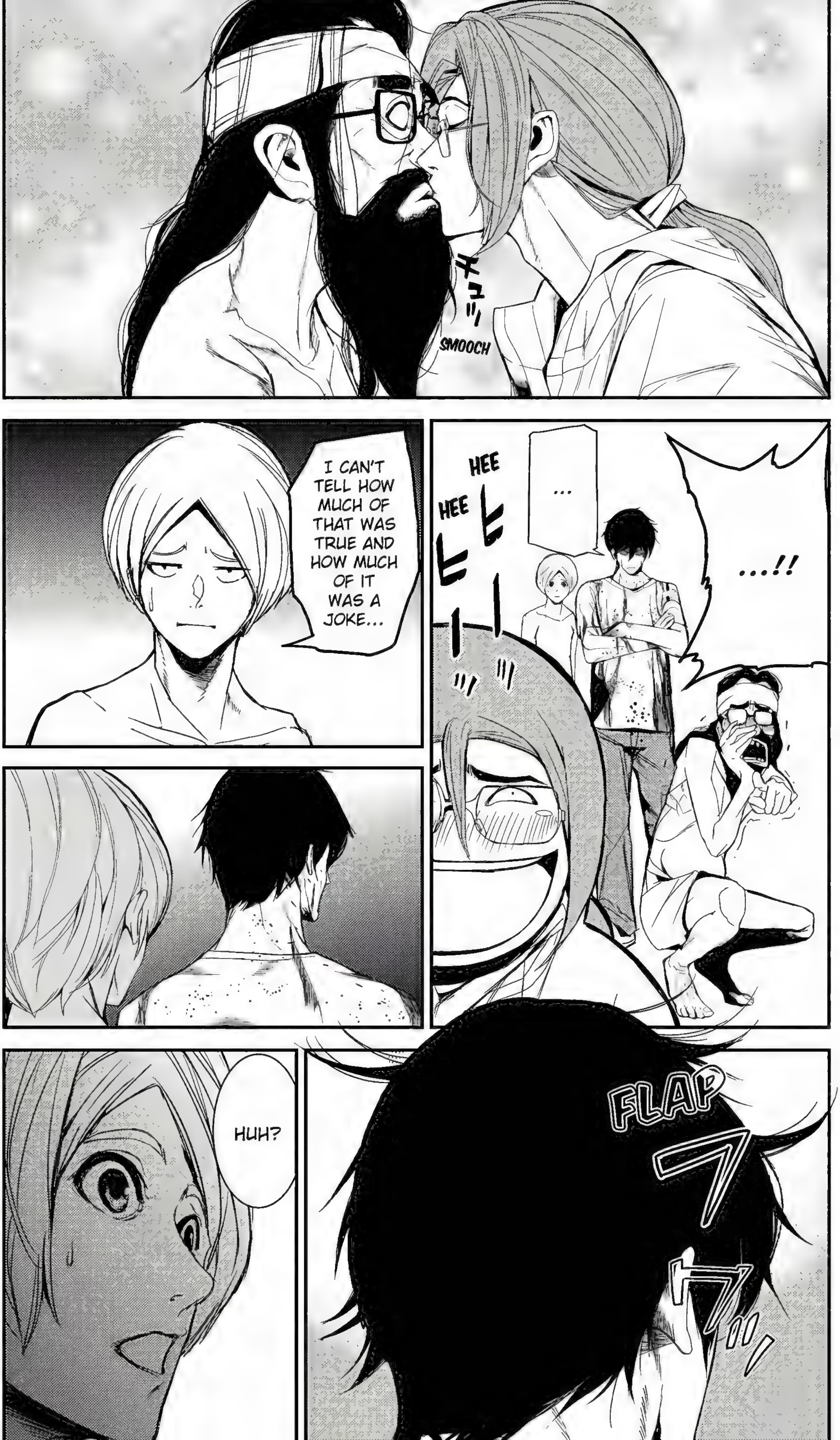

...WHERE THEY NEED TO GO FROM HERE.
HFFFFF
シュウウウウ

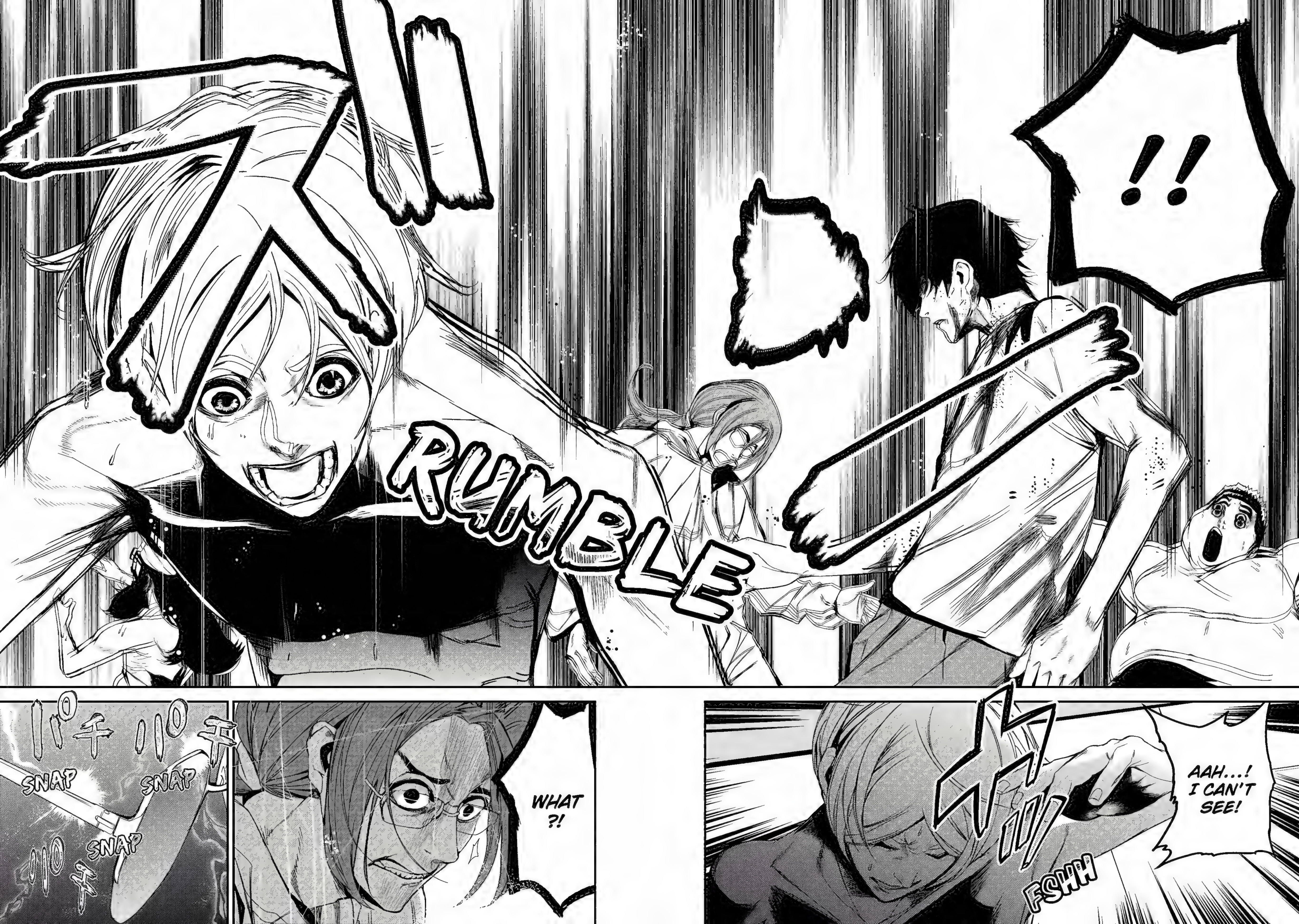

WHERE THEY NEED TO GO FROM HERE...?
AAH!!
YAMABIKI-KUN! YOUR CHEST! YOU'VE BEEN STABBED!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
HMM?
WELL, IT HURTS LIKE HELL, FOR SURE...
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
IS YOUR HEART GONNA FAIL OR ANYTHING...?!
WELL, I THINK I RECALL RECEIVING A TRANSPLANT OF PLANARIAN GENETIC MATERIAL, SO I *SHOULD* BE FINE...
PLANARIAN... GENETIC MATERIAL?
YOU THINK YOU RECALL?

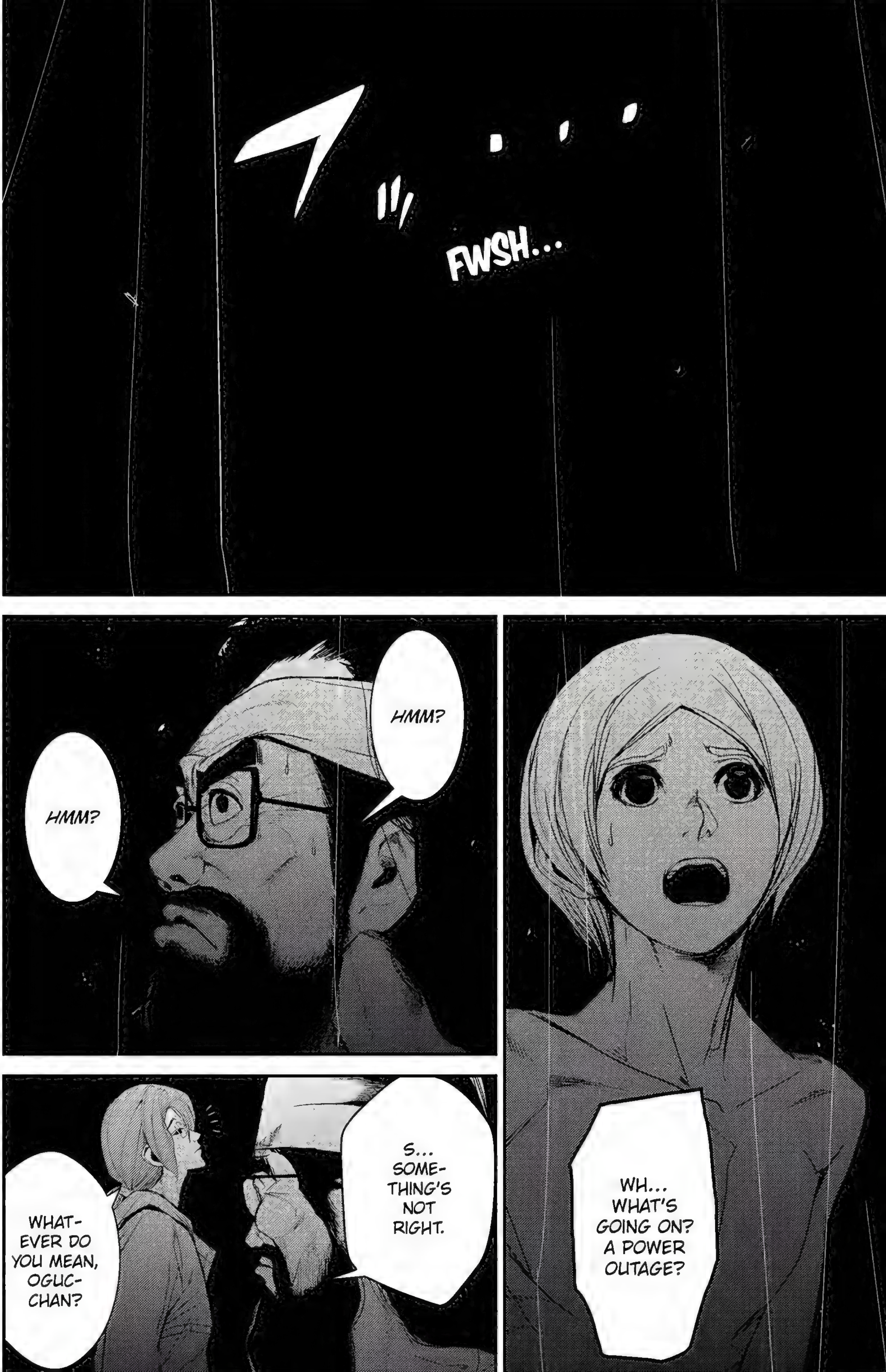
*Planarian: Flatworms with abnormally high regenerative capabilities.

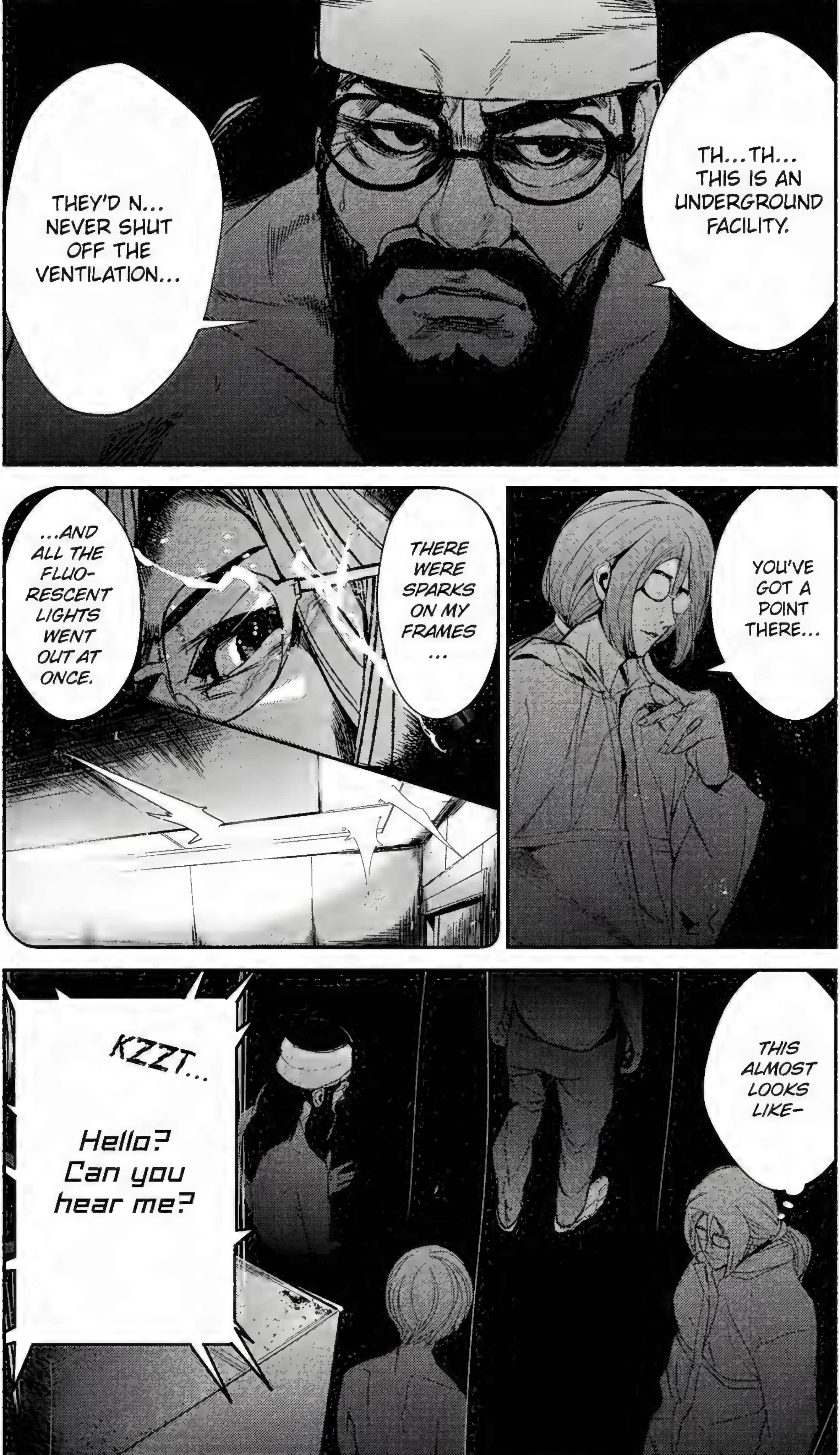

WH-WH-WHO CARES! *I* WANNA KNOW H...HOW YOU KNEW WE WERE CAUGHT!
OHH, THAT?
HEE HEE! ♪
THAT SUICIDE PILL I GAVE YOU, OGUCCHAN...
THAT WASN'T REALLY POISON. IT WAS A MICRO-MINIATURE RADIO TRANSMITTER.
SO DO US ALL A FAVOR? IF IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GOING TO CATCH YOU, WOULD YOU MIND SWALLOWING THAT LITTLE PILL AND DROPPING DEAD?
WH... WHAT? !!
IF...IF *I* HAD A TRANSMITTER, THEN DID *YOU* HAVE A RECEIVER?
YEP.

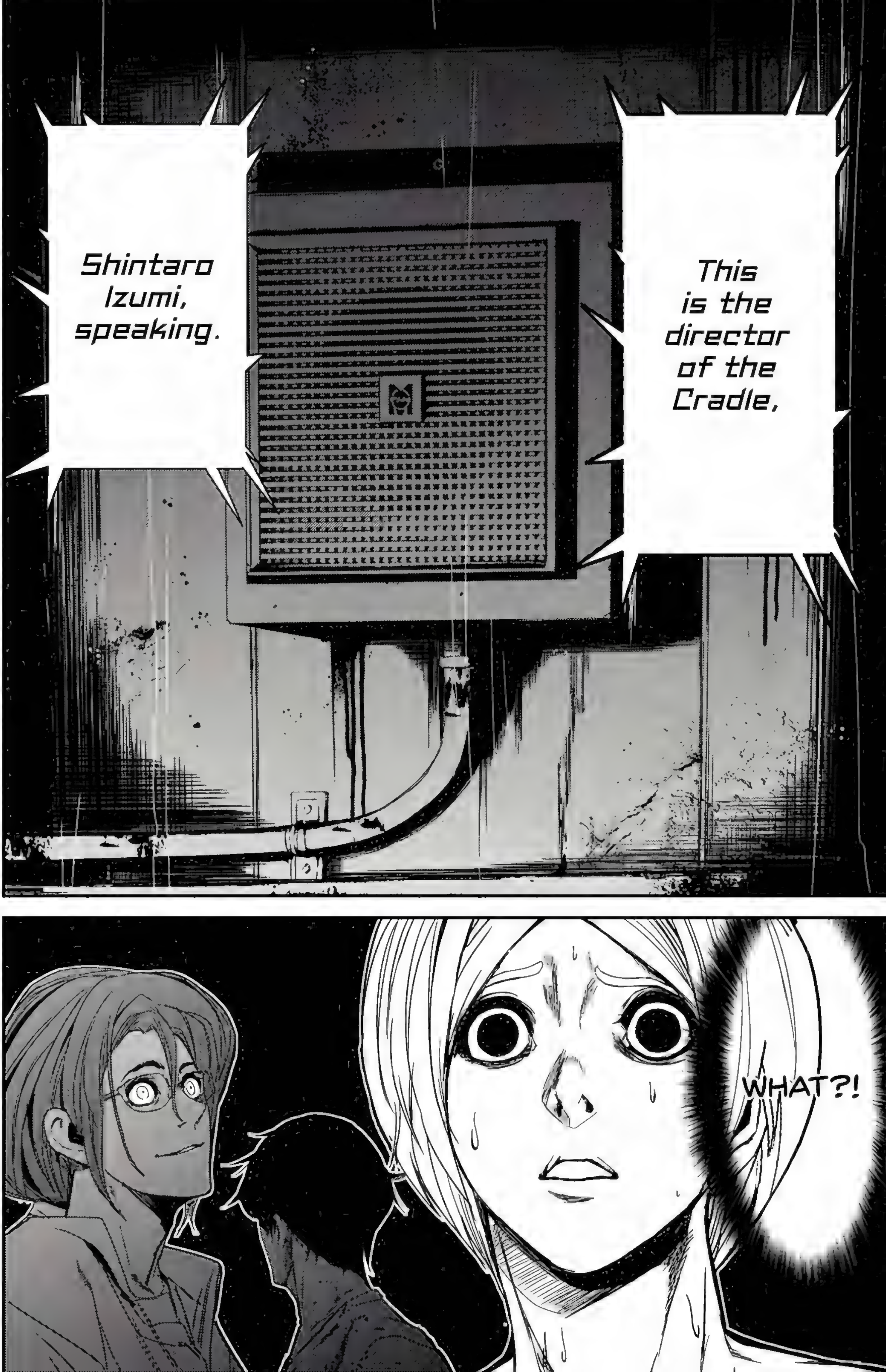

THIS EYE HERE'S A FAKE.
IT'S WHERE I KEEP THE RECEIVER!
F... FAKE?!
PRETTY COOL, RIGHT?
R...R... REALLY?!
WH- WHICH EYE, AGAIN?
WOULD I LIE TO YOU? LOOK CLOSER!
HMM?
CLOSER!
C'MON.
HMM...?

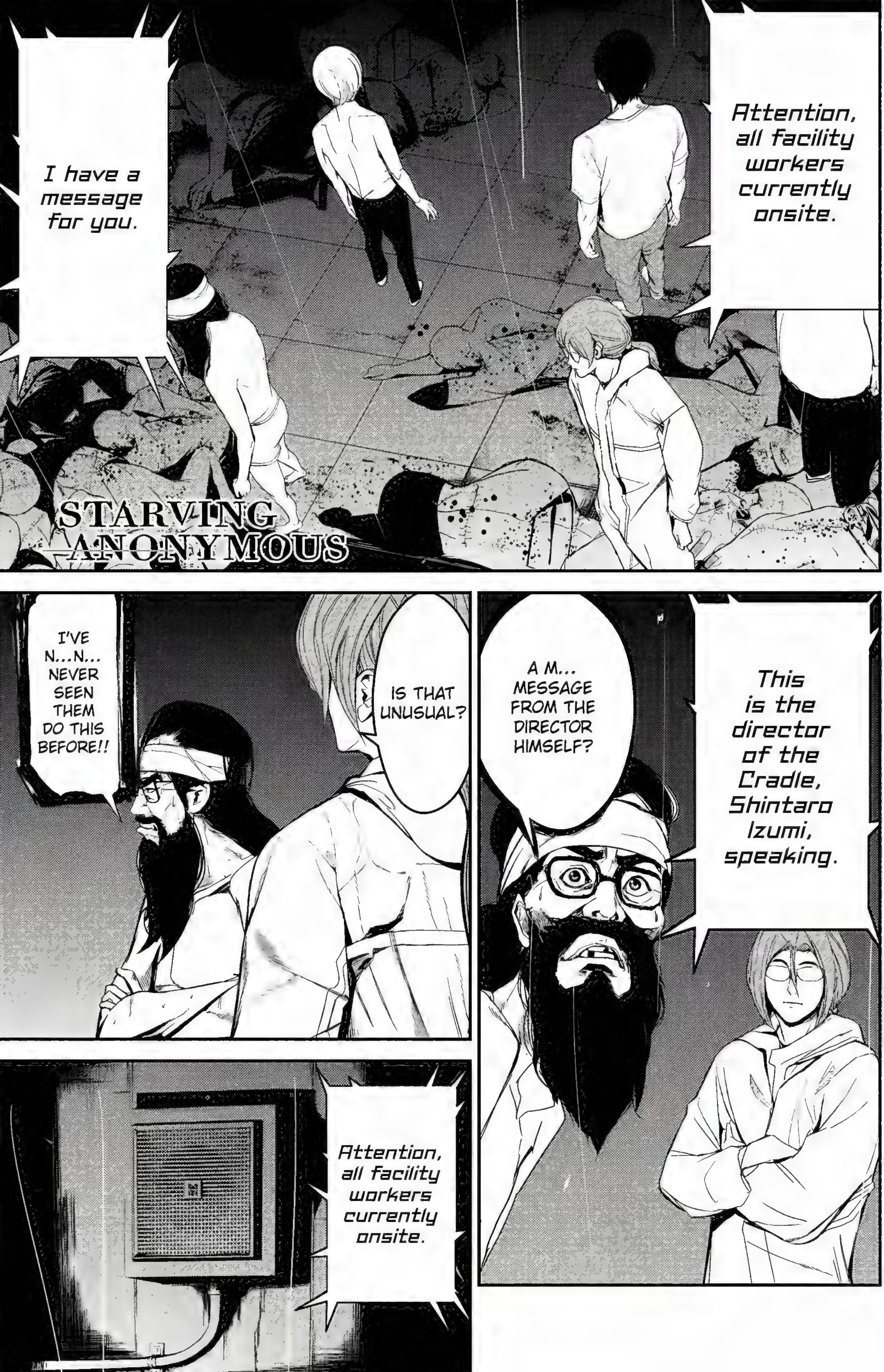

チュッ
SMOOCH
…!!
…
ヒヒーッ
HEE HEE
I CAN'T TELL HOW MUCH OF THAT WAS TRUE AND HOW MUCH OF IT WAS A JOKE…
FLAP
HUH?


!!
RUMBLE
AAH...! I CAN'T SEE!
FSHH
WHAT ?!
パチ パチ
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
パチ

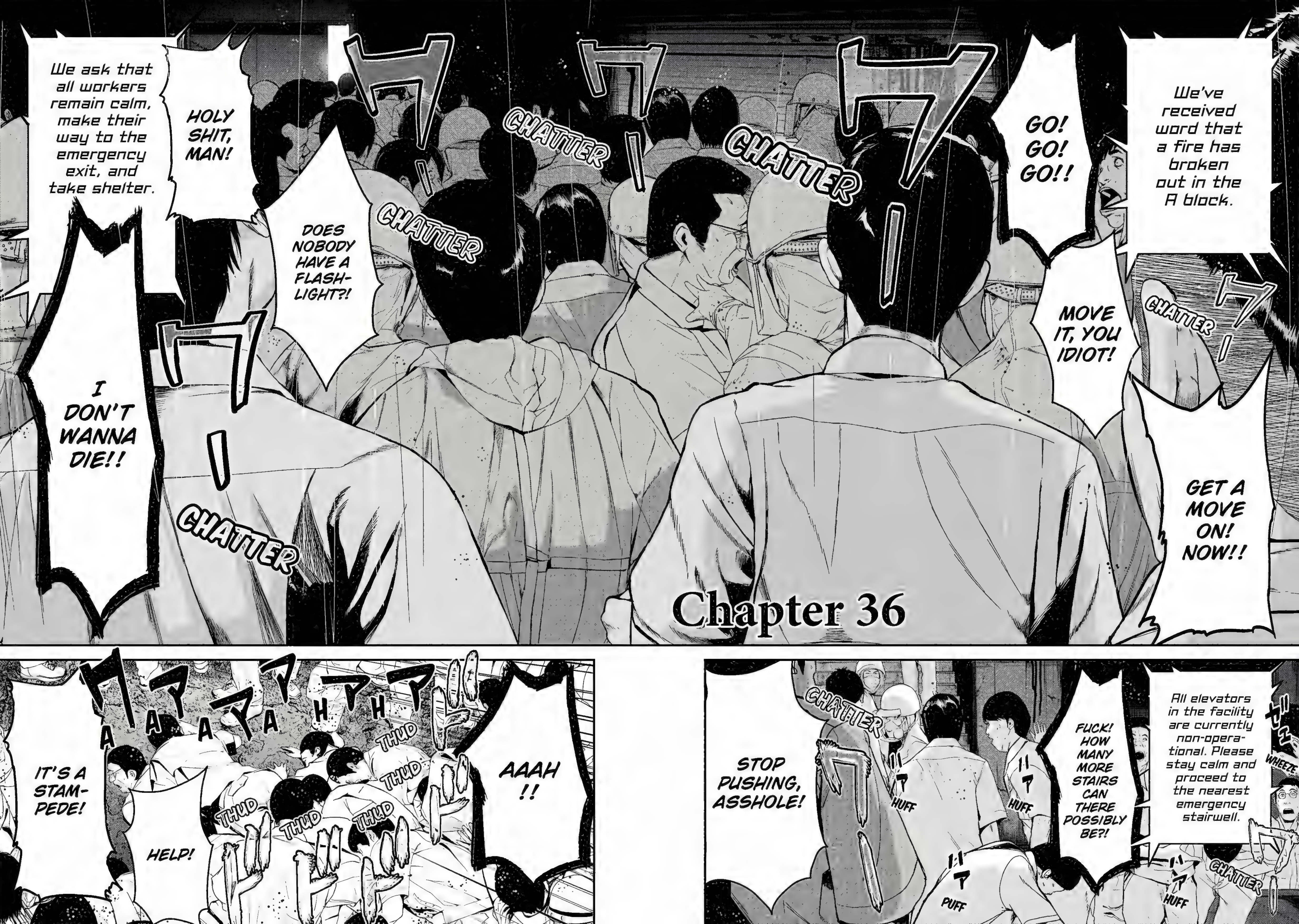

...
FWSH...
WH... WHAT'S GOING ON? A POWER OUTAGE?
HMM?
HMM?
S... SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.
WHATEVER DO YOU MEAN, OGUC-CHAN?

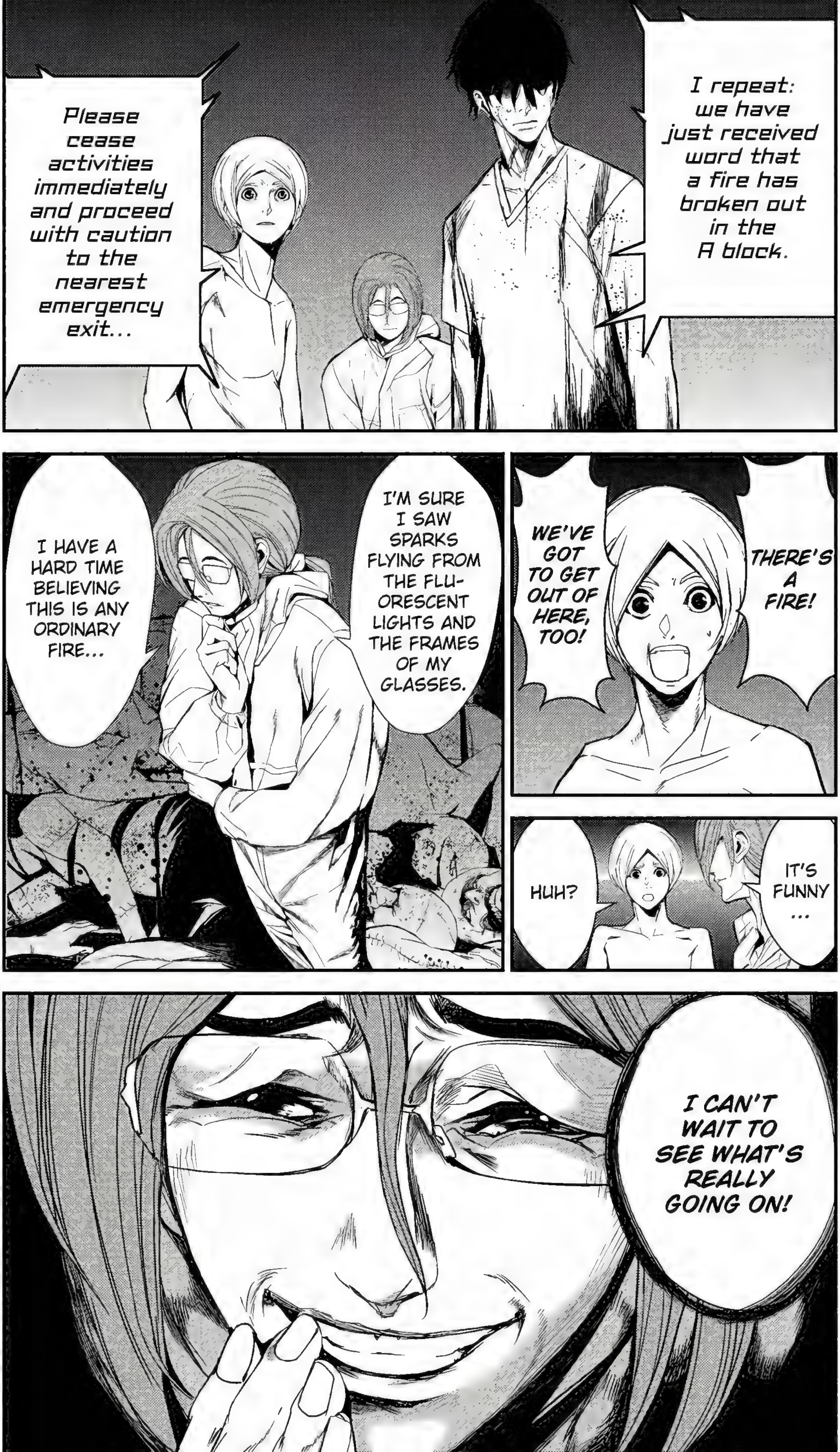

TH... TH... THIS IS AN UNDERGROUND FACILITY.
THEY'D N... NEVER SHUT OFF THE VENTILATION...
YOU'VE GOT A POINT THERE...
THERE WERE SPARKS ON MY FRAMES...
...AND ALL THE FLUORESCENT LIGHTS WENT OUT AT ONCE.
THIS ALMOST LOOKS LIKE-
KZZT...
Hello? Can you hear me?

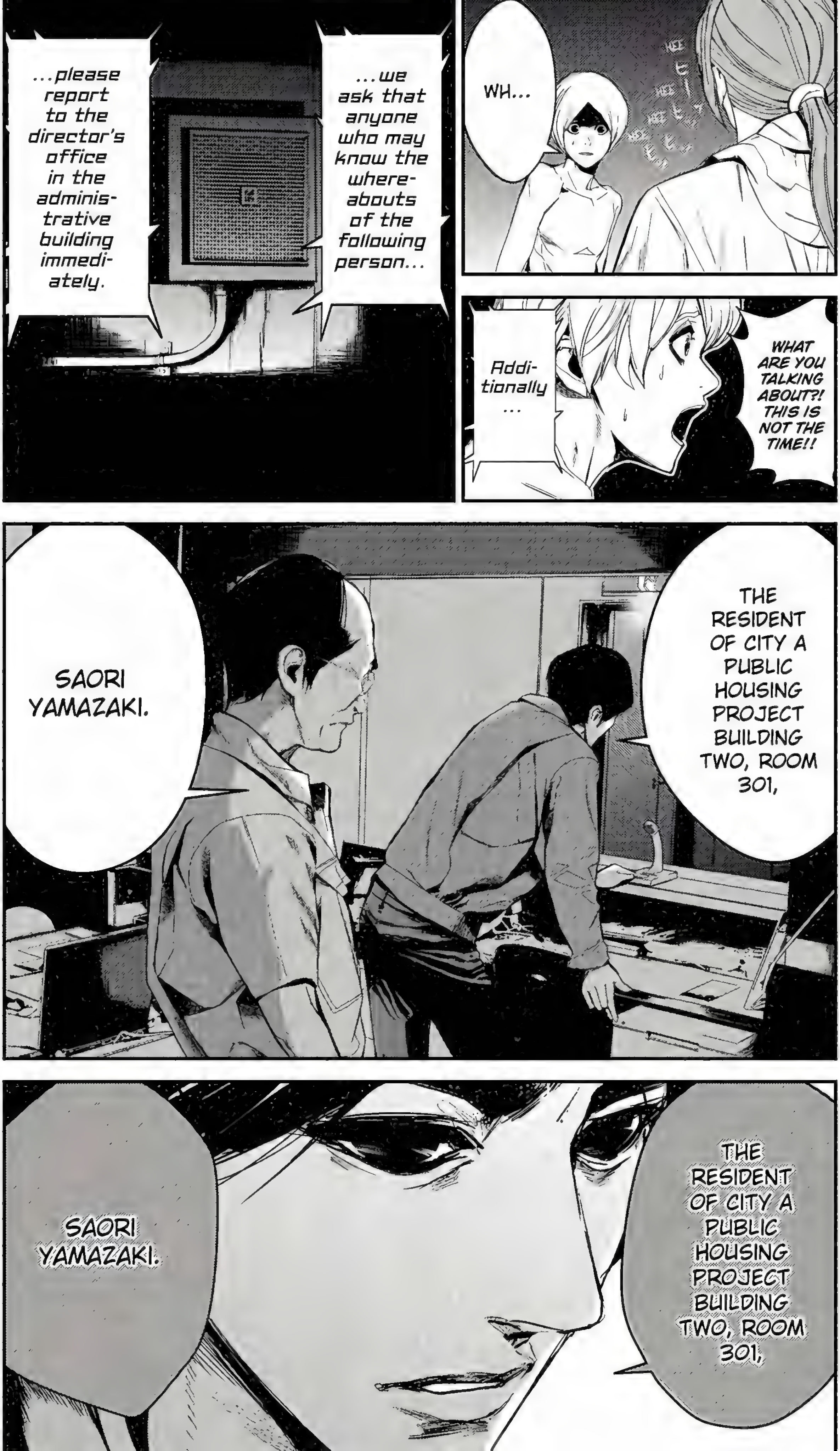

This is the director of the Cradle,
Shintaro Izumi, speaking.
WHAT?!

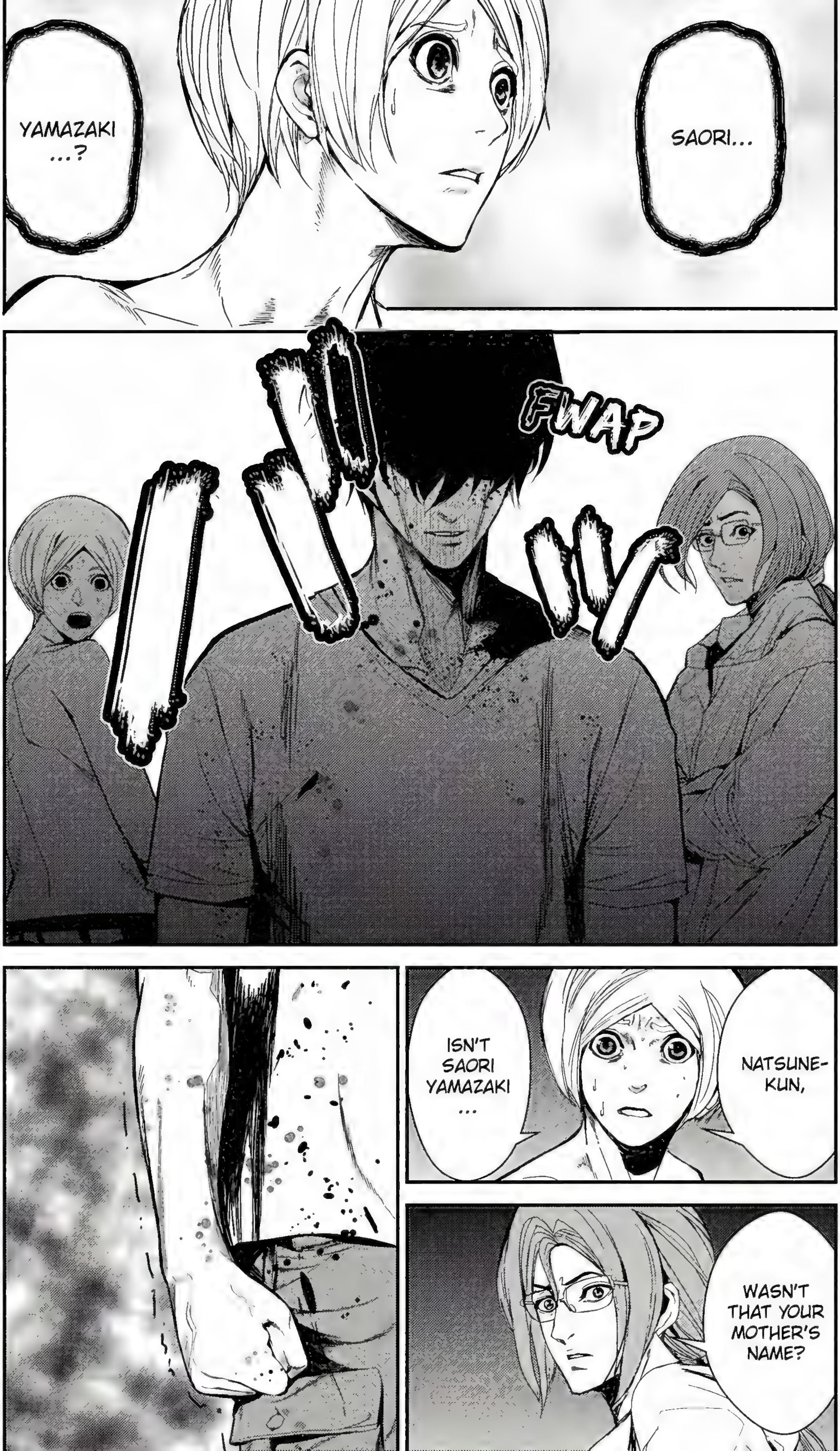

Attention, all facility workers currently onsite.
I have a message for you.
STARVING ANONYMOUS
This is the director of the Cradle, Shintaro Izumi, speaking.
A M... MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR HIMSELF?
IS THAT UNUSUAL?
I'VE N...N... NEVER SEEN THEM DO THIS BEFORE!!
Attention, all facility workers currently onsite.

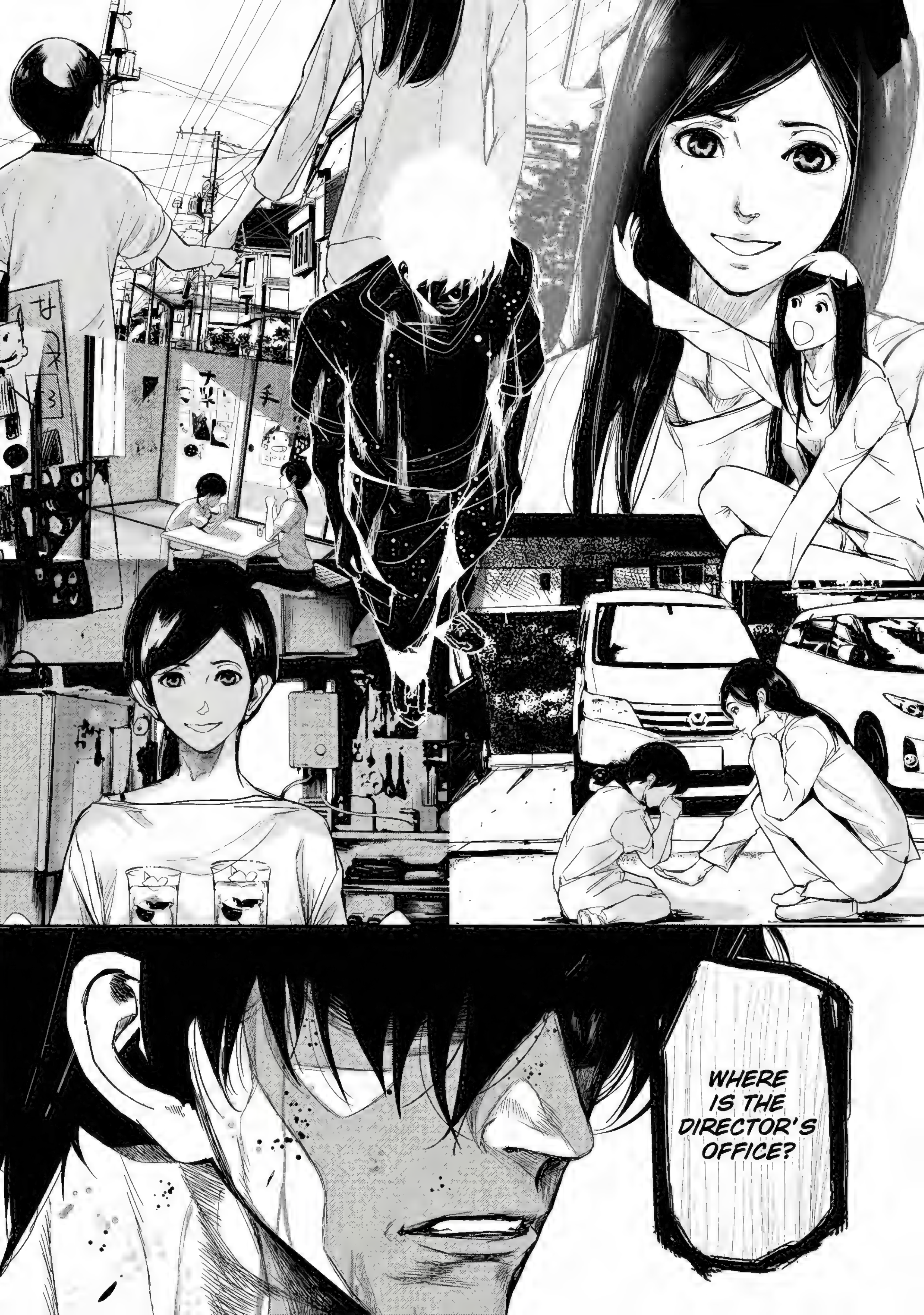
Chapter 36

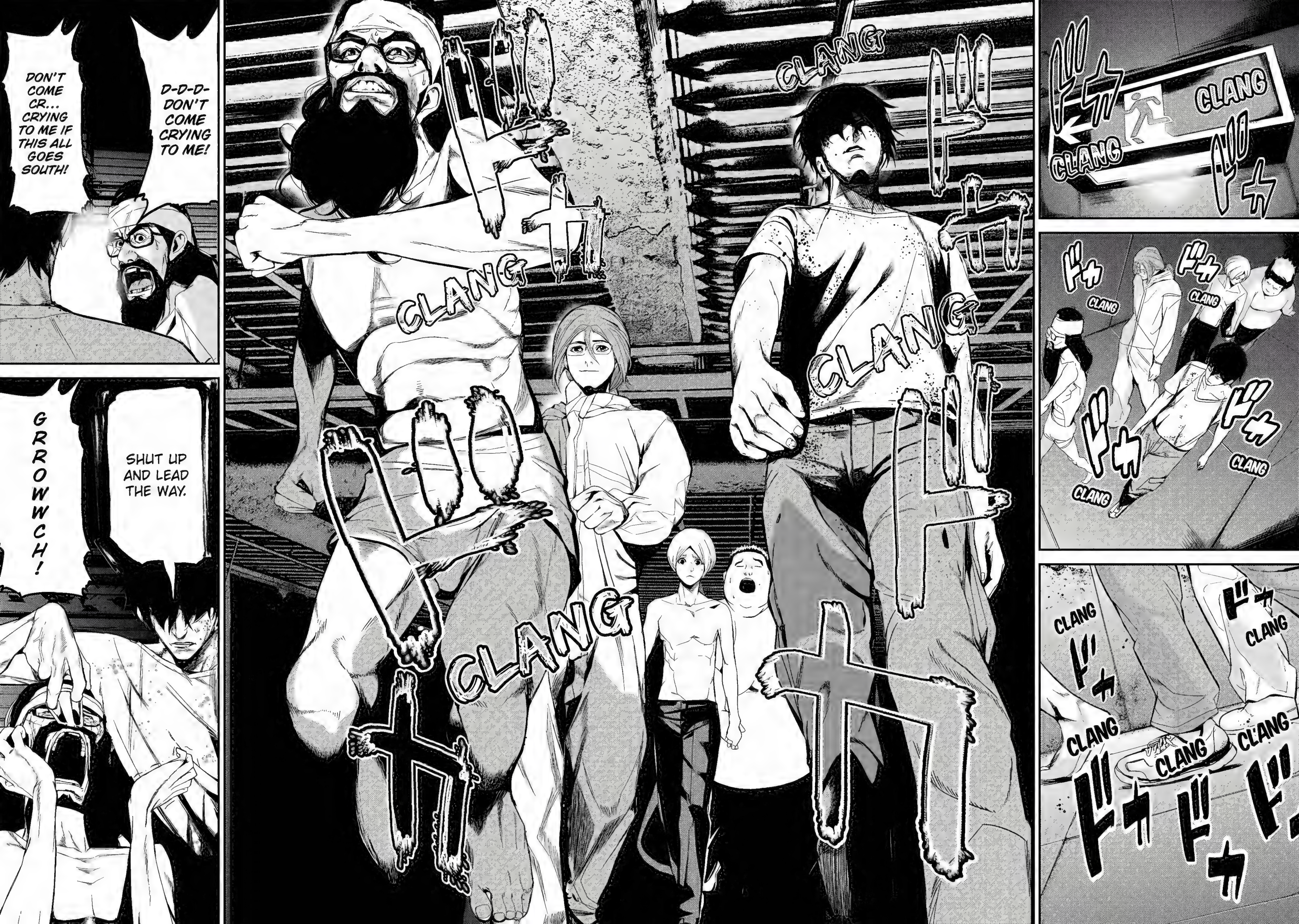

We've received word that a fire has broken out in the A block.
GO! GO! GO!!
MOVE IT, YOU IDIOT!
GET A MOVE ON! NOW!!
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
HOLY SHIT, MAN!
We ask that all workers remain calm, make their way to the emergency exit, and take shelter.
DOES NOBODY HAVE A FLASHLIGHT?!
CHATTER
I DON'T WANNA DIE!!
CHATTER
CHATTER
All elevators in the facility are currently non-operational. Please stay calm and proceed to the nearest emergency stairwell.
WHEEZE
FUCK! HOW MANY MORE STAIRS CAN THERE POSSIBLY BE?!
HUFF
HUFF
CHATTER
STOP PUSHING, ASSHOLE!
PUFF
HUFF
CHATTER
AAAH!!
AAAAHH
THUD
THUD
IT'S A STAMPEDE!
HELP!
THUD
THUD
THUD

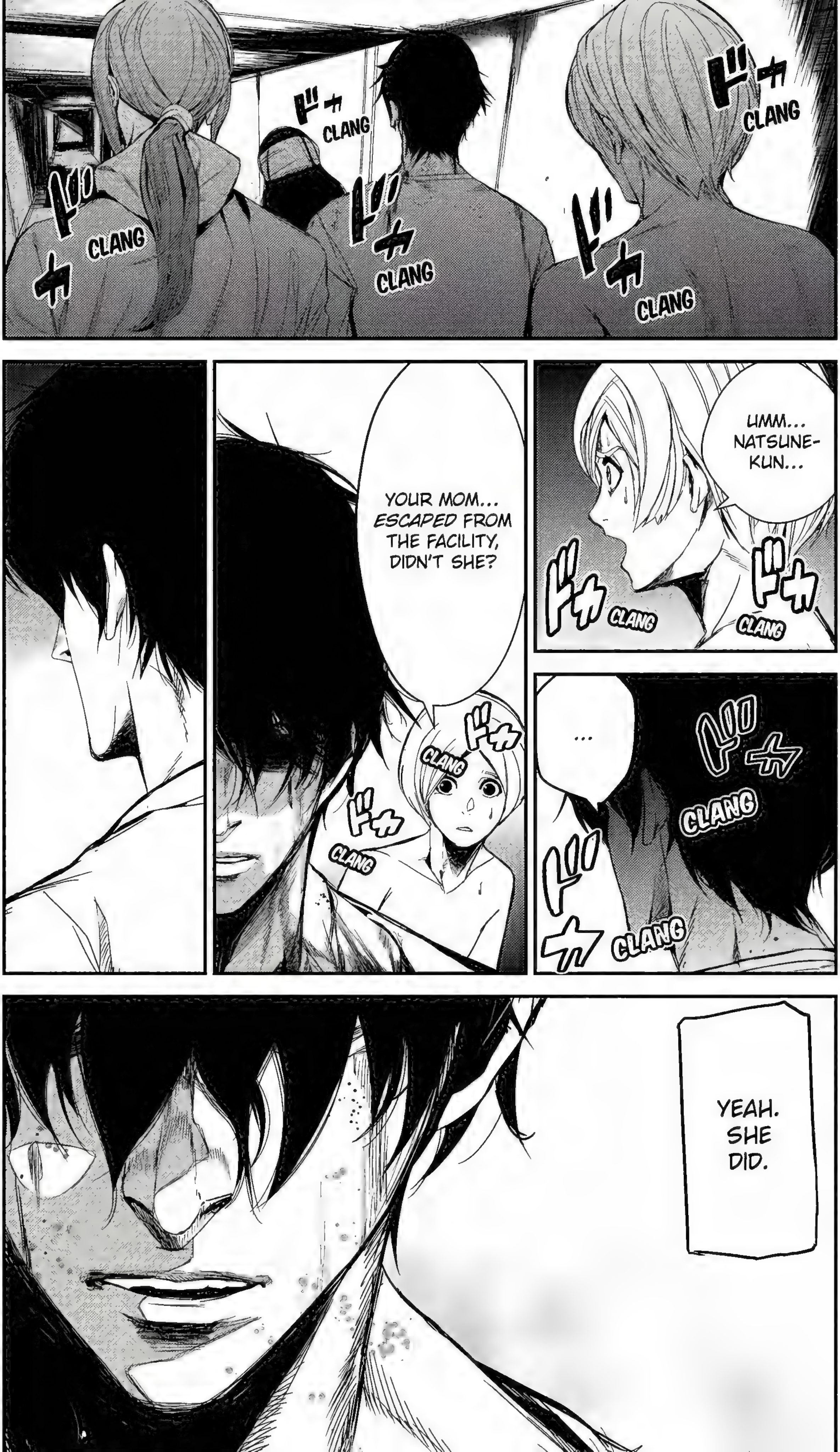

I repeat: we have just received word that a fire has broken out in the A block.
Please cease activities immediately and proceed with caution to the nearest emergency exit...
THERE'S A FIRE!
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, TOO!
IT'S FUNNY...
HUH?
I'M SURE I SAW SPARKS FLYING FROM THE FLUORESCENT LIGHTS AND THE FRAMES OF MY GLASSES.
I HAVE A HARD TIME BELIEVING THIS IS ANY ORDINARY FIRE...
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON!

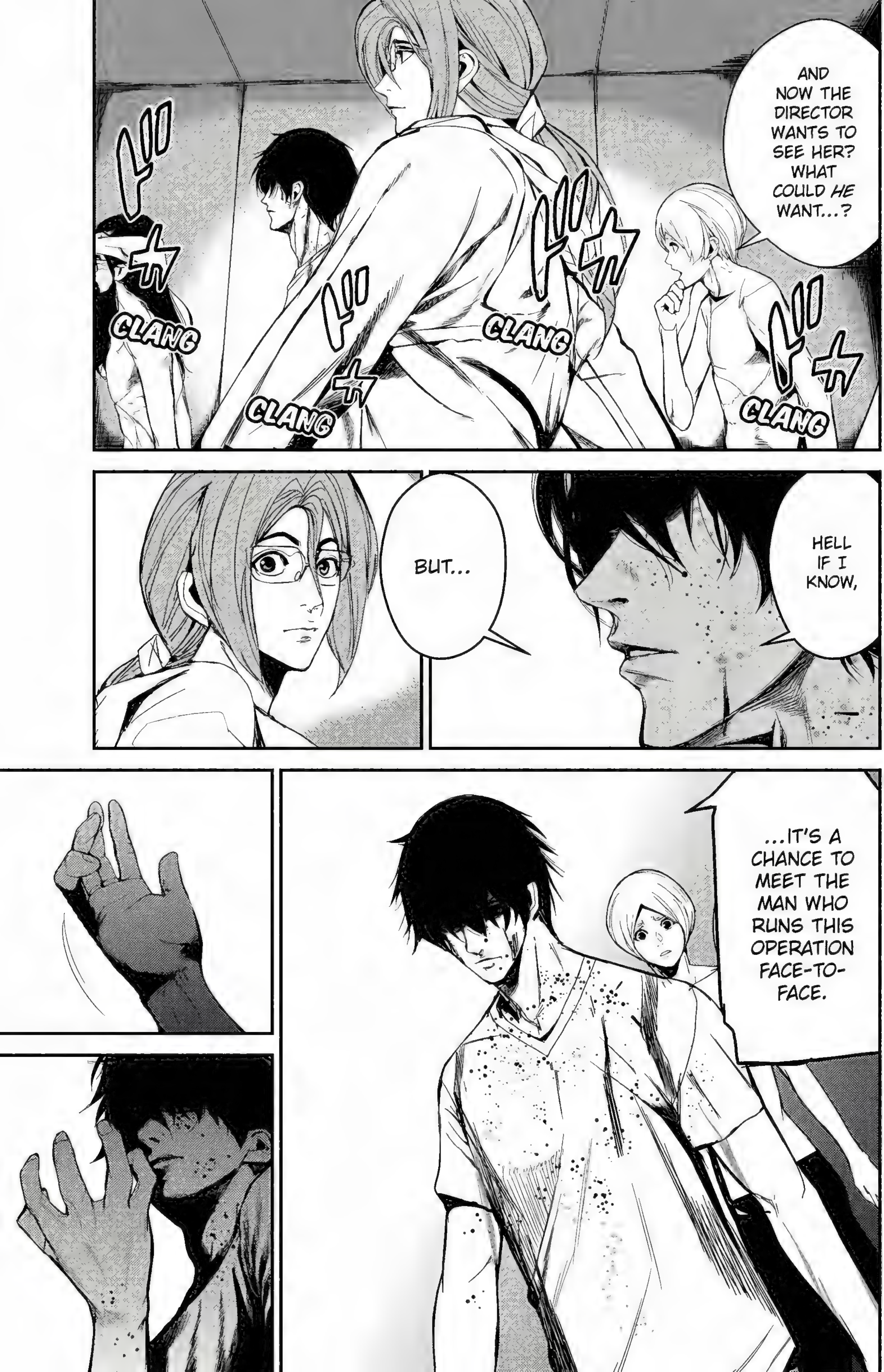

...we ask that anyone who may know the whereabouts of the following person...
...please report to the director's office in the administrative building immediately.
WH...
Additionally...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! THIS IS NOT THE TIME!!
THE RESIDENT OF CITY A PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECT BUILDING TWO, ROOM 301,
SAORI YAMAZAKI.
THE RESIDENT OF CITY A PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECT BUILDING TWO, ROOM 301,
SAORI YAMAZAKI.

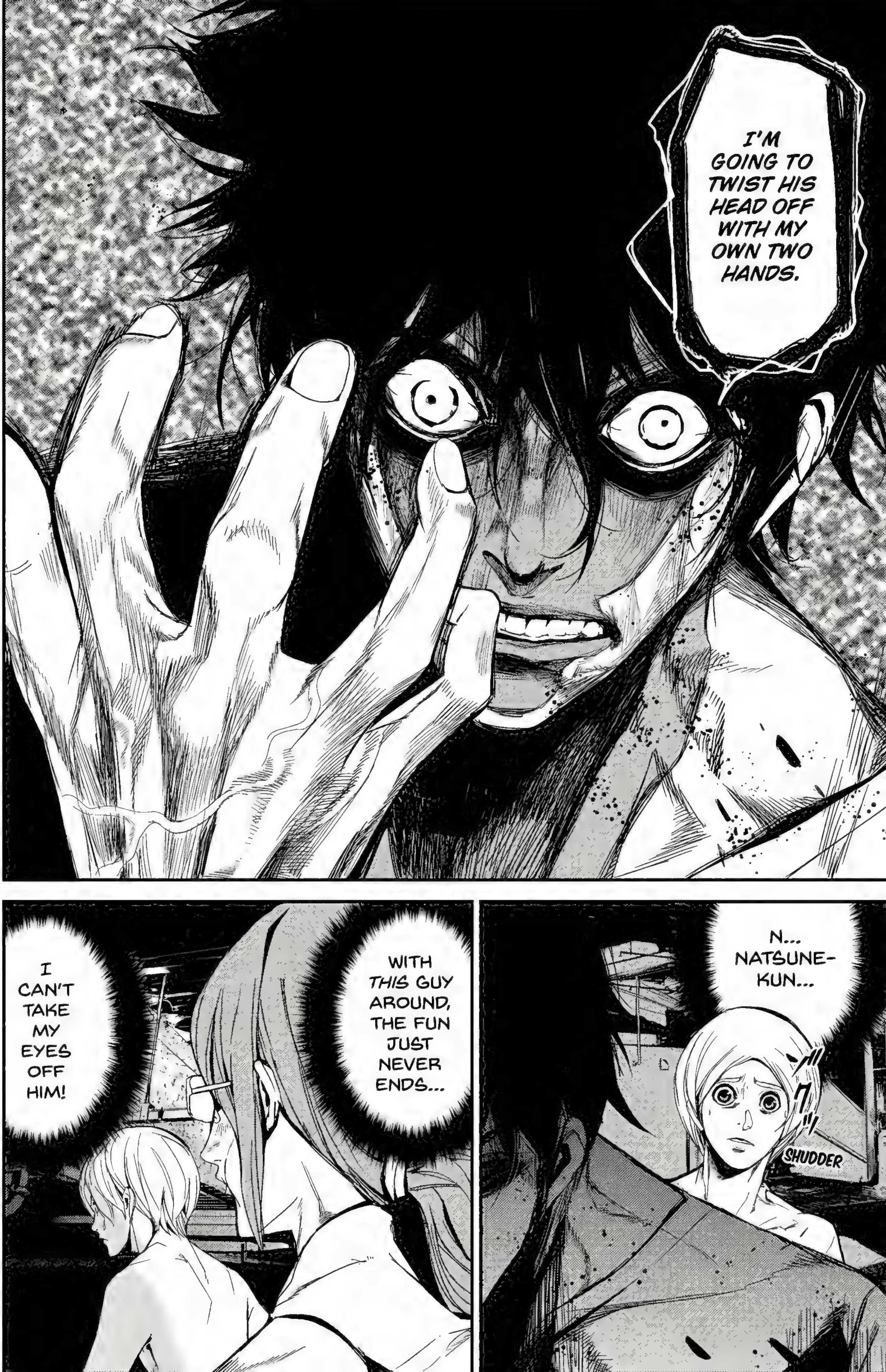

SAORI...
YAMAZAKI ...?
FWAP
NATSUNE-KUN,
ISN'T SAORI YAMAZAKI ...
WASN'T THAT YOUR MOTHER'S NAME?

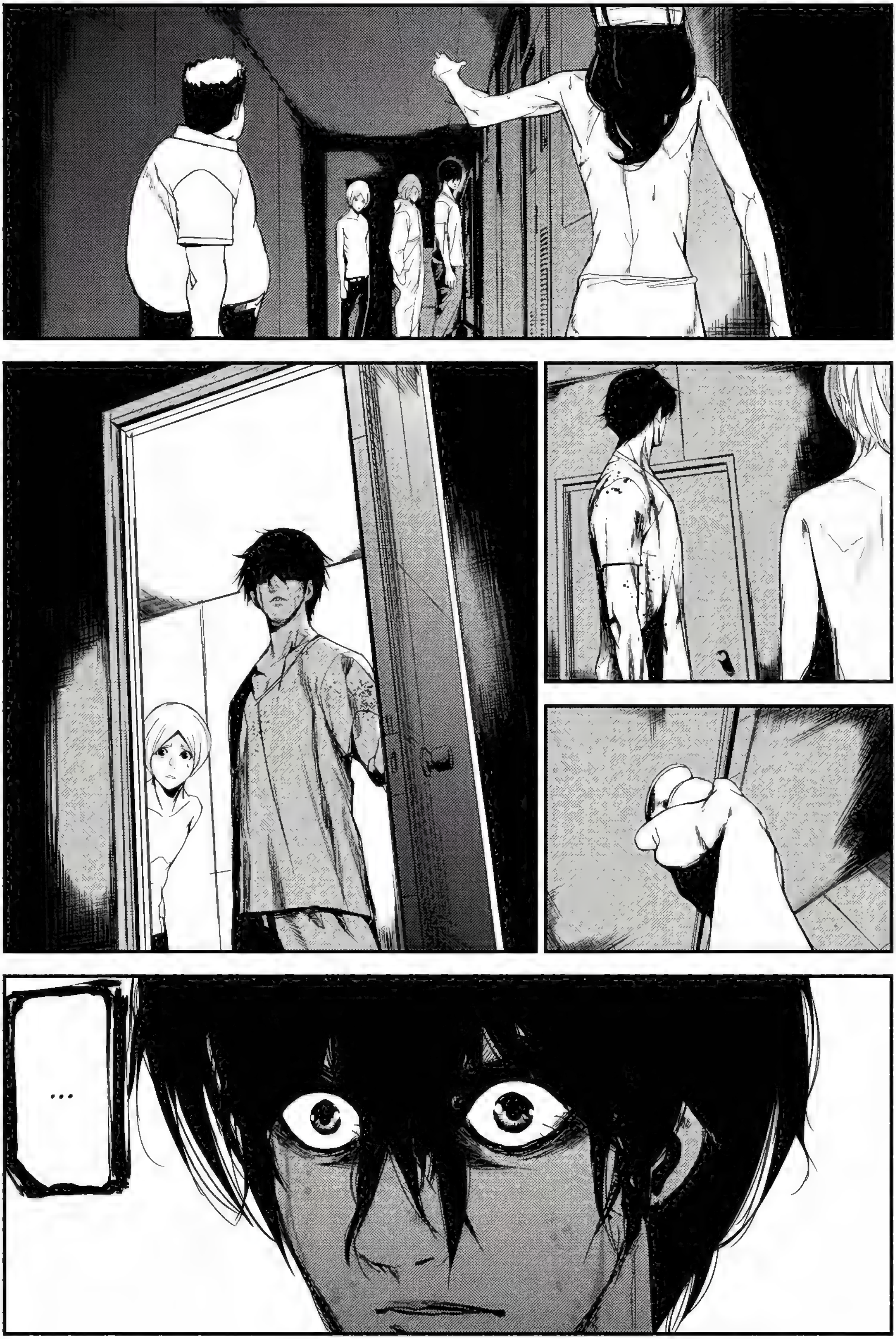

WHERE IS THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE?

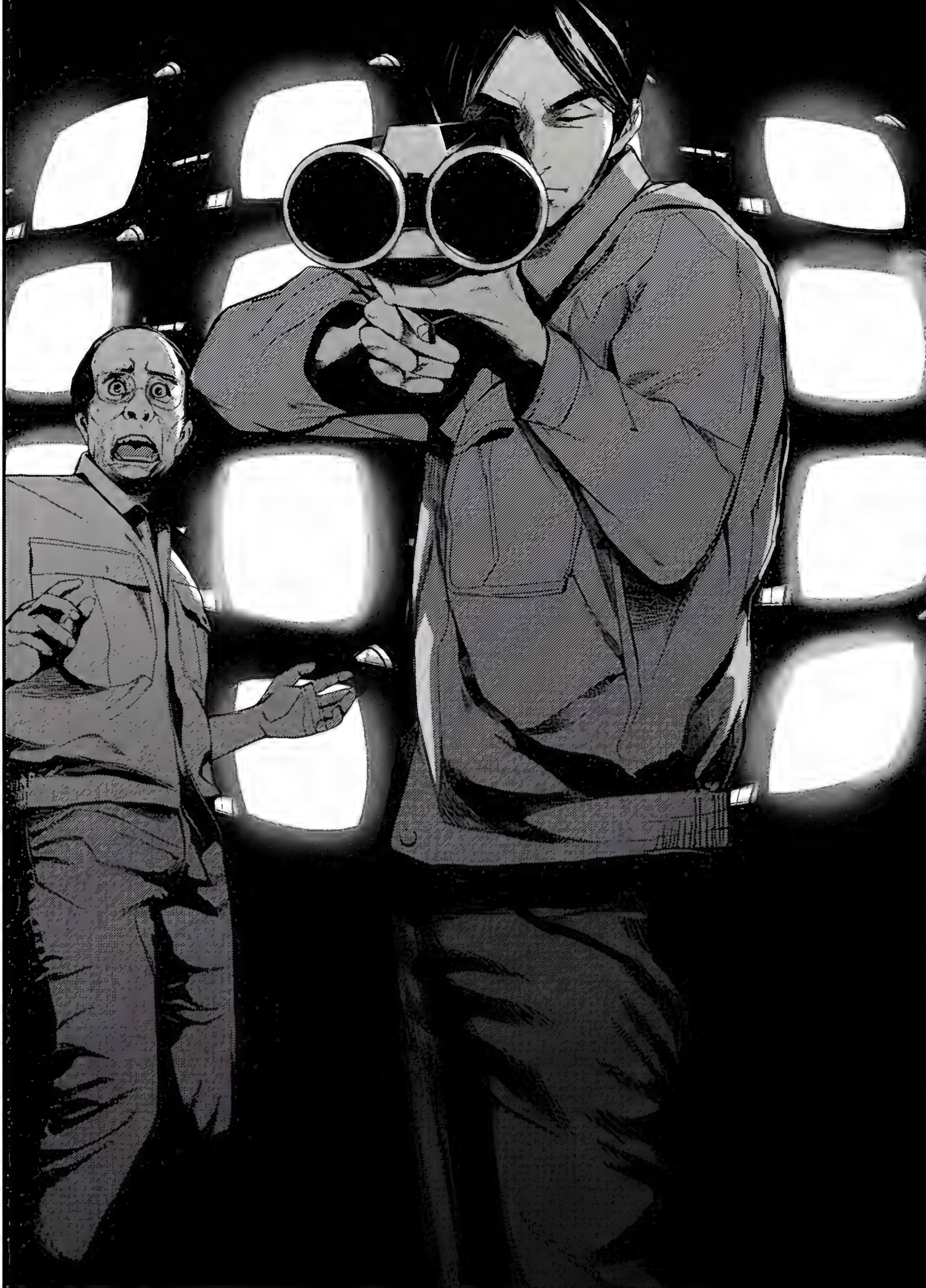

CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
D-D-D-DON'T COME CRYING TO ME!
DON'T COME CR... CRYING TO ME IF THIS ALL GOES SOUTH!
SHUT UP AND LEAD THE WAY.
GRROWWCH!

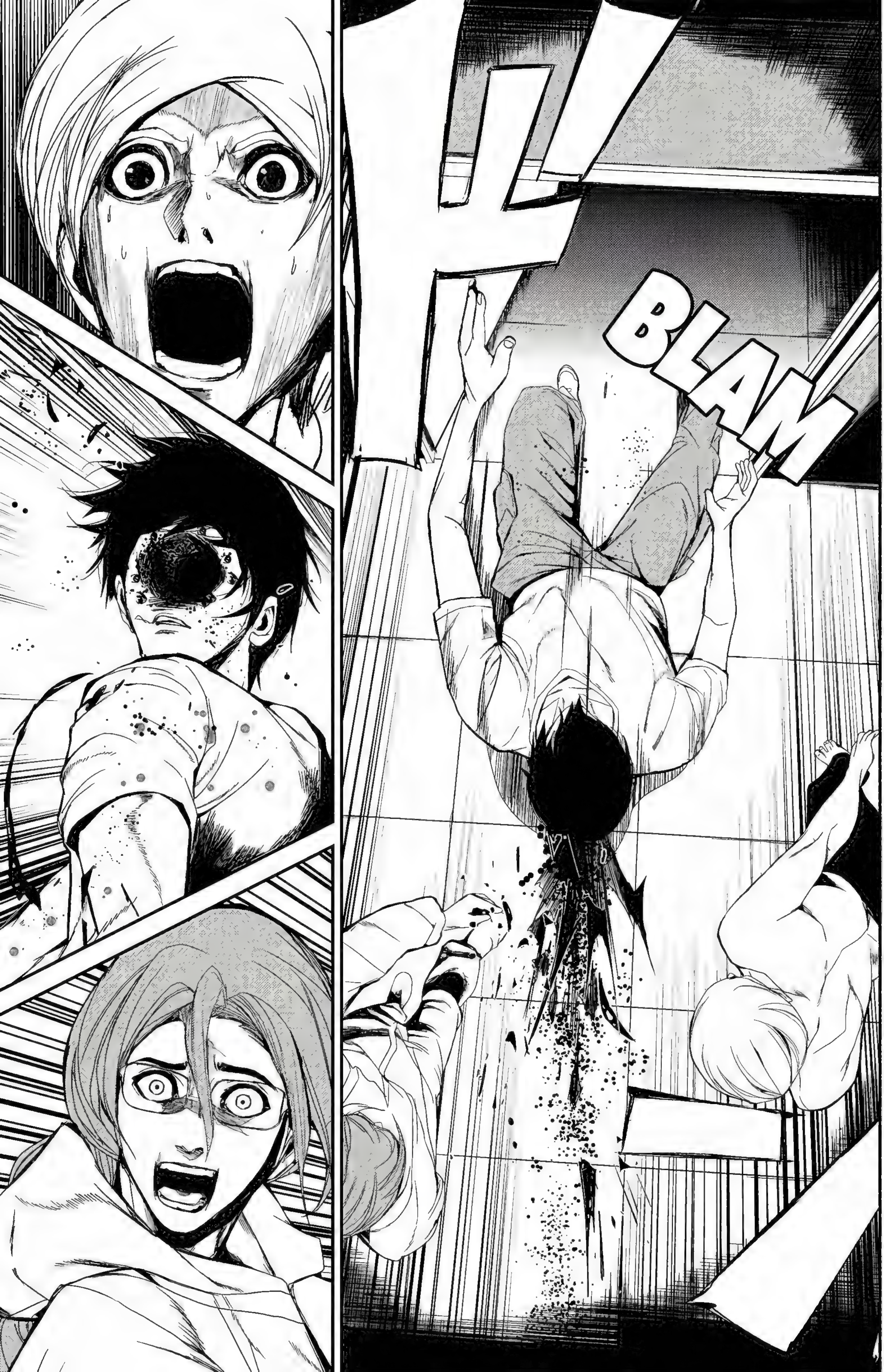

ドカ
CLANG
ドカ
CLANG
ドカ
CLANG
ドカ
CLANG
ドカ
CLANG
UMM... NATSUNE-KUN...
ドカ
CLANG
ドカ
CLANG
...
ドカ
CLANG
ドカ
CLANG
YOUR MOM... *ESCAPED* FROM THE FACILITY, DIDN'T SHE?
ドカ
CLANG
ドカ
CLANG
YEAH. SHE DID.

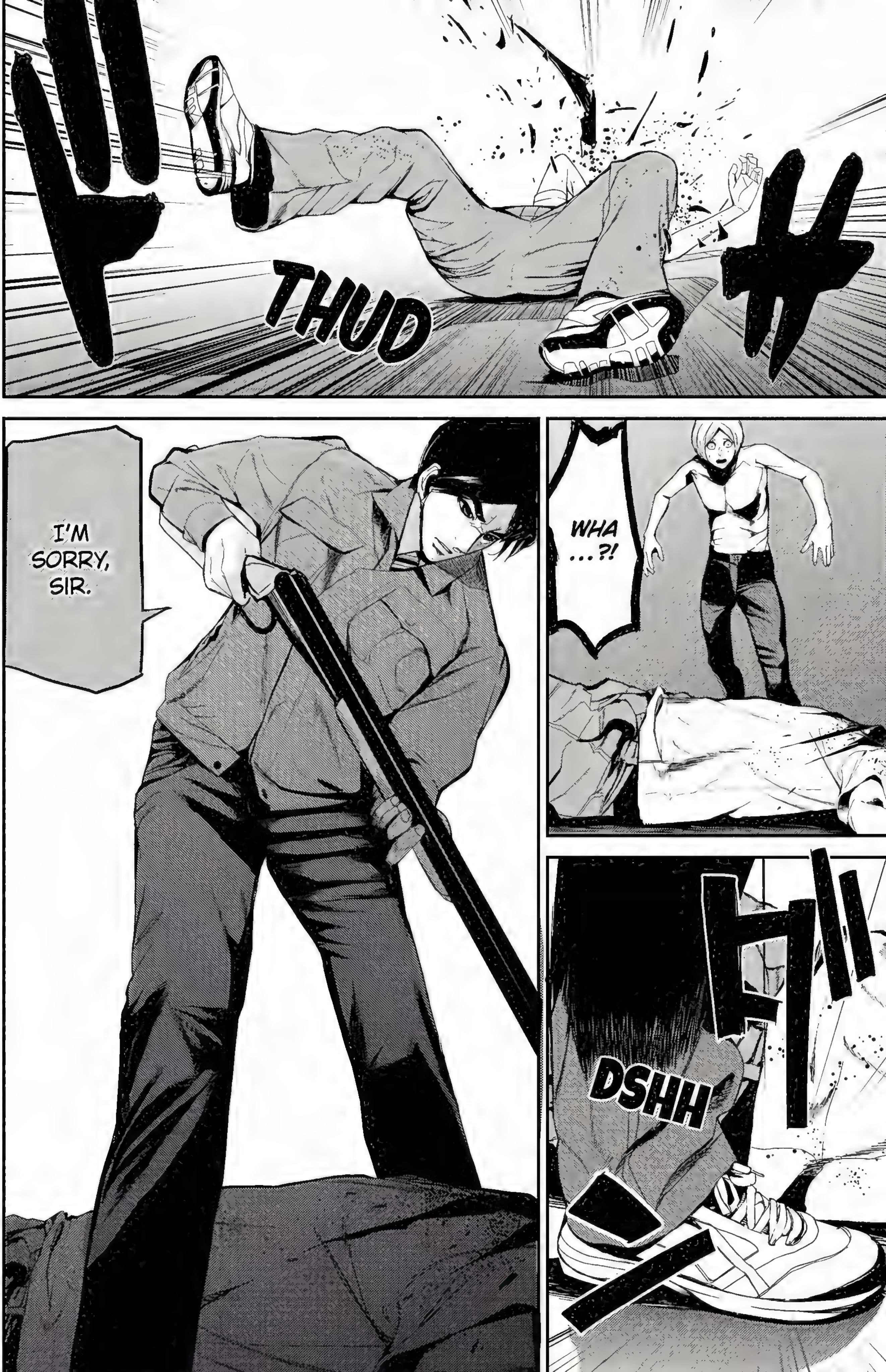

AND NOW THE DIRECTOR WANTS TO SEE HER? WHAT COULD *HE* WANT...?
ドガ
CLANG
ドガ
CLANG
ドガ
CLANG
ドガ
CLANG
HELL IF I KNOW,
BUT...
...IT'S A CHANCE TO MEET THE MAN WHO RUNS THIS OPERATION FACE-TO-FACE.

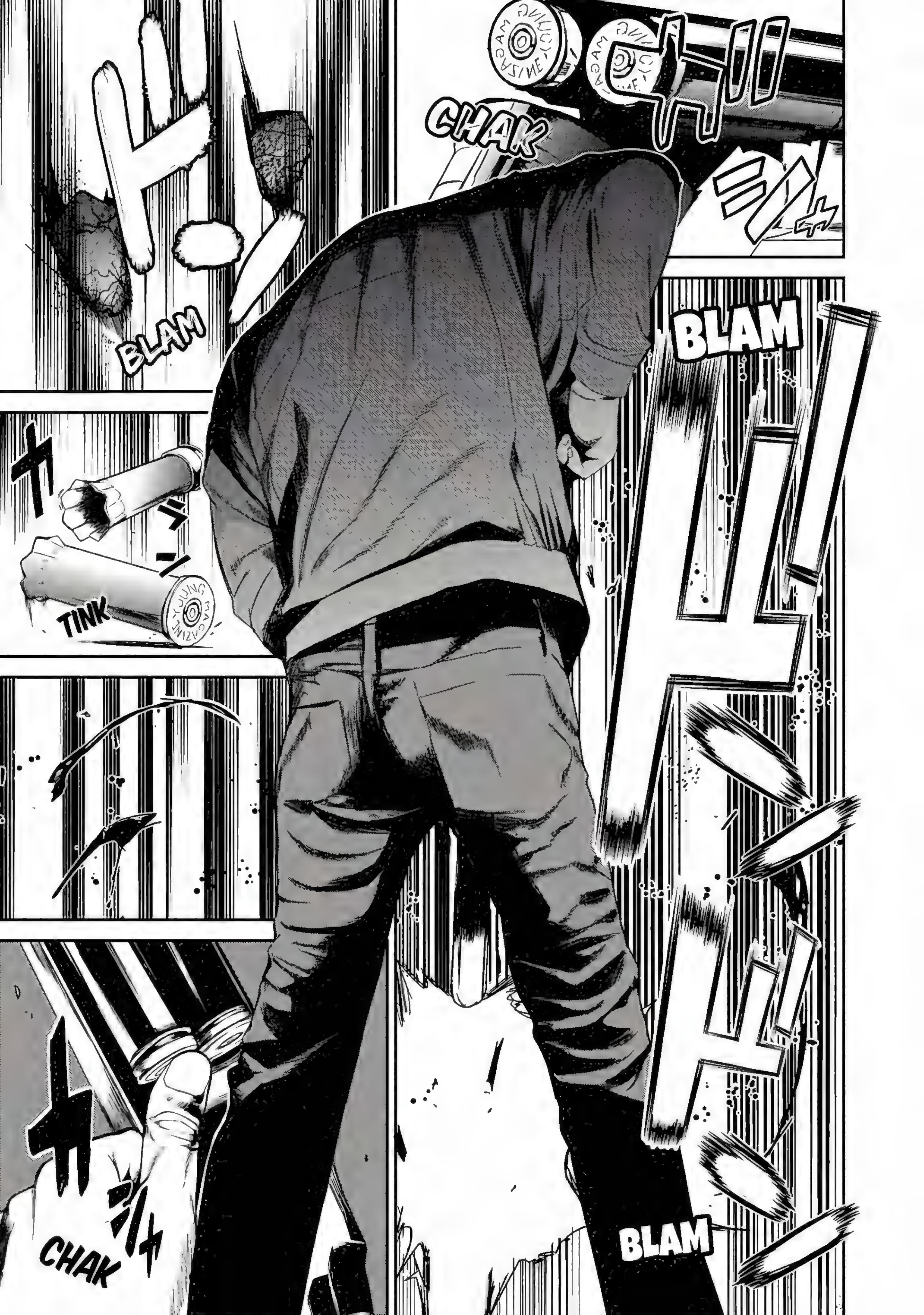

I'M GOING TO TWIST HIS HEAD OFF WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS.
N... NATSUNE-KUN...
SHUDDER
WITH *THIS* GUY AROUND, THE FUN JUST NEVER ENDS...
I CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF HIM!

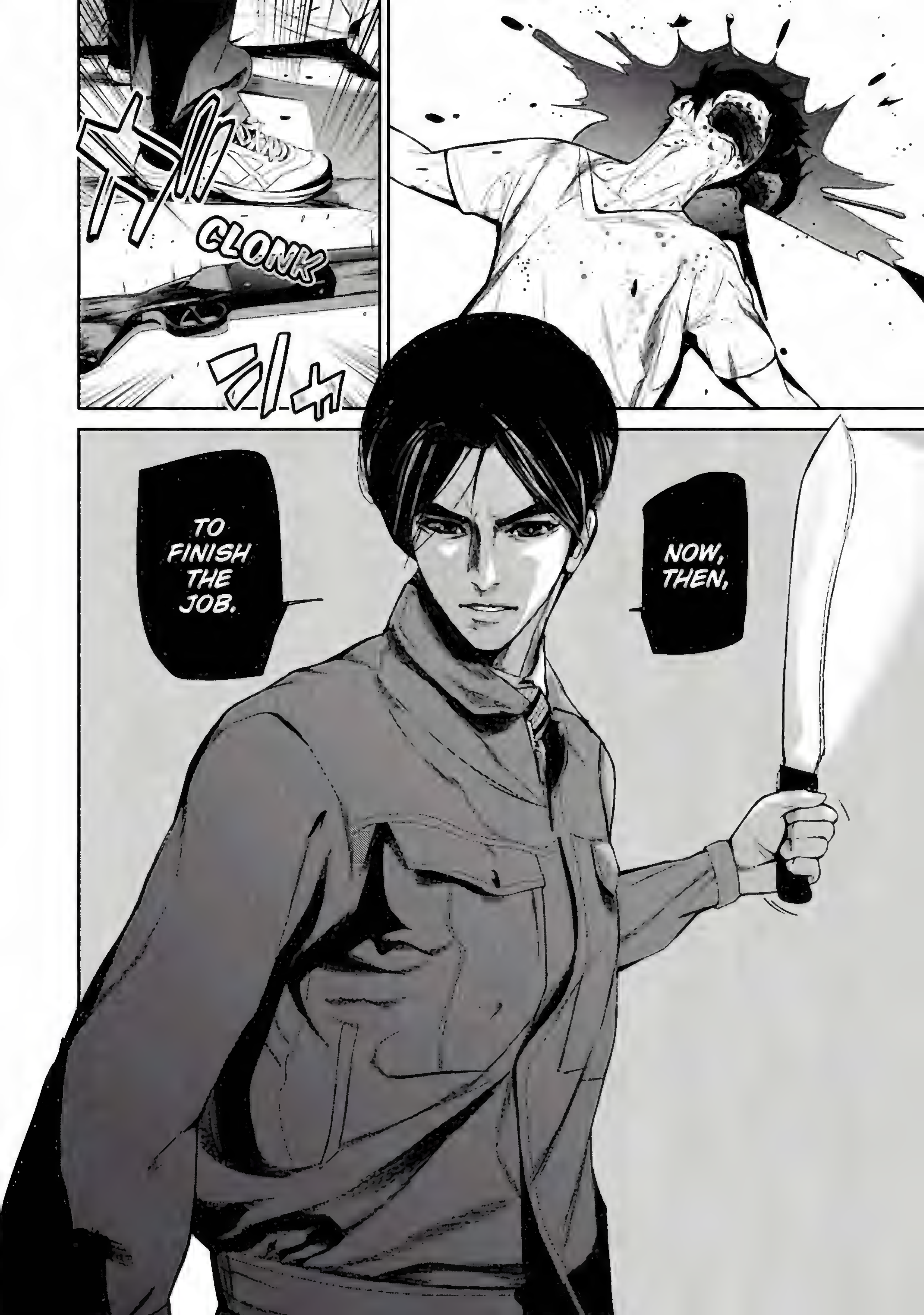




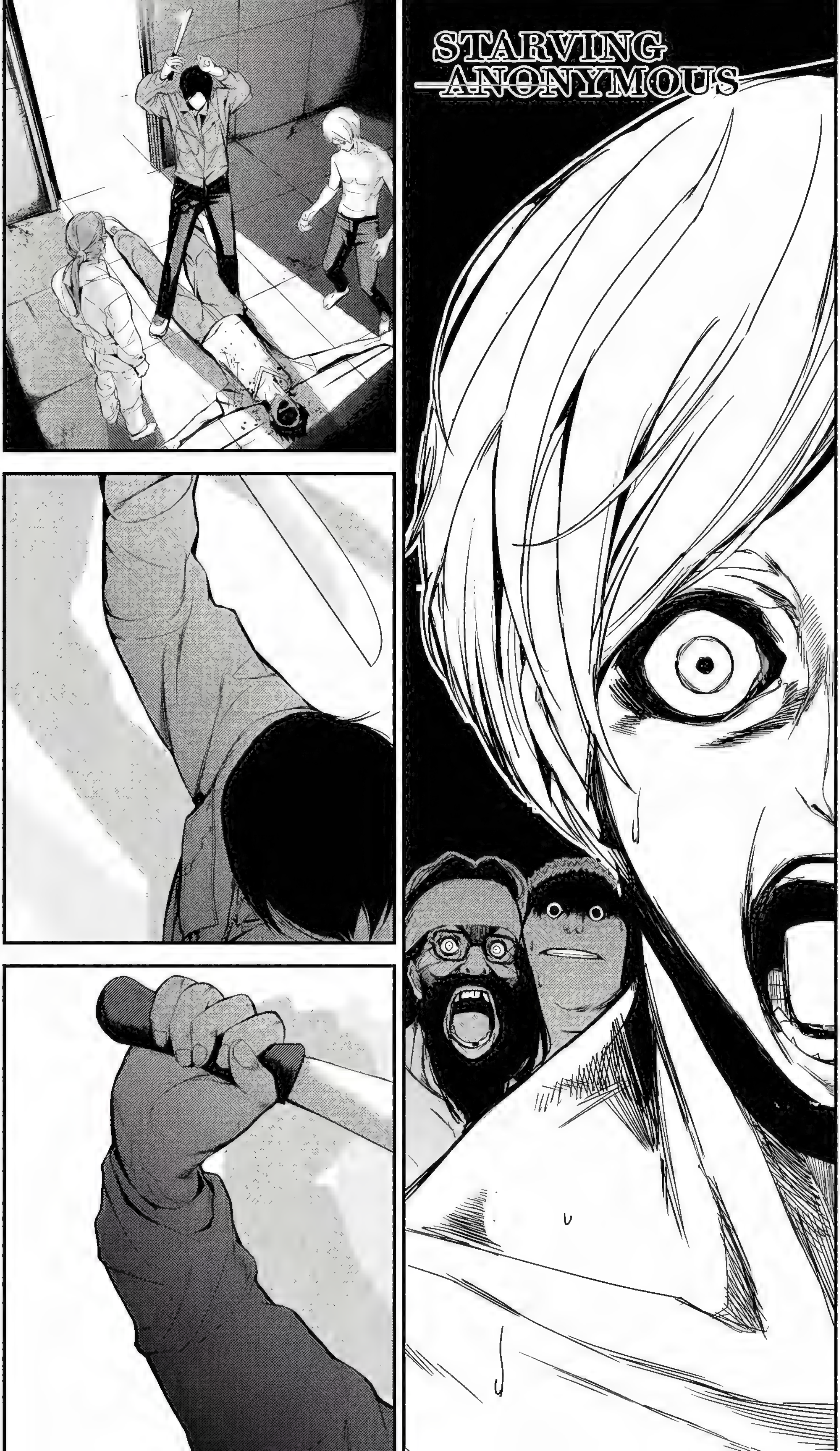

BLAM

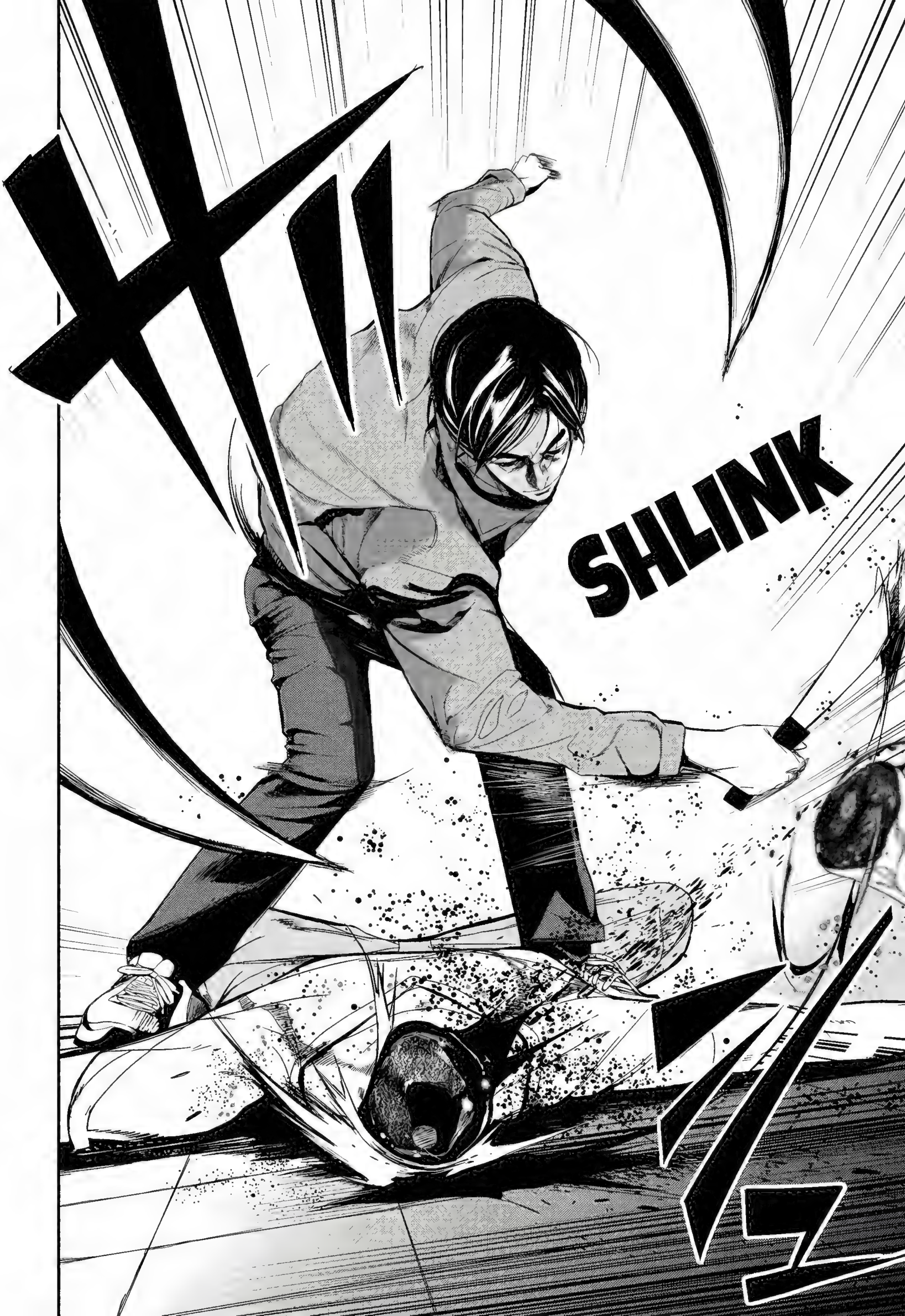

THUD
WHA ...?!
DSHH
I'M SORRY, SIR.

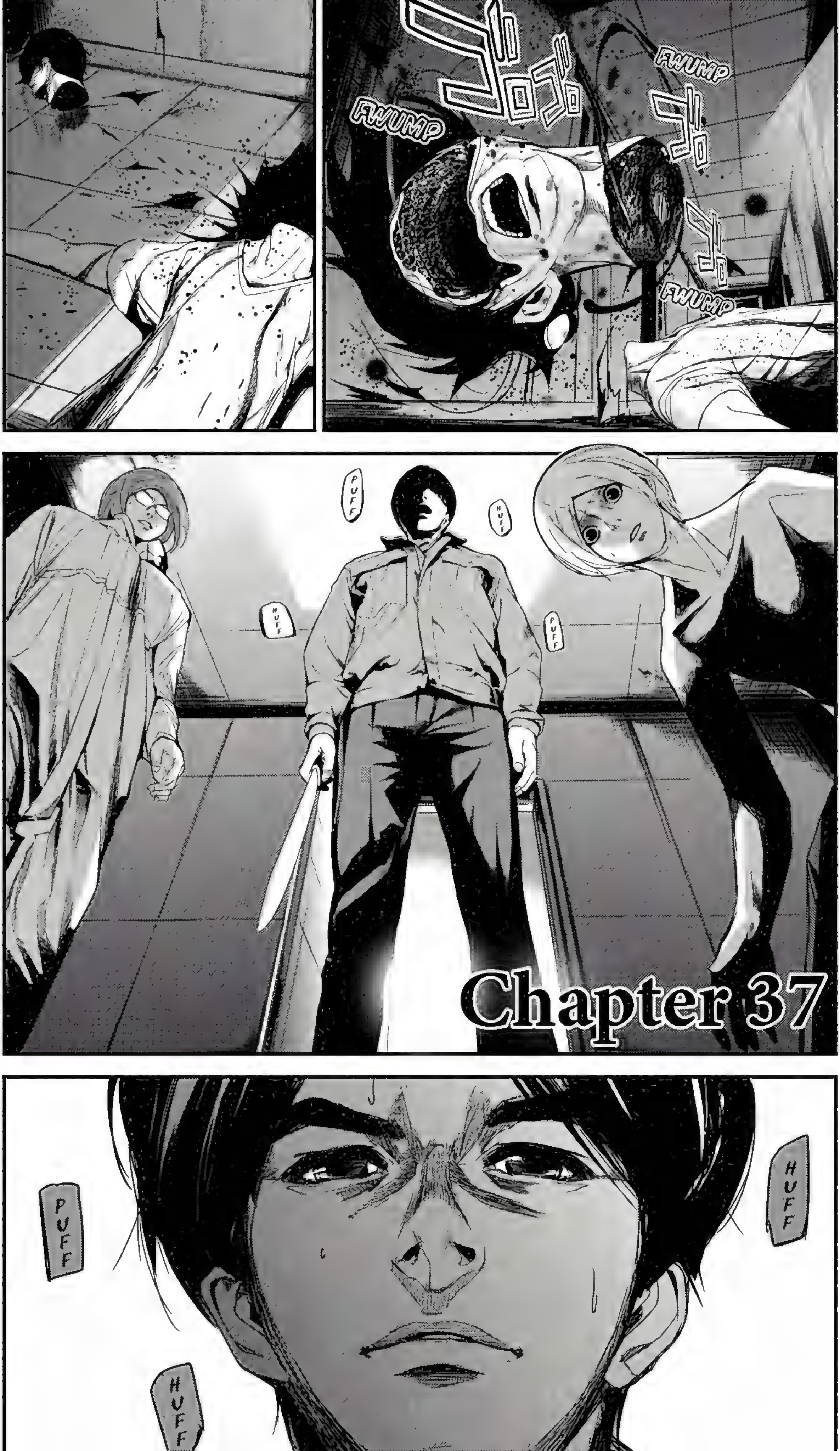

CHAK
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
TINK
CHAK


CLONK
NOW, THEN,
TO FINISH THE JOB.

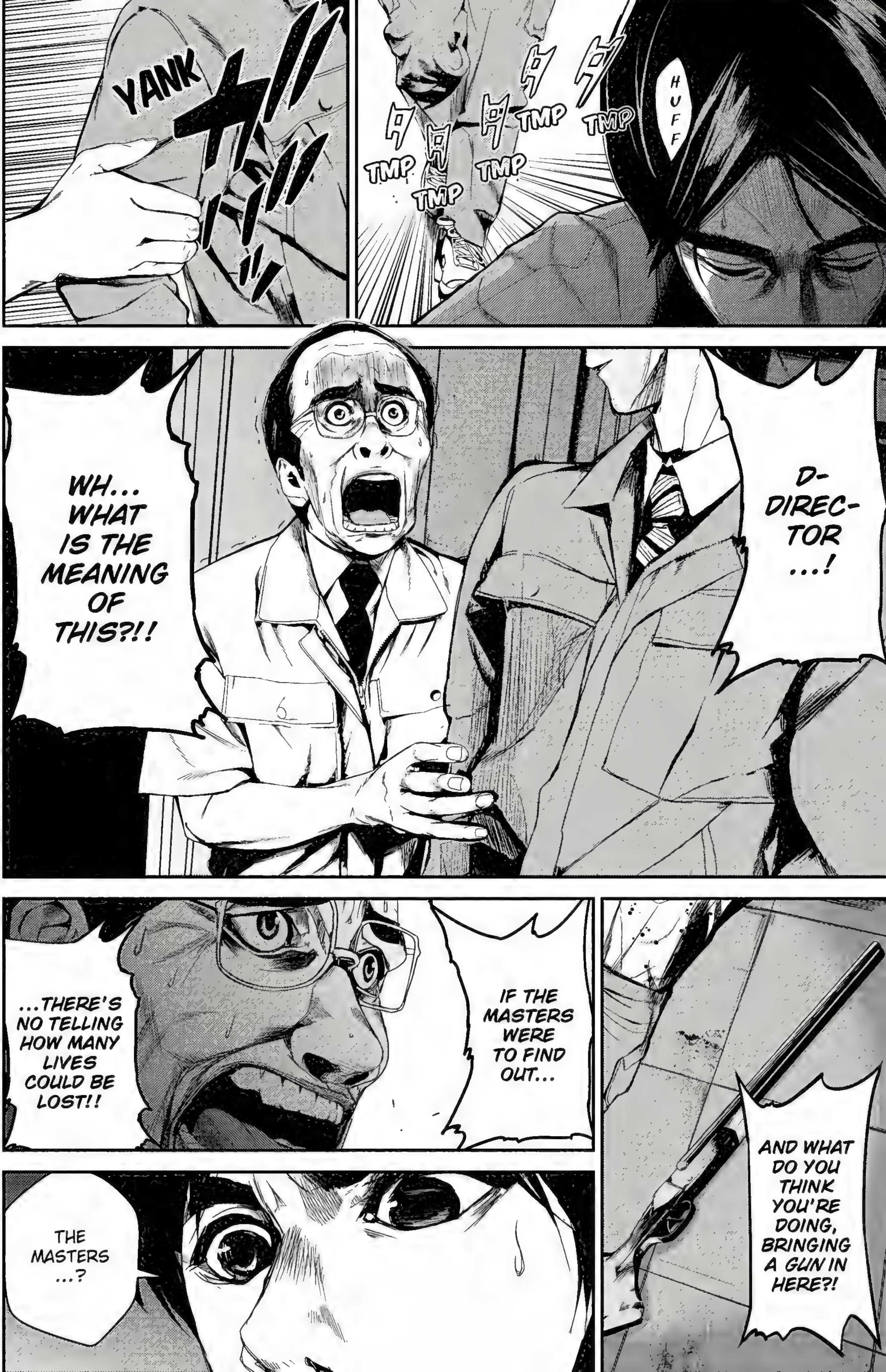
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

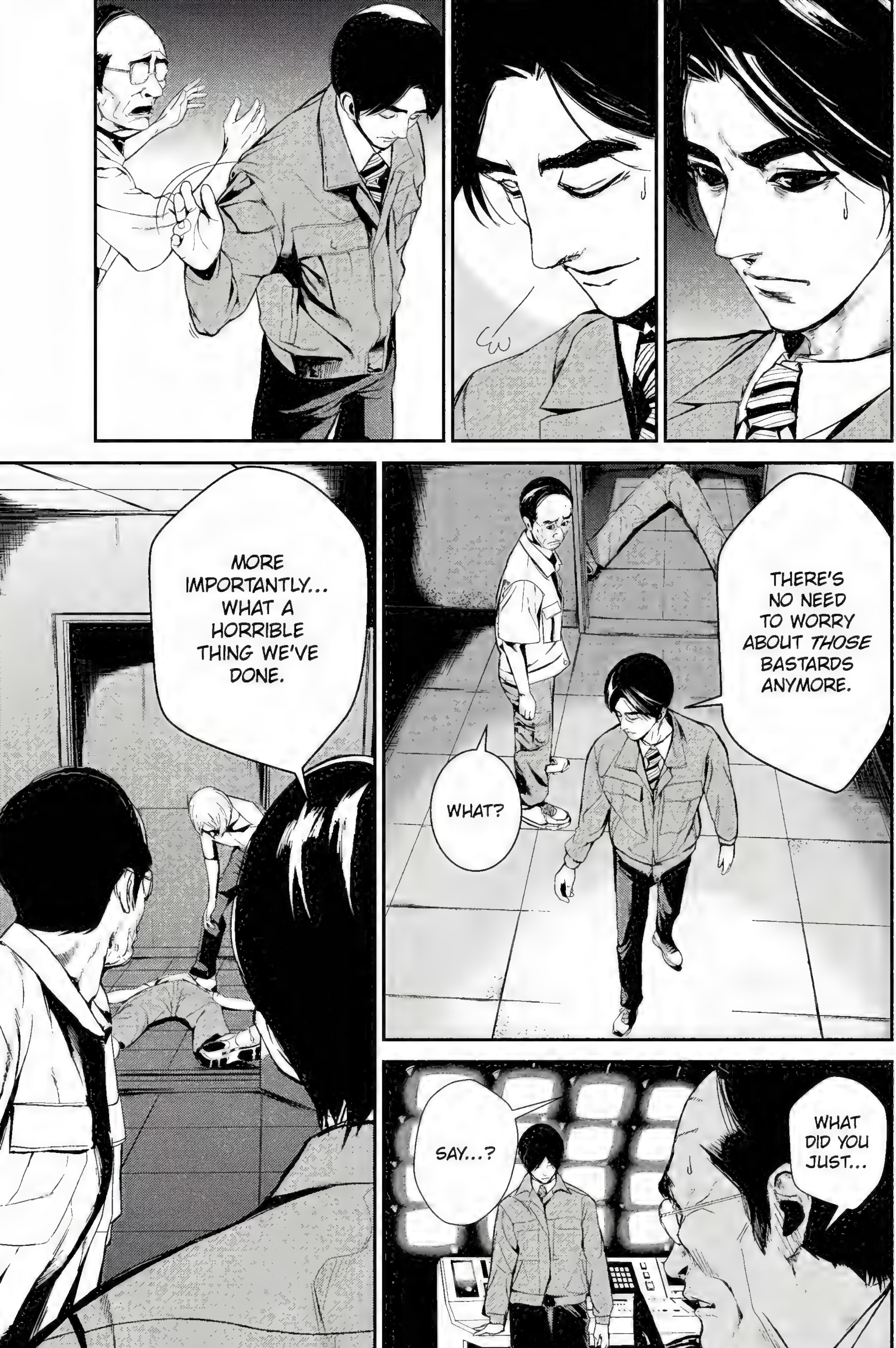

STARVING ANONYMOUS

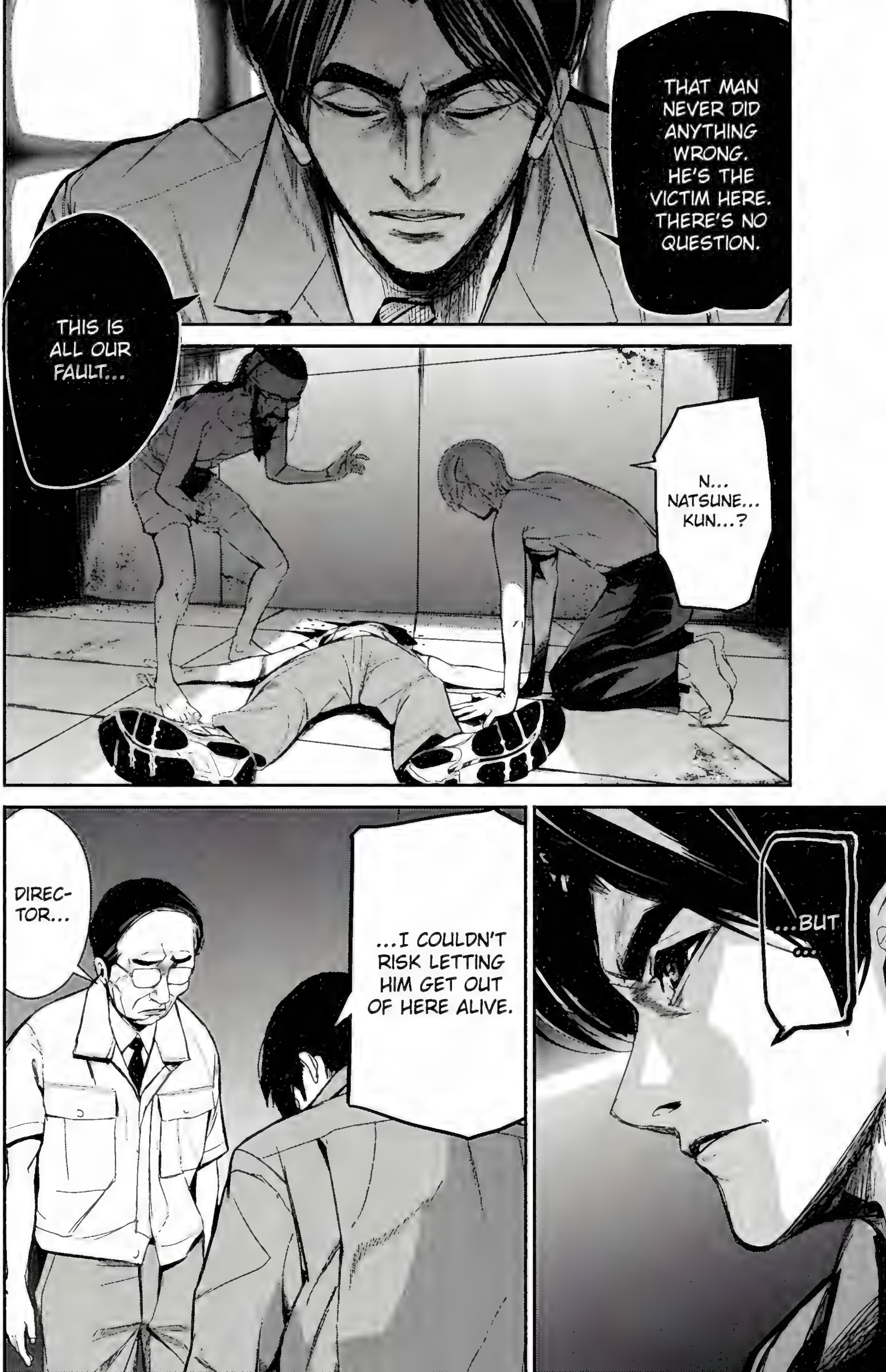

SHLINK

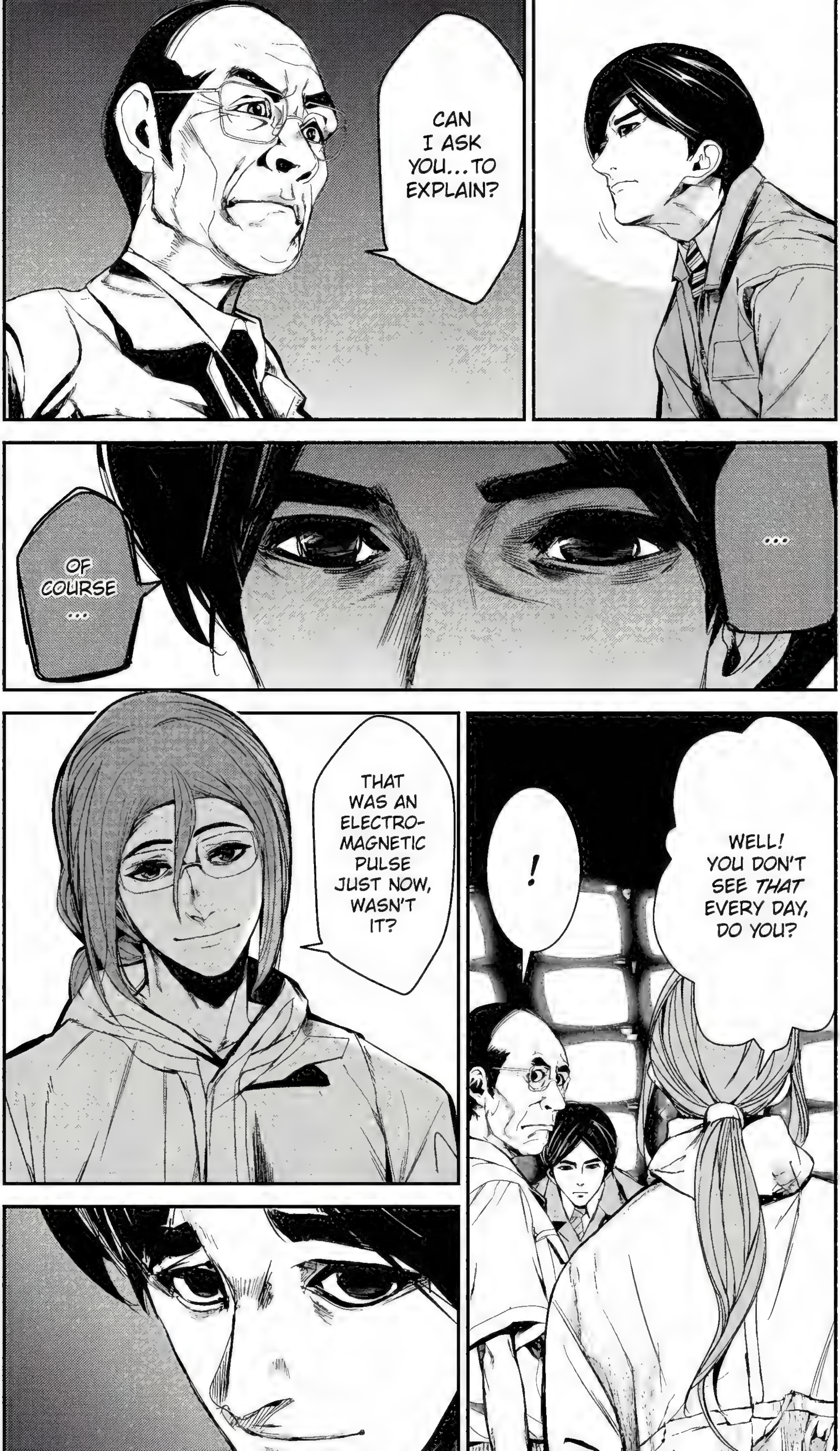

ゴロゴロ
FWUMP
FWUMP
ゴロゴロ
FWUMP
PUFF
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF

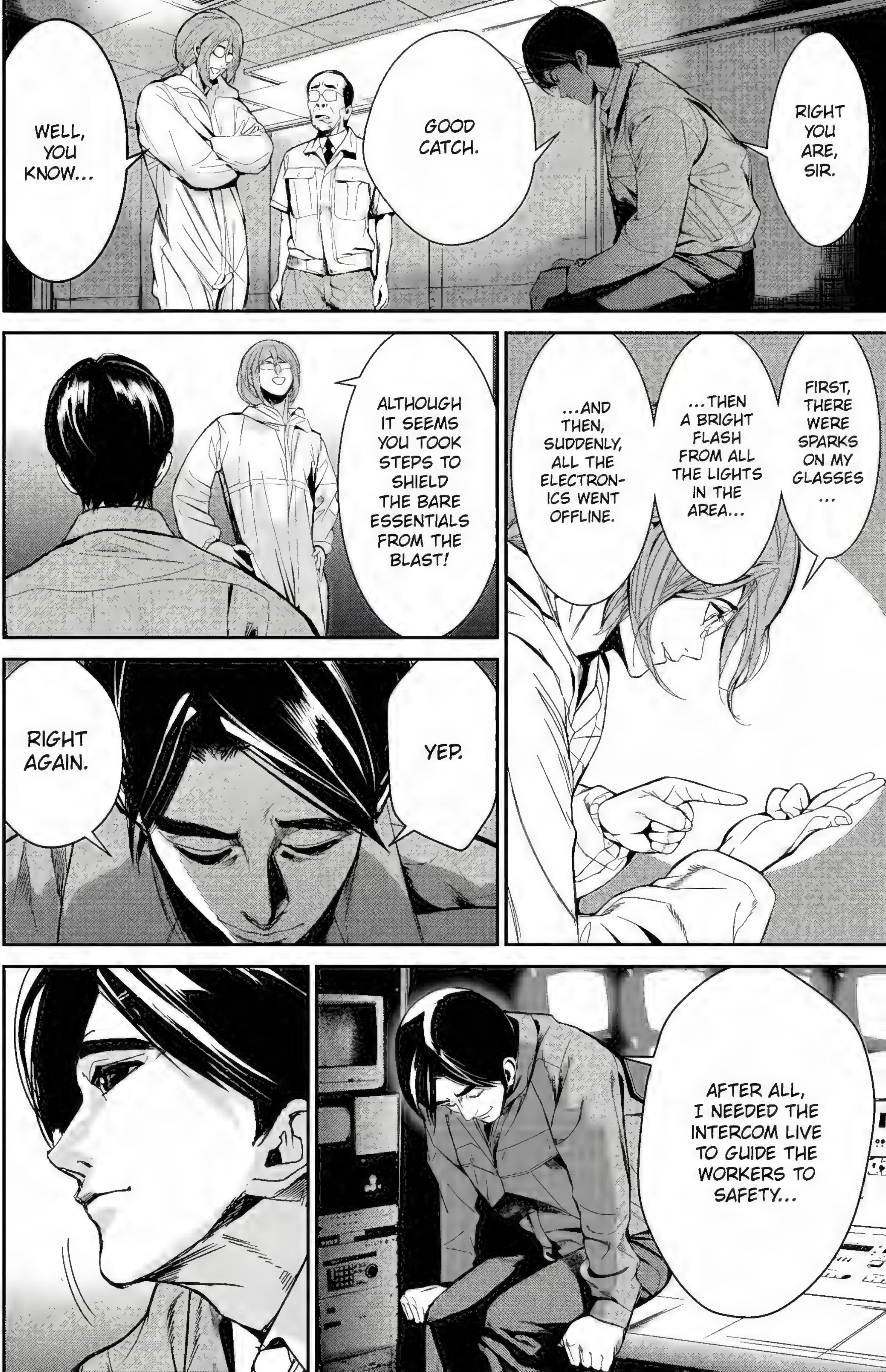
Chapter 37

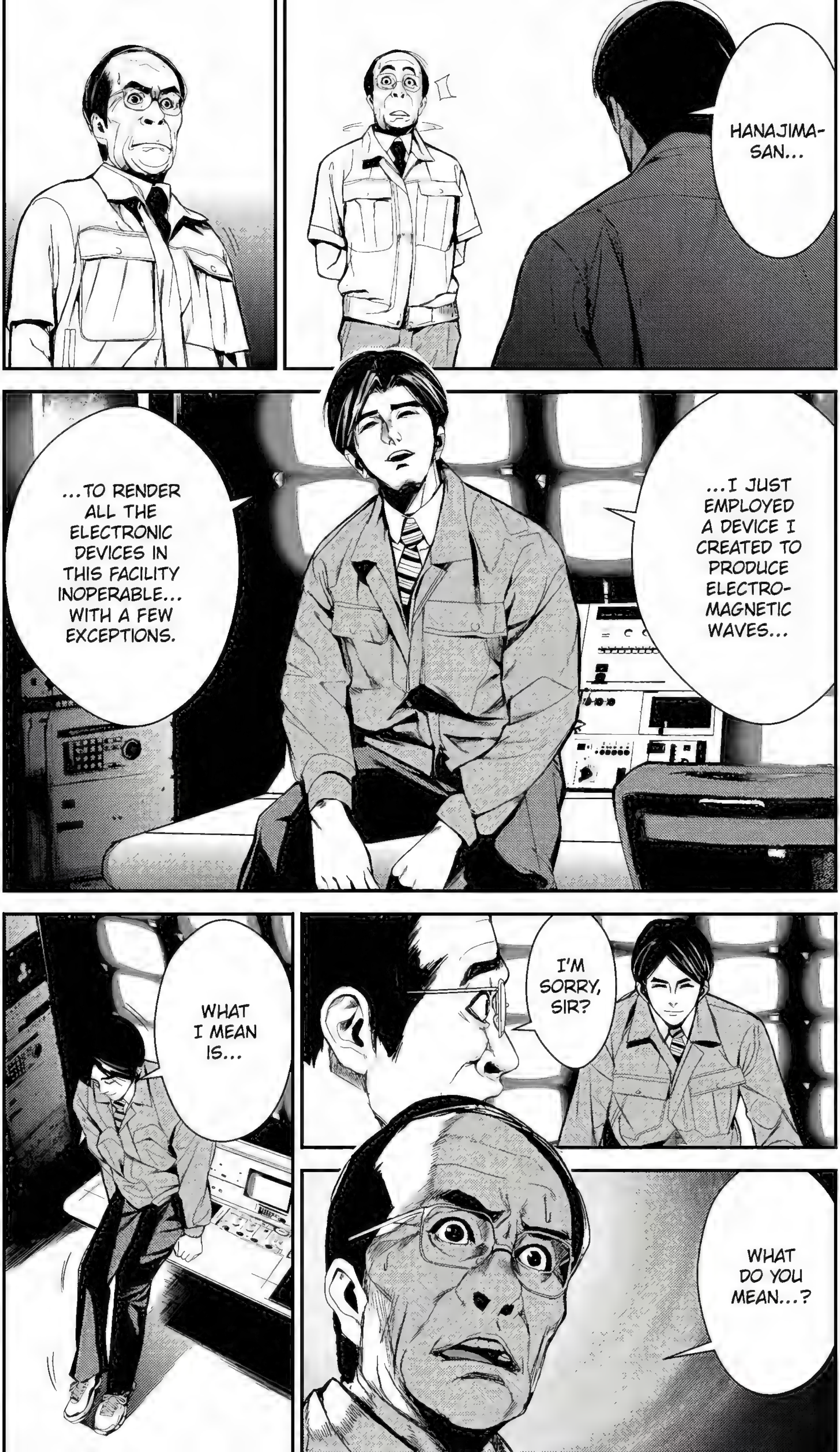

HUFF
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
YANK
D-DIRECTOR...!
WH... WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!!
AND WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, BRINGING A GUN IN HERE?!
IF THE MASTERS WERE TO FIND OUT...
...THERE'S NO TELLING HOW MANY LIVES COULD BE LOST!!
THE MASTERS...?

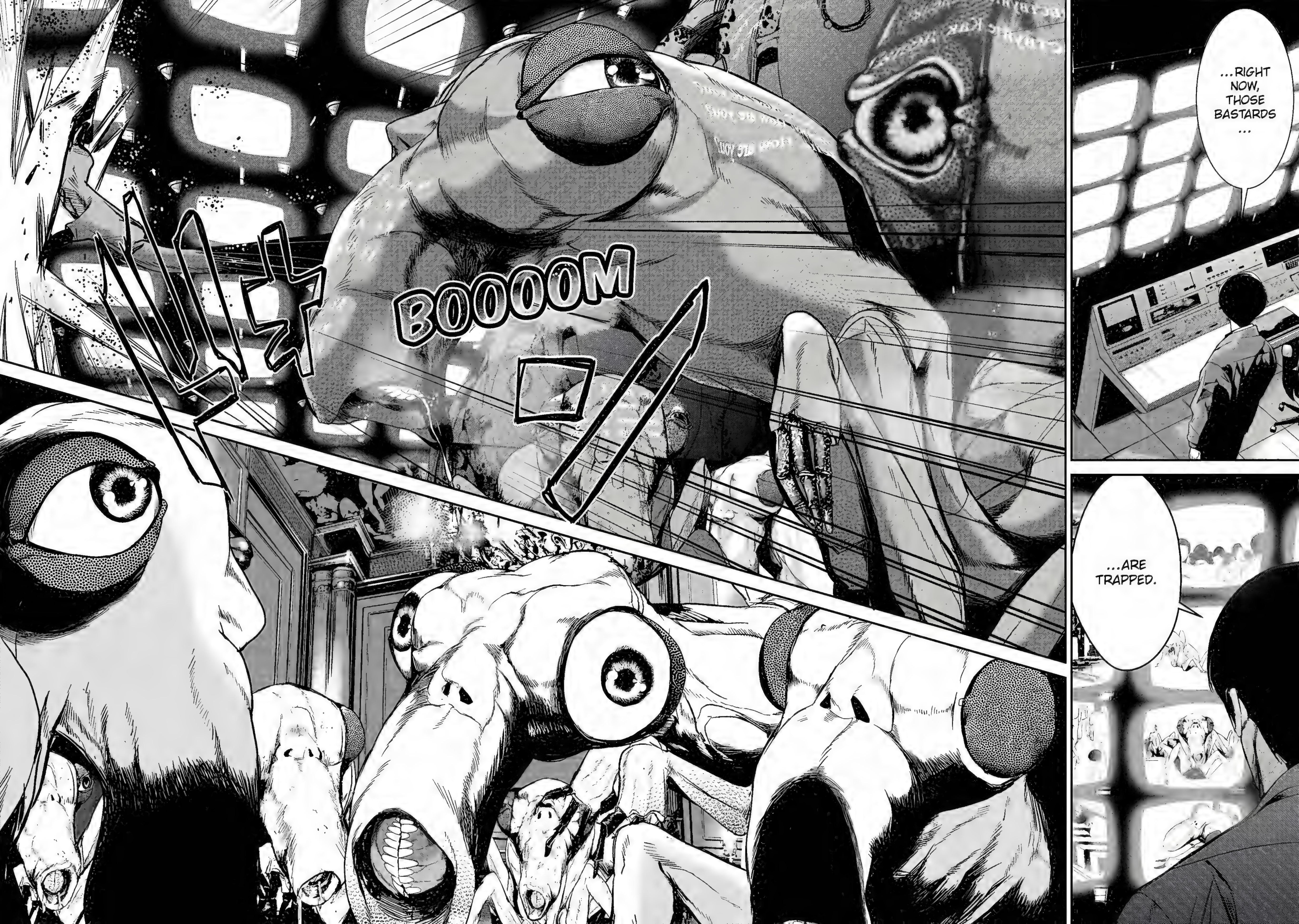

THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT *THOSE* BASTARDS ANYMORE.
WHAT?
WHAT DID YOU JUST...
SAY...?
MORE IMPORTANTLY... WHAT A HORRIBLE THING WE'VE DONE.

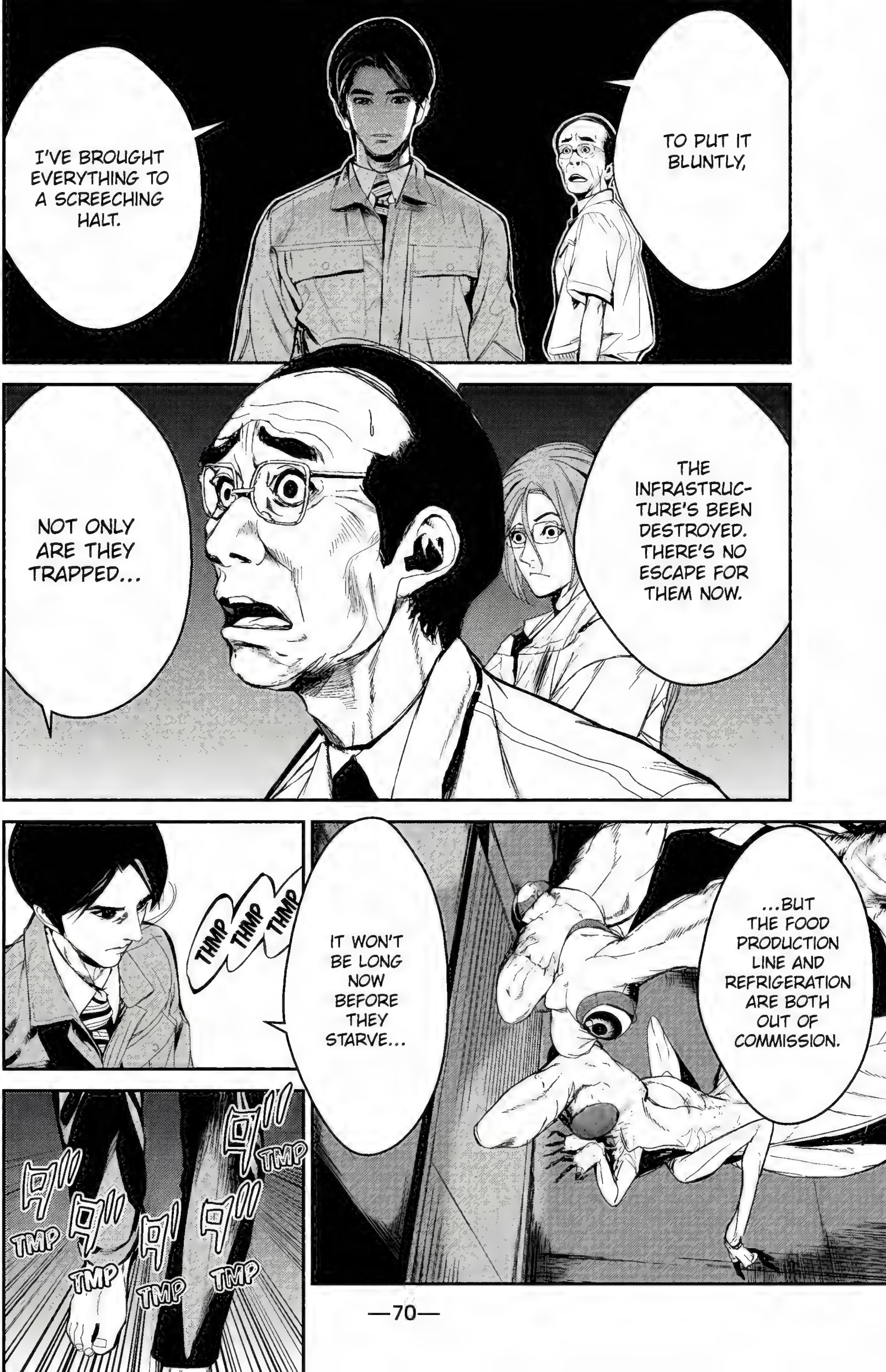

THAT MAN NEVER DID ANYTHING WRONG. HE'S THE VICTIM HERE. THERE'S NO QUESTION.
THIS IS ALL OUR FAULT...
N... NATSUNE... KUN...?
...BUT...
...I COULDN'T RISK LETTING HIM GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE.
DIRECTOR...

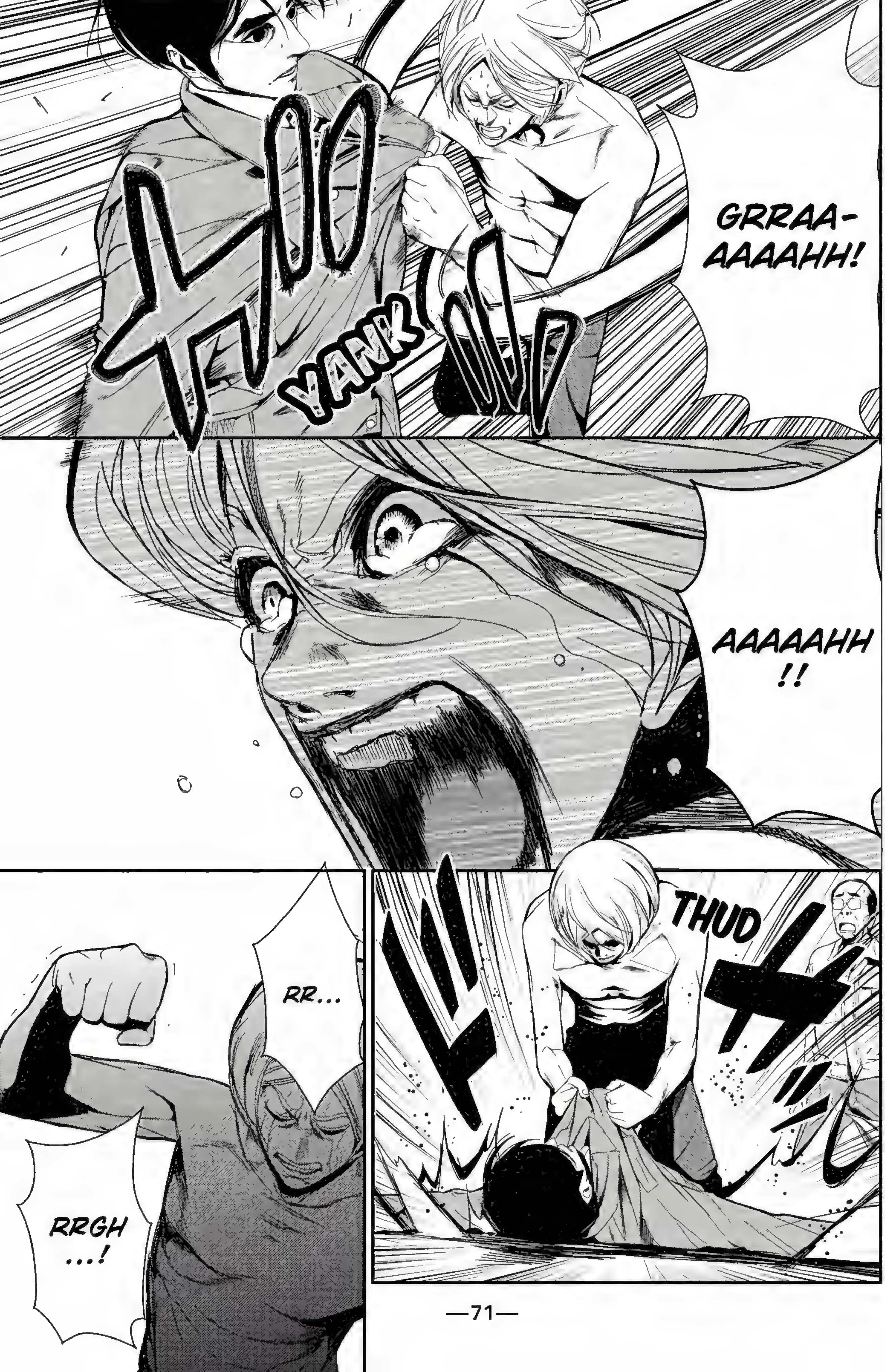

CAN I ASK YOU…TO EXPLAIN?
OF COURSE …
…
THAT WAS AN ELECTRO-MAGNETIC PULSE JUST NOW, WASN'T IT?
!
WELL! YOU DON'T SEE *THAT* EVERY DAY, DO YOU?

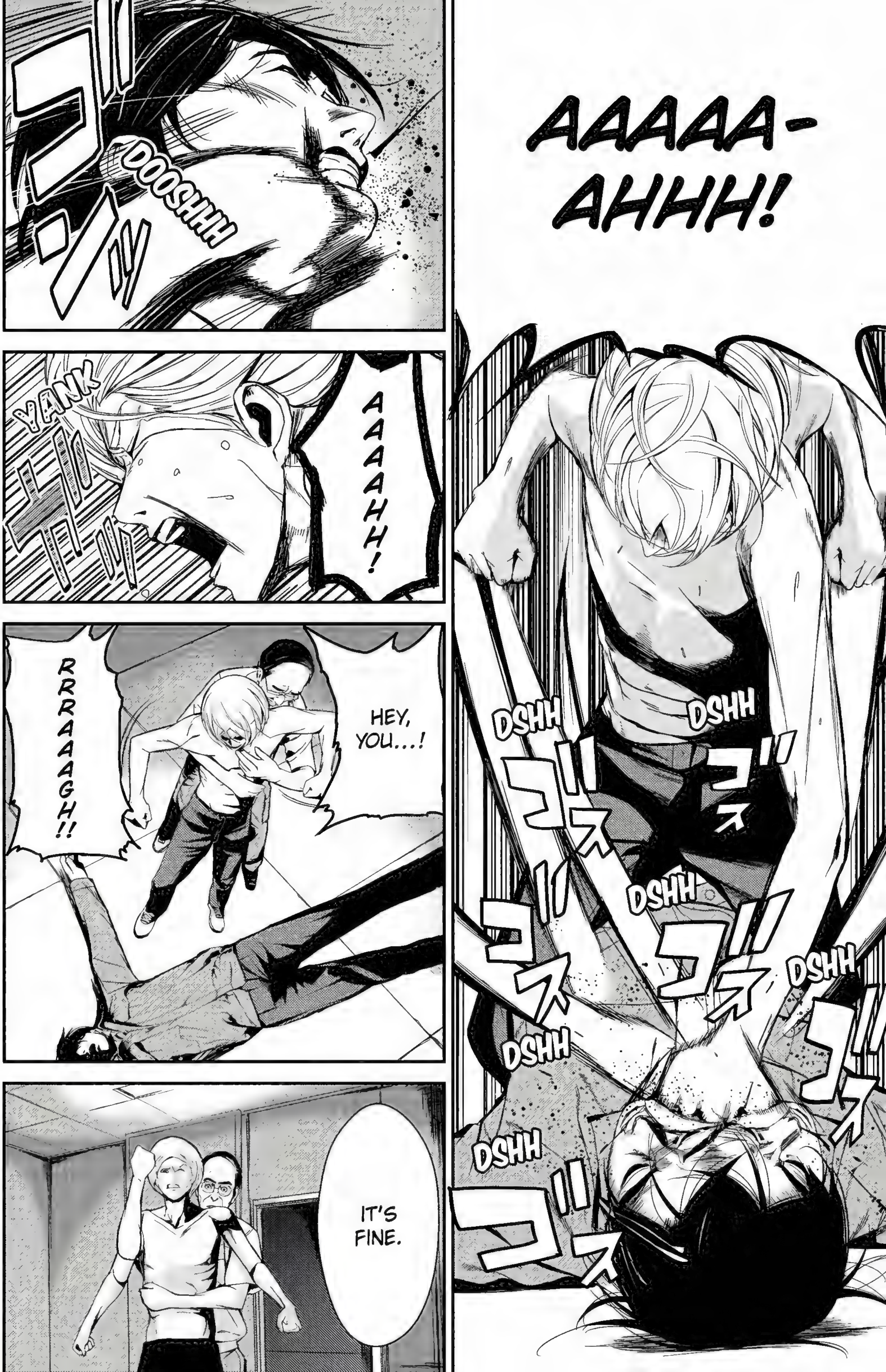

RIGHT YOU ARE, SIR.
GOOD CATCH.
WELL, YOU KNOW...
FIRST, THERE WERE SPARKS ON MY GLASSES...
...THEN A BRIGHT FLASH FROM ALL THE LIGHTS IN THE AREA...
...AND THEN, SUDDENLY, ALL THE ELECTRONICS WENT OFFLINE.
ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS YOU TOOK STEPS TO SHIELD THE BARE ESSENTIALS FROM THE BLAST!
YEP.
RIGHT AGAIN.
AFTER ALL, I NEEDED THE INTERCOM LIVE TO GUIDE THE WORKERS TO SAFETY...

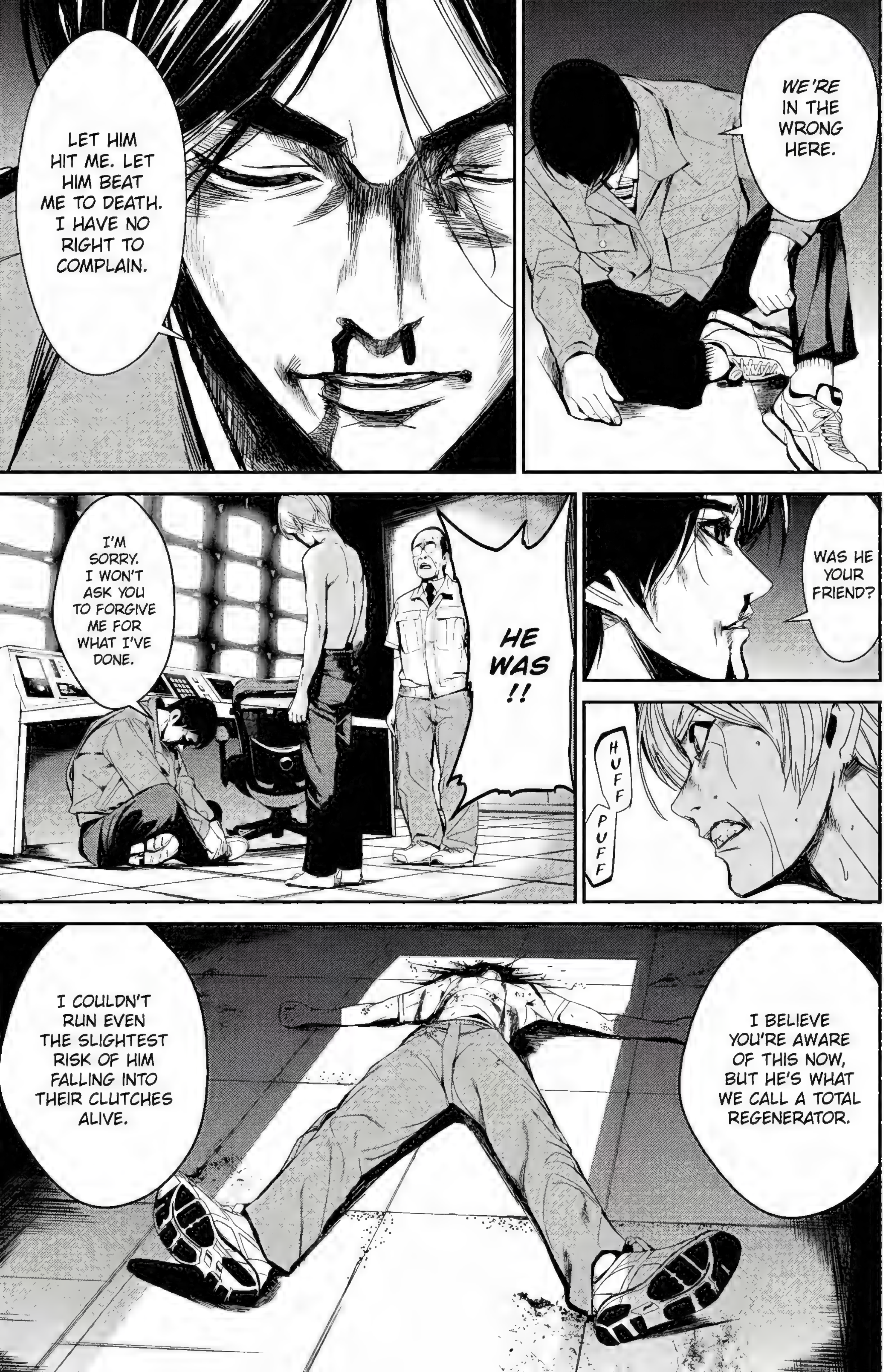

HANAJIMA-SAN...
...I JUST EMPLOYED A DEVICE I CREATED TO PRODUCE ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES...
...TO RENDER ALL THE ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THIS FACILITY INOPERABLE... WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS.
I'M SORRY, SIR?
WHAT I MEAN IS...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?

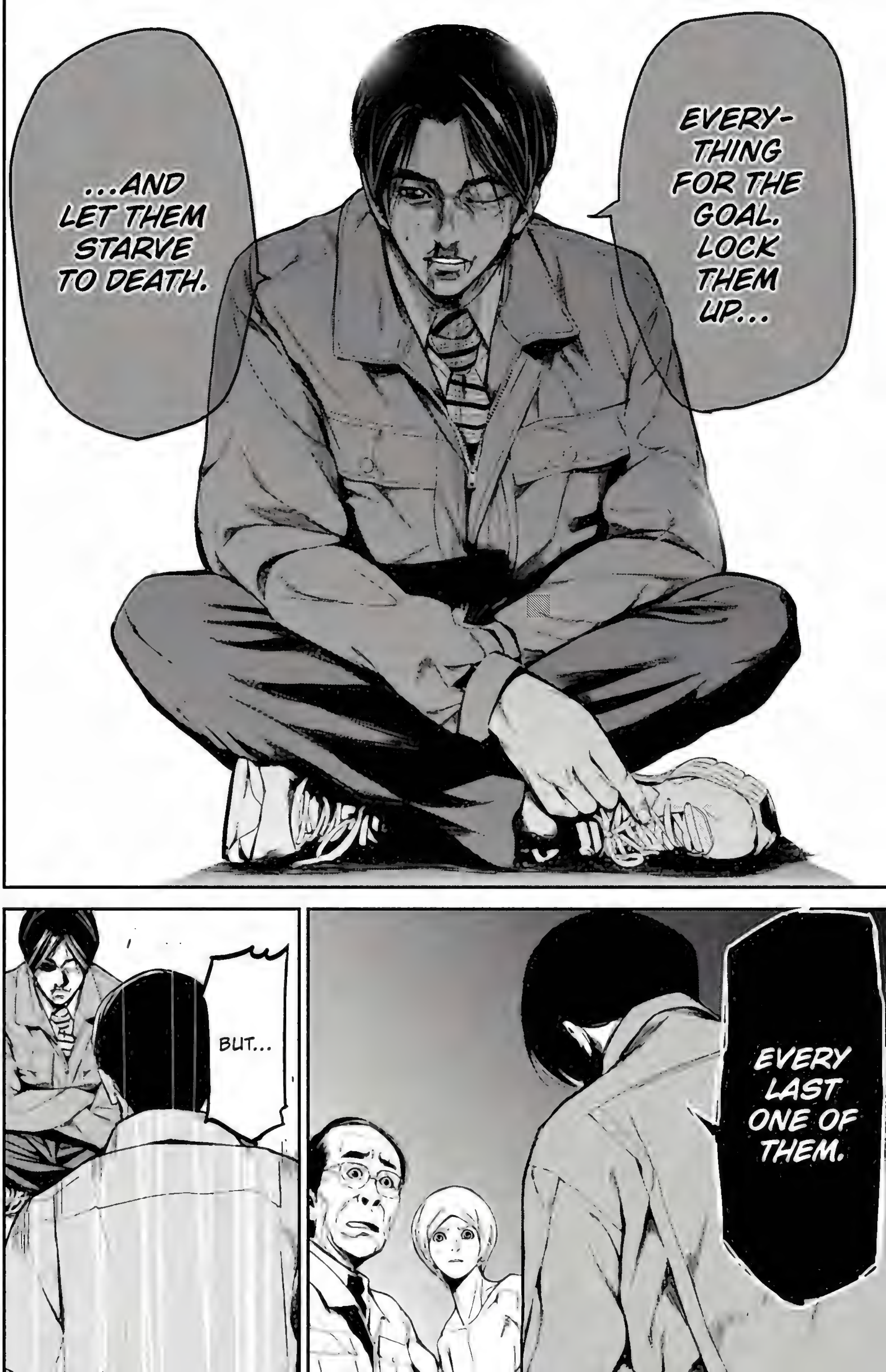

...RIGHT NOW, THOSE BASTARDS ...
...ARE TRAPPED.
BOOOOM

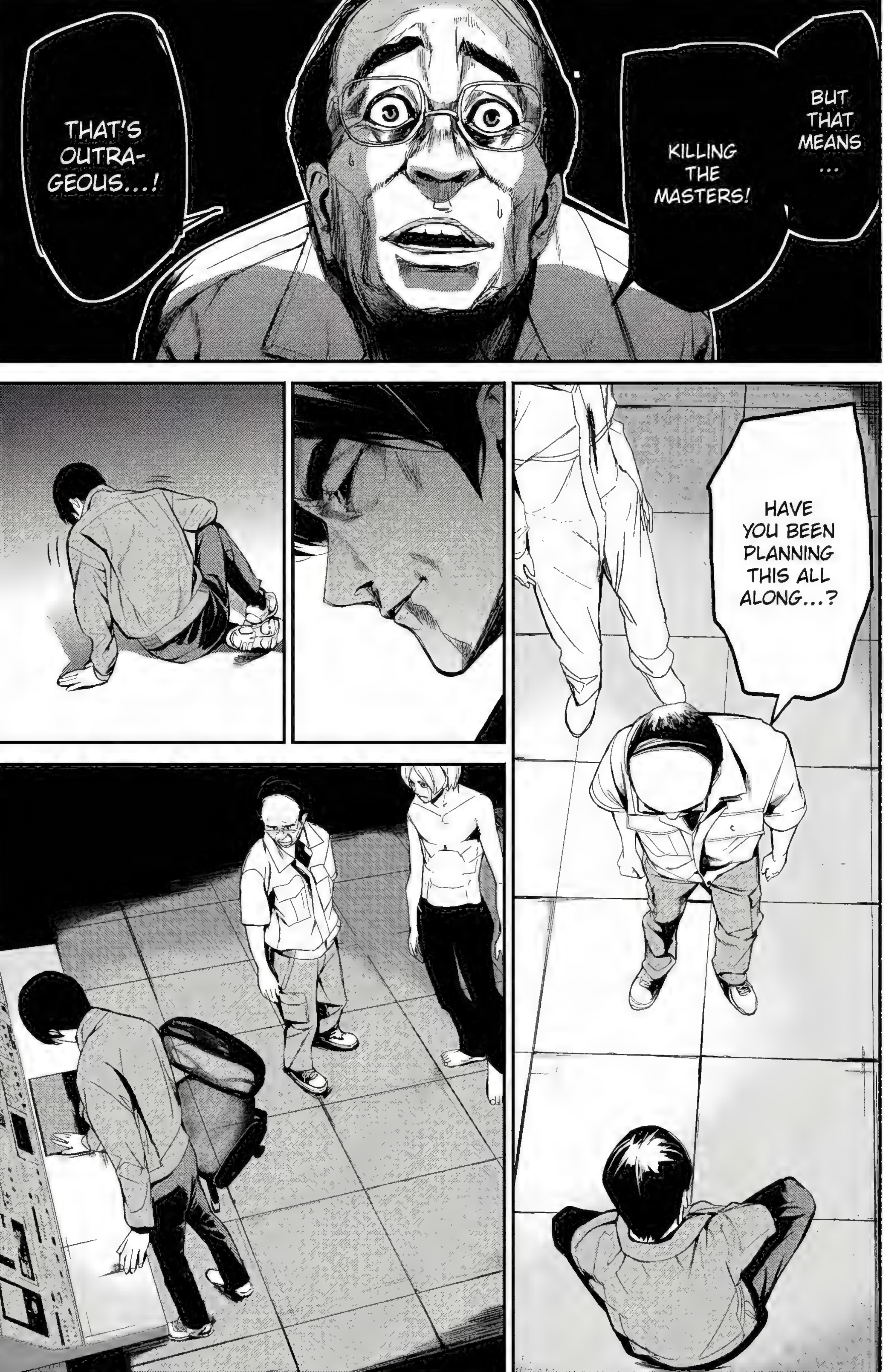

TO PUT IT BLUNTLY,
I'VE BROUGHT EVERYTHING TO A SCREECHING HALT.
THE INFRASTRUCTURE'S BEEN DESTROYED. THERE'S NO ESCAPE FOR THEM NOW.
NOT ONLY ARE THEY TRAPPED...
...BUT THE FOOD PRODUCTION LINE AND REFRIGERATION ARE BOTH OUT OF COMMISSION.
IT WON'T BE LONG NOW BEFORE THEY STARVE...
THMP THMP THMP
ダ″ TMP
ダ″ TMP
ダ″ TMP
ダ″ TMP
ダ″ TMP
ダ″ TMP

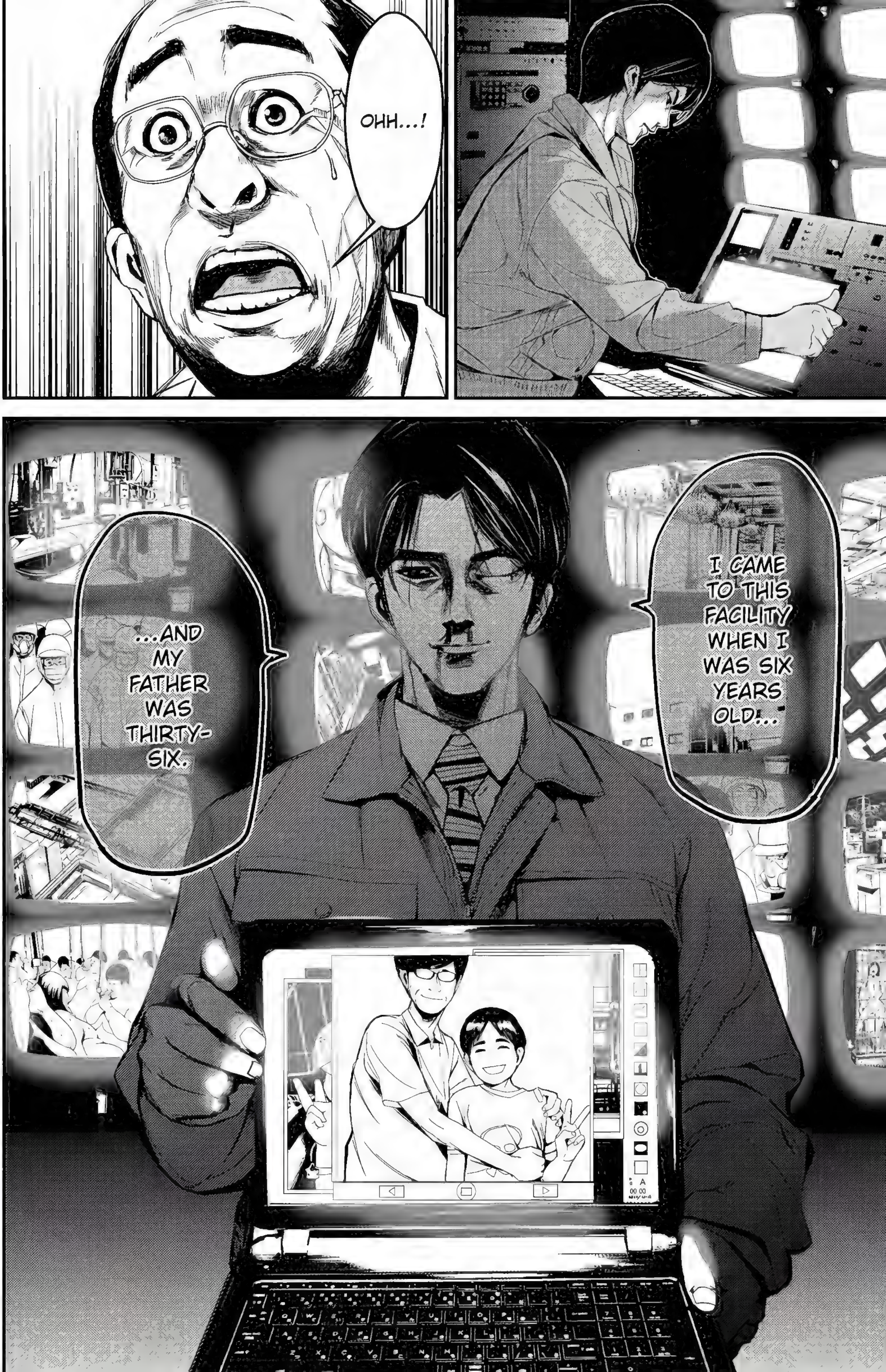

GRRAA-AAAAAH!
YANK
AAAAAHH!!
THUD
RR...
RRGH...!


AAAAA-AHHH!
DSHH
DSHH
ゴッ
ゴスッ
DSHH
ゴッ
ゴスッ
DSHH
DSHH
ゴスッ
DSHH
ゴスッ
DOOSHHH
ゴッ
YANK
AAAAAHH!
RRRAAAAGH!!
HEY, YOU...!
IT'S FINE.

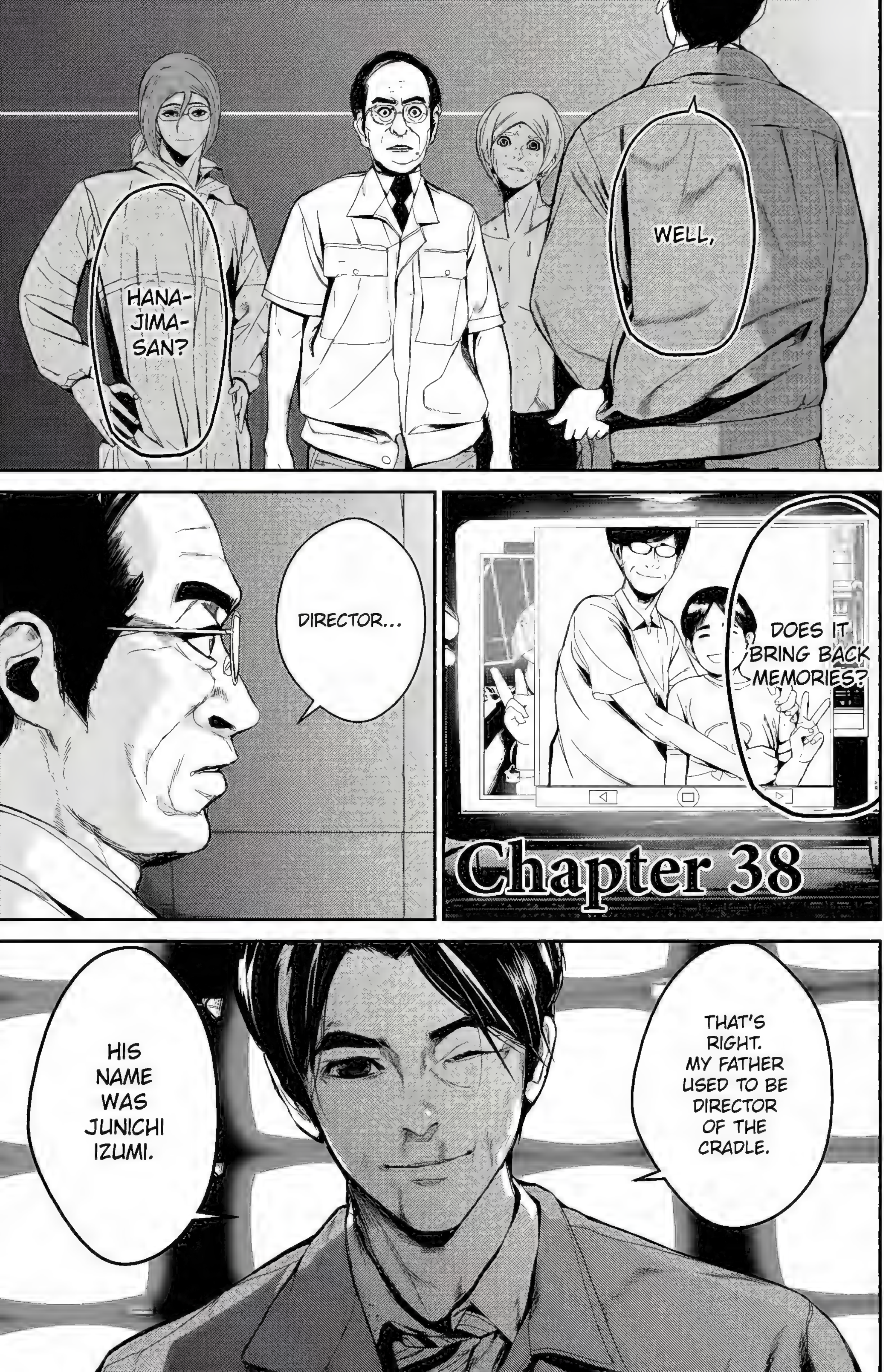

WE'RE IN THE WRONG HERE.
LET HIM HIT ME. LET HIM BEAT ME TO DEATH. I HAVE NO RIGHT TO COMPLAIN.
WAS HE YOUR FRIEND?
HUFF PUFF
HE WAS!!
I'M SORRY. I WON'T ASK YOU TO FORGIVE ME FOR WHAT I'VE DONE.
I BELIEVE YOU'RE AWARE OF THIS NOW, BUT HE'S WHAT WE CALL A TOTAL REGENERATOR.
I COULDN'T RUN EVEN THE SLIGHTEST RISK OF HIM FALLING INTO THEIR CLUTCHES ALIVE.

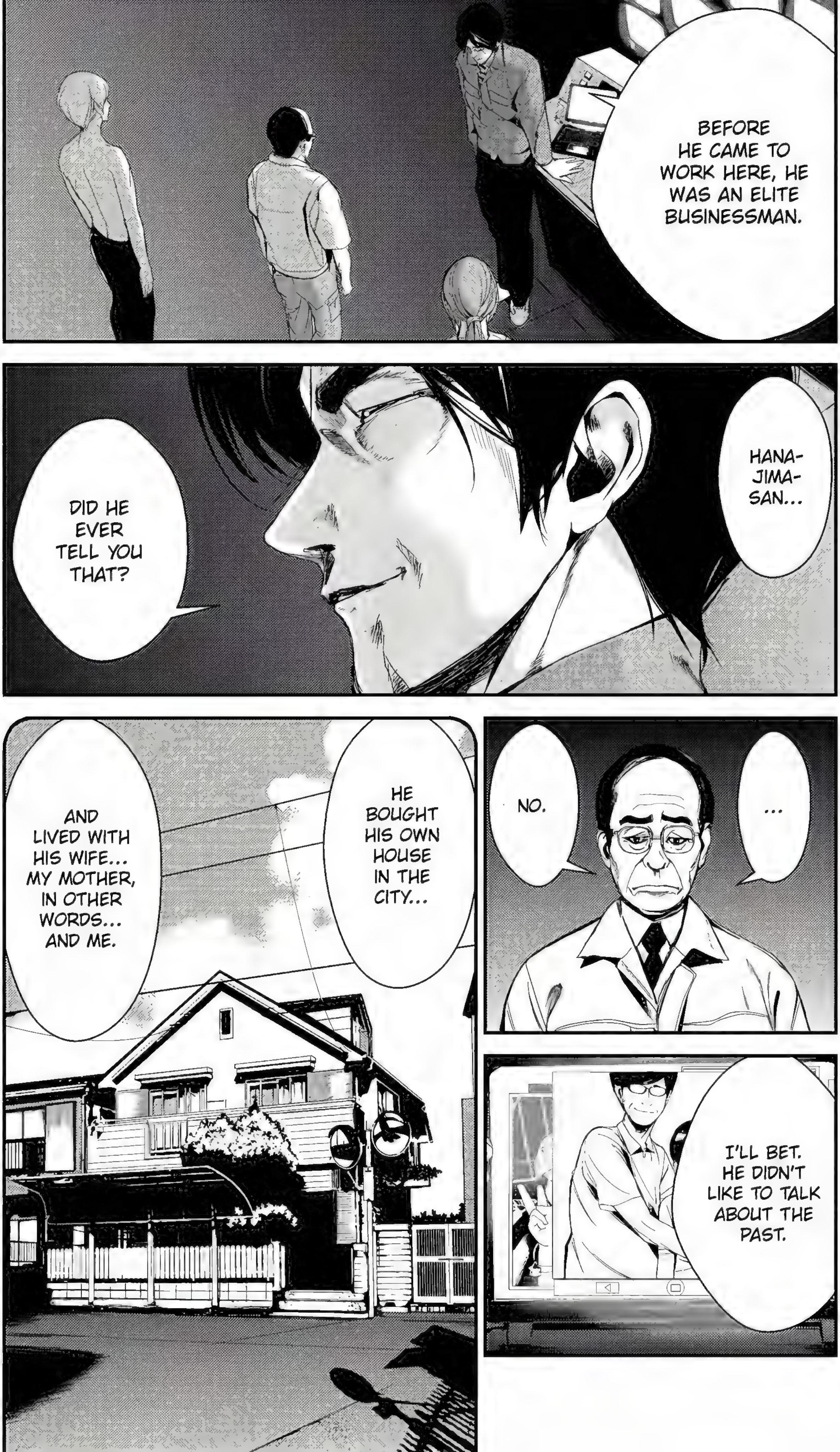

EVERYTHING FOR THE GOAL. LOCK THEM UP...
...AND LET THEM STARVE TO DEATH.
EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM.
BUT...

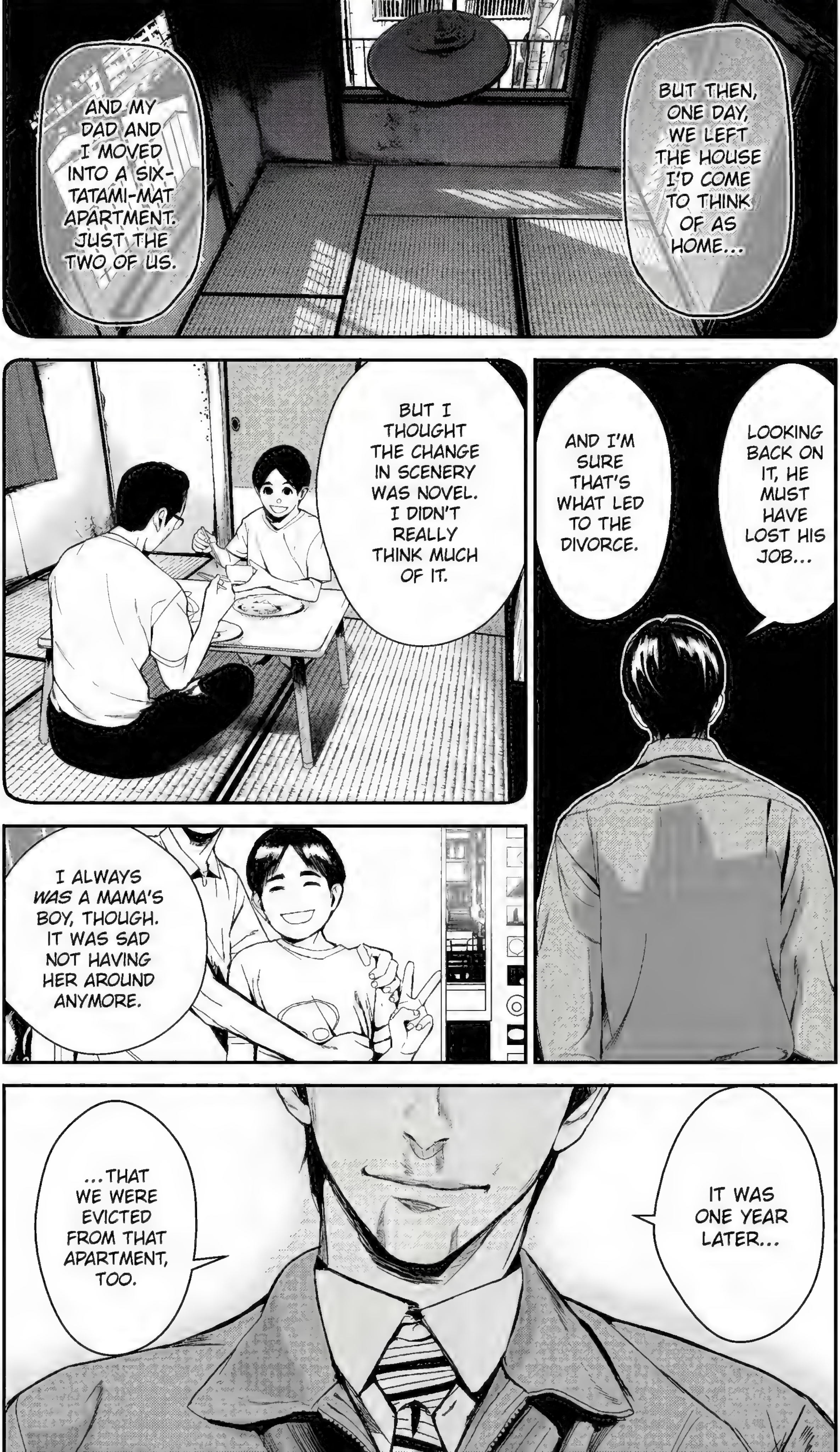

BUT THAT MEANS …
KILLING THE MASTERS!
THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS…!
HAVE YOU BEEN PLANNING THIS ALL ALONG…?

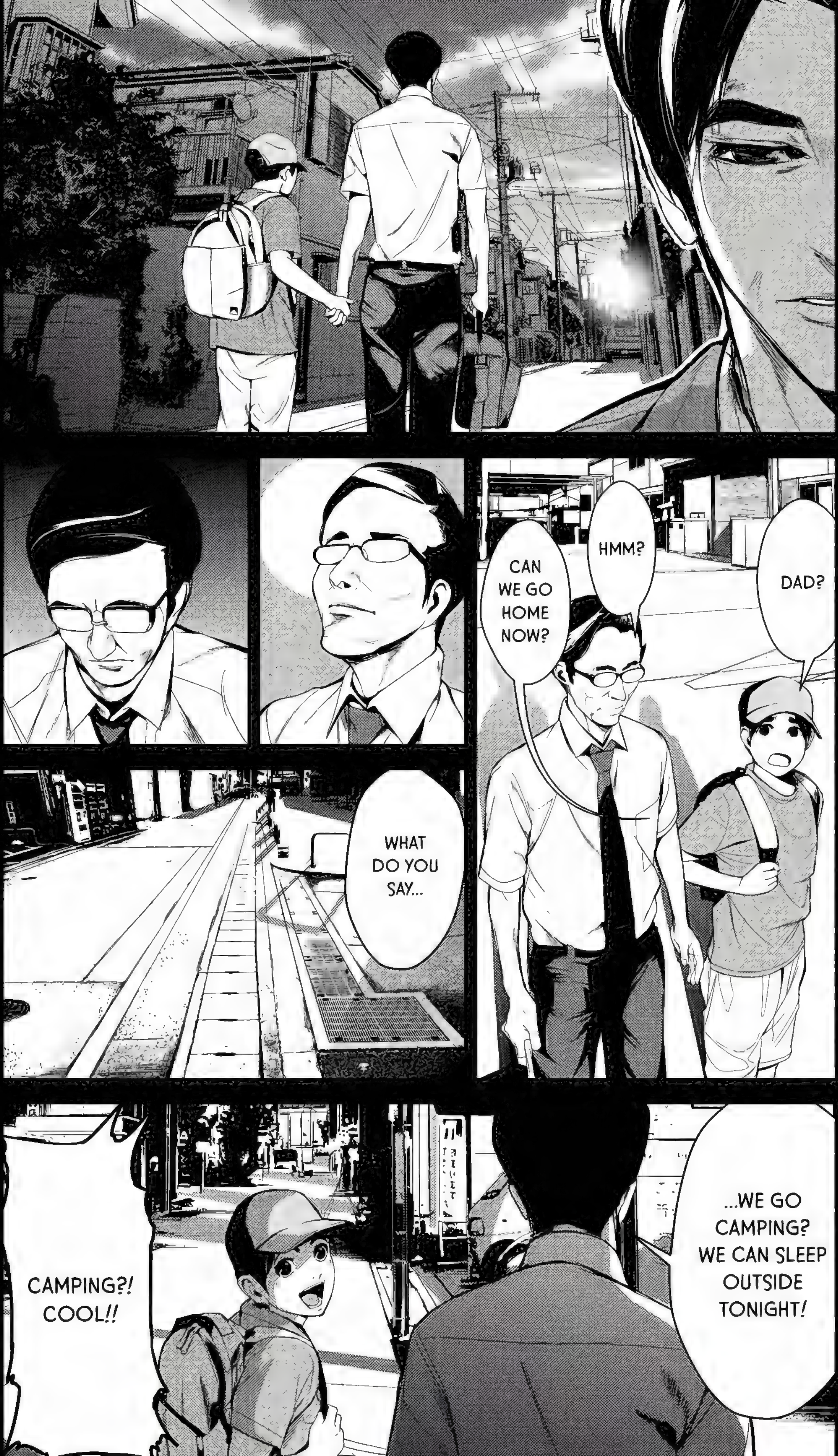

OHH...!
I CAME TO THIS FACILITY WHEN I WAS SIX YEARS OLD...
...AND MY FATHER WAS THIRTY-SIX.

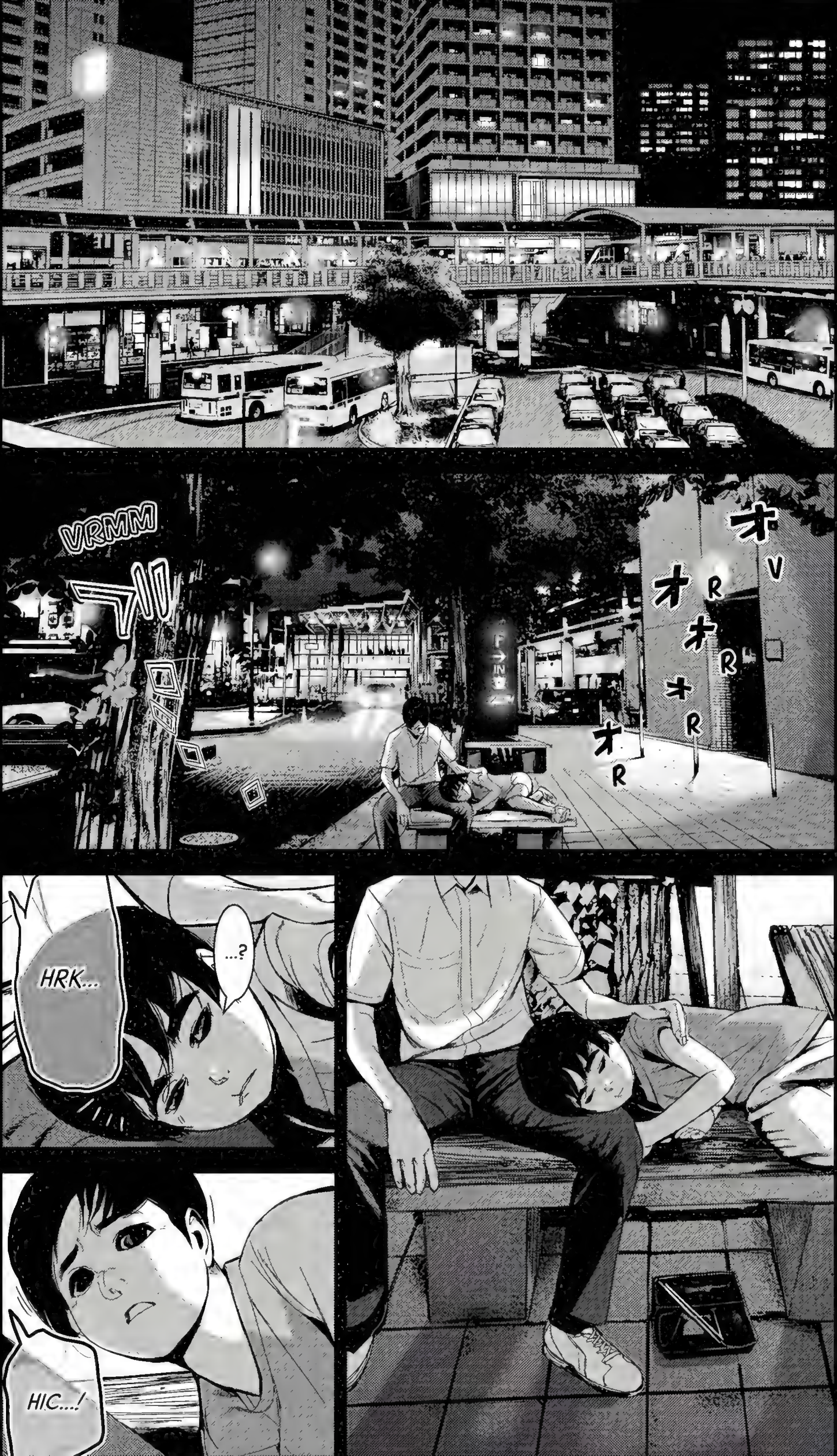
Chapter 38

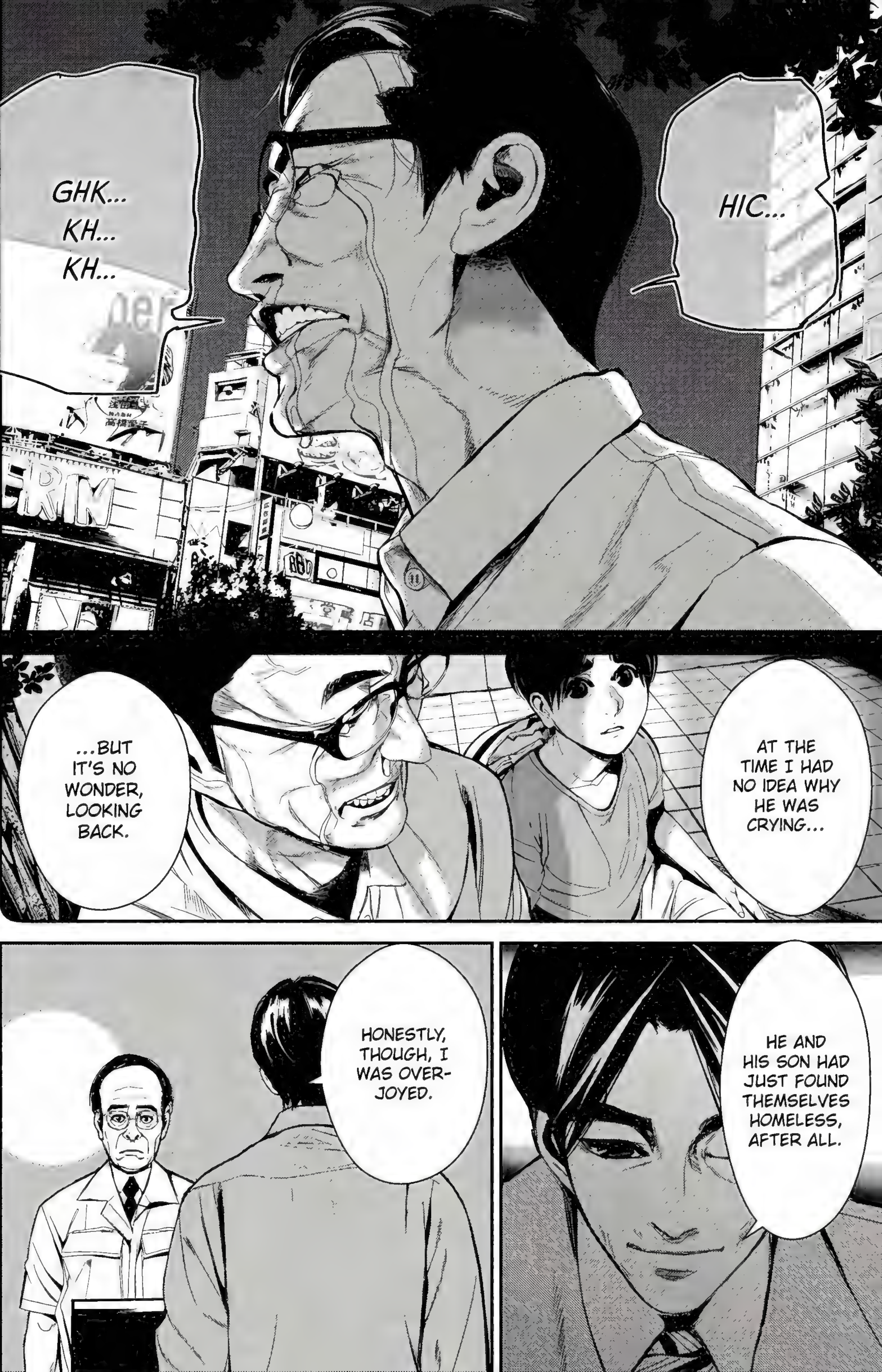

WELL,
HANA-JIMA-SAN?
DOES IT BRING BACK MEMORIES?
DIRECTOR...
THAT'S RIGHT. MY FATHER USED TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CRADLE.
HIS NAME WAS JUNICHI IZUMI.

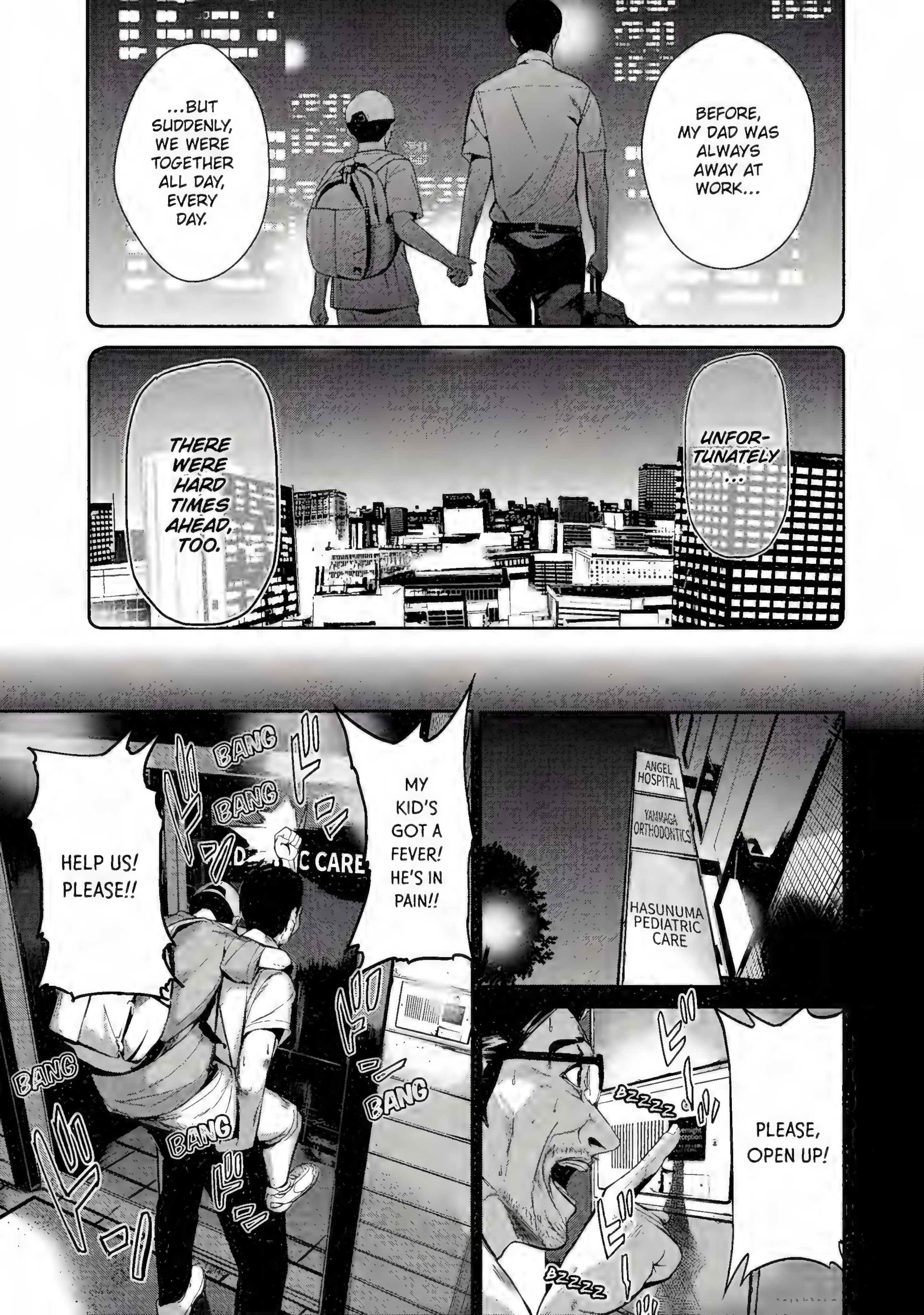

BEFORE HE CAME TO WORK HERE, HE WAS AN ELITE BUSINESSMAN.
HANAJIMA-SAN...
DID HE EVER TELL YOU THAT?
...
NO.
I'LL BET. HE DIDN'T LIKE TO TALK ABOUT THE PAST.
HE BOUGHT HIS OWN HOUSE IN THE CITY...
AND LIVED WITH HIS WIFE... MY MOTHER, IN OTHER WORDS... AND ME.

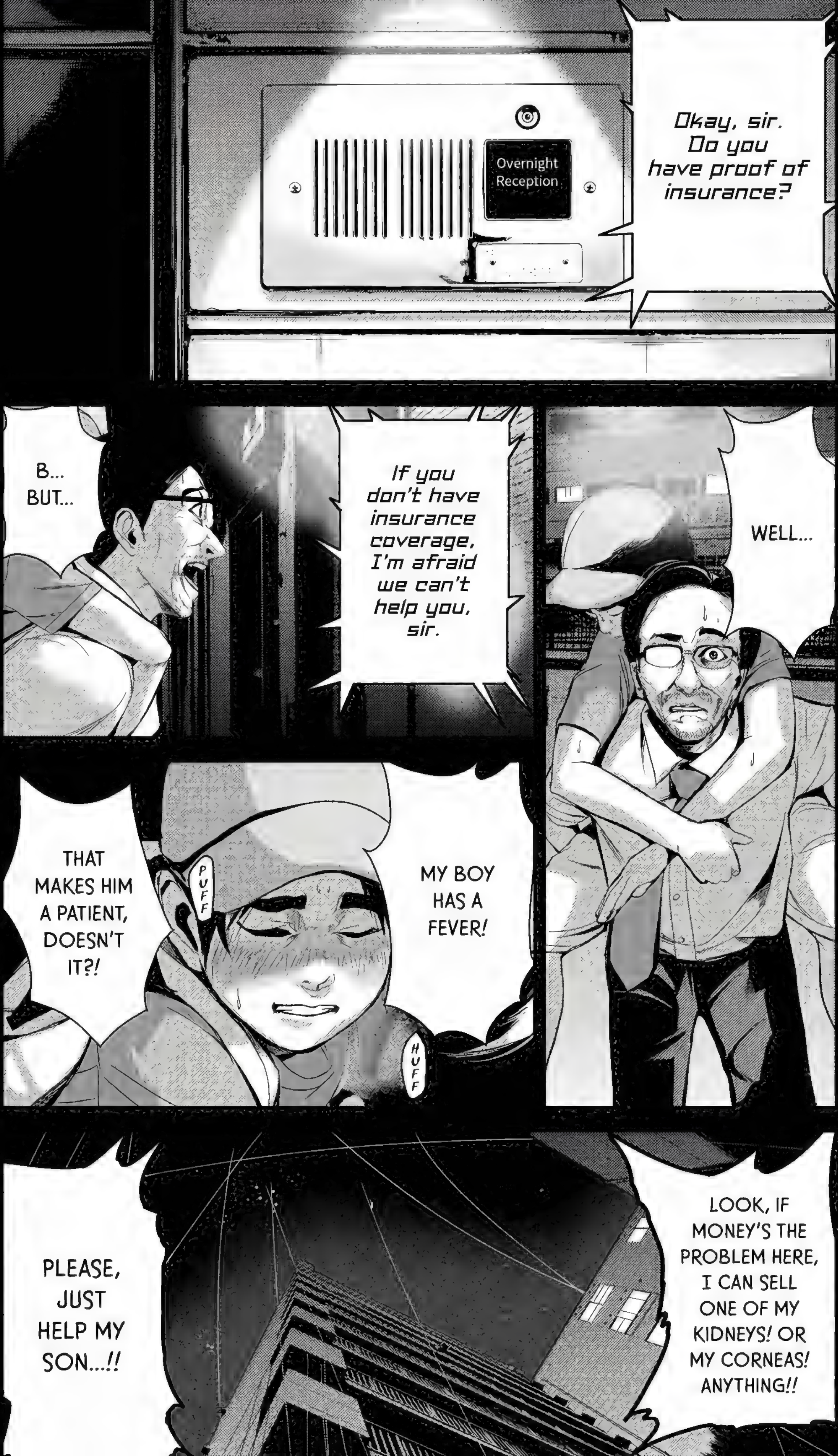

BUT THEN, ONE DAY, WE LEFT THE HOUSE I'D COME TO THINK OF AS HOME...
AND MY DAD AND I MOVED INTO A SIX-TATAMI-MAT APARTMENT. JUST THE TWO OF US.
LOOKING BACK ON IT, HE MUST HAVE LOST HIS JOB...
AND I'M SURE THAT'S WHAT LED TO THE DIVORCE.
BUT I THOUGHT THE CHANGE IN SCENERY WAS NOVEL. I DIDN'T REALLY THINK MUCH OF IT.
I ALWAYS *WAS* A MAMA'S BOY, THOUGH. IT WAS SAD NOT HAVING HER AROUND ANYMORE.
IT WAS ONE YEAR LATER...
...THAT WE WERE EVICTED FROM THAT APARTMENT, TOO.

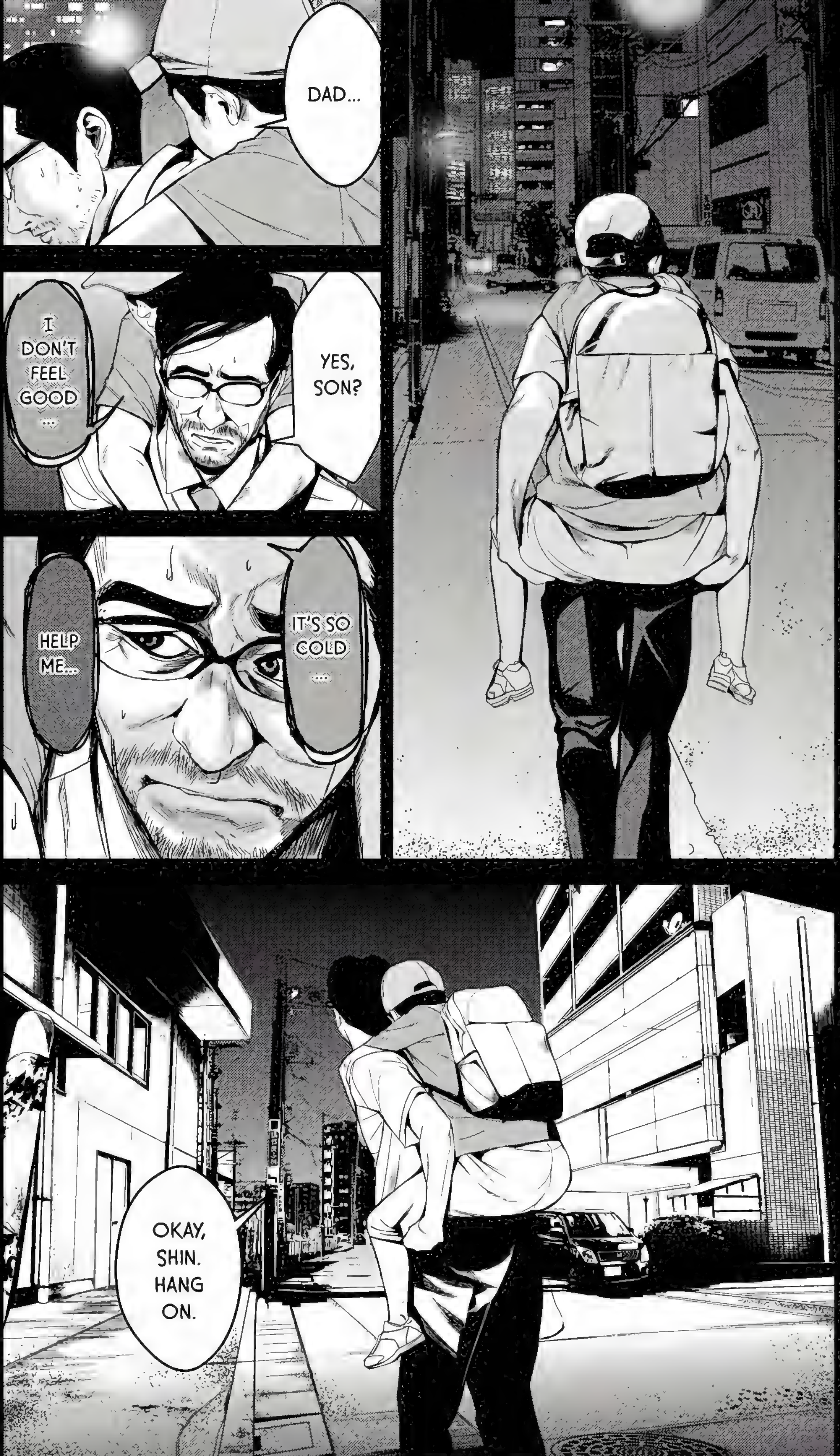

DAD?
HMM?
CAN WE GO HOME NOW?
WHAT DO YOU SAY...
...WE GO CAMPING? WE CAN SLEEP OUTSIDE TONIGHT!
CAMPING?! COOL!!

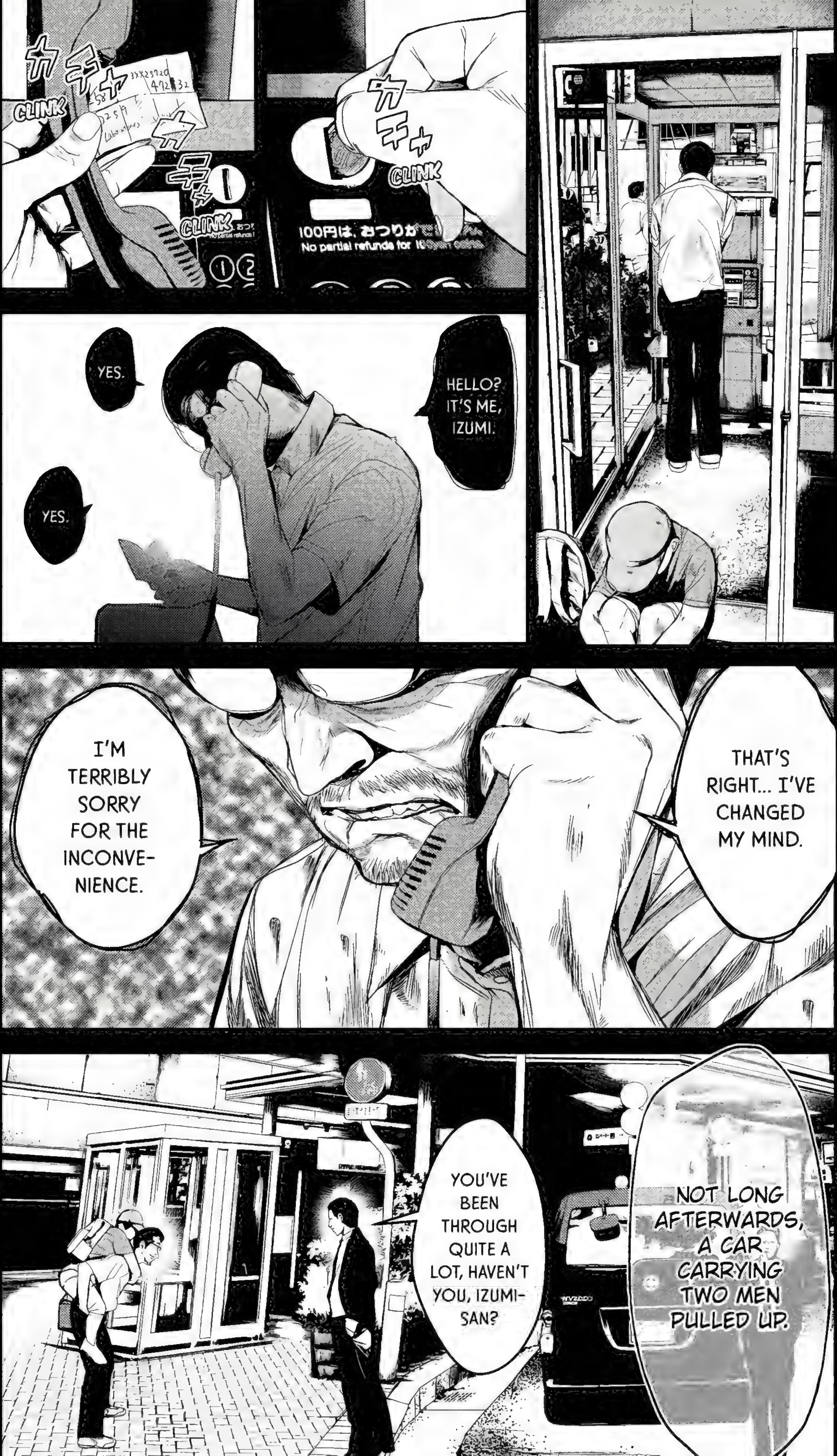

オオオォオ
VRRRR
ブロロロロ
VRMM
...?
HRK...
HIC...!

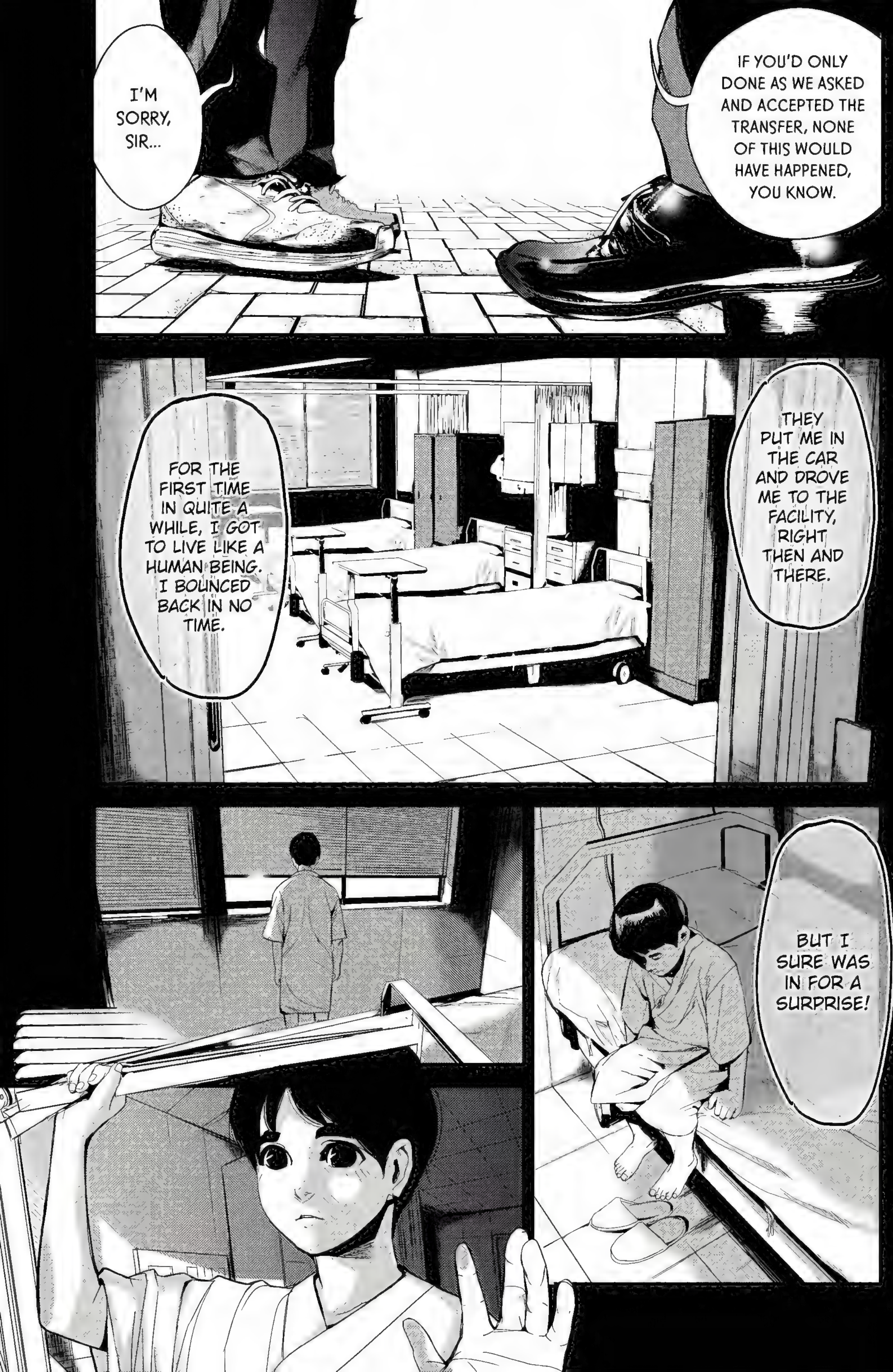

HIC...
GHK... KH... KH...
AT THE TIME I HAD NO IDEA WHY HE WAS CRYING...
...BUT IT'S NO WONDER, LOOKING BACK.
HE AND HIS SON HAD JUST FOUND THEMSELVES HOMELESS, AFTER ALL.
HONESTLY, THOUGH, I WAS OVERJOYED.

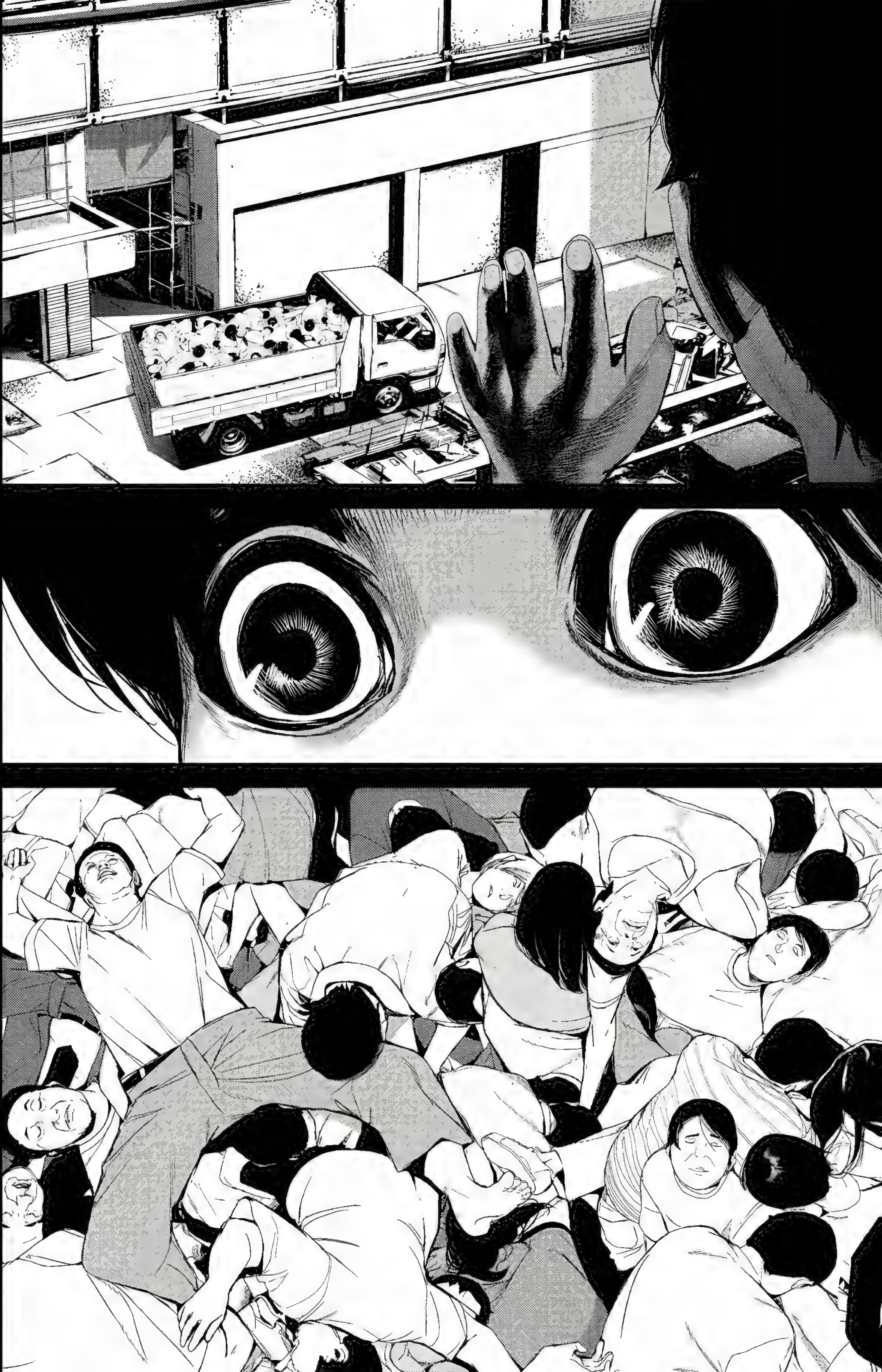

BEFORE, MY DAD WAS ALWAYS AWAY AT WORK...
...BUT SUDDENLY, WE WERE TOGETHER ALL DAY, EVERY DAY.
UNFORTUNATELY...
THERE WERE HARD TIMES AHEAD, TOO.
ANGEL HOSPITAL
YAMAGA ORTHODONTICS
HASUNUMA PEDIATRIC CARE
BZZZZ
PLEASE, OPEN UP!
BZZZZ
BANG
BANG
MY KID'S GOT A FEVER! HE'S IN PAIN!!
D C CARE
HELP US! PLEASE!!
BANG
BANG
BANG

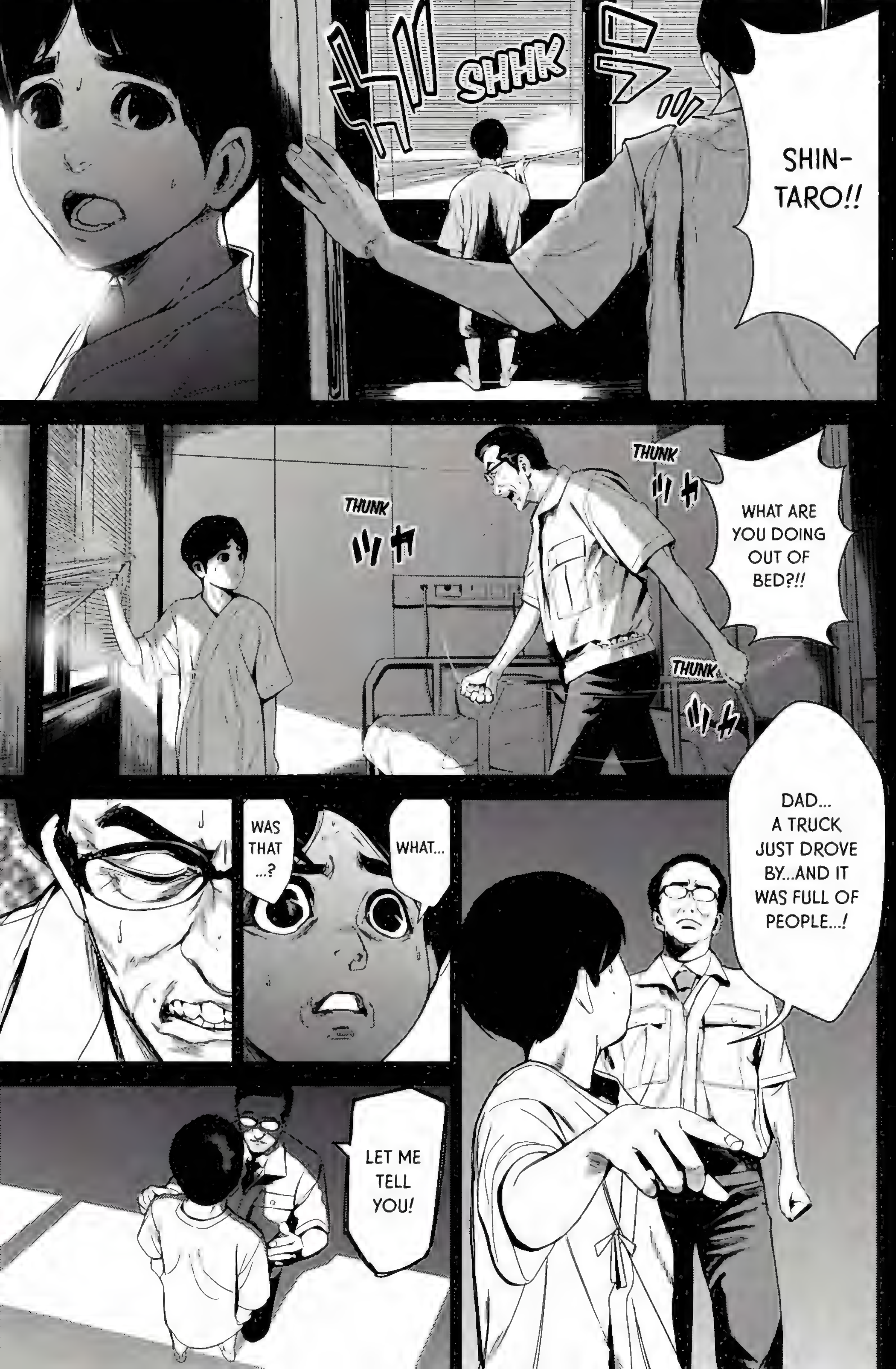

Overnight Reception
Okay, sir. Do you have proof of insurance?
WELL...
If you don't have insurance coverage, I'm afraid we can't help you, sir.
B... BUT...
MY BOY HAS A FEVER!
THAT MAKES HIM A PATIENT, DOESN'T IT?!
PUFF
HUFF
LOOK, IF MONEY'S THE PROBLEM HERE, I CAN SELL ONE OF MY KIDNEYS! OR MY CORNEAS! ANYTHING!!
PLEASE, JUST HELP MY SON...!!

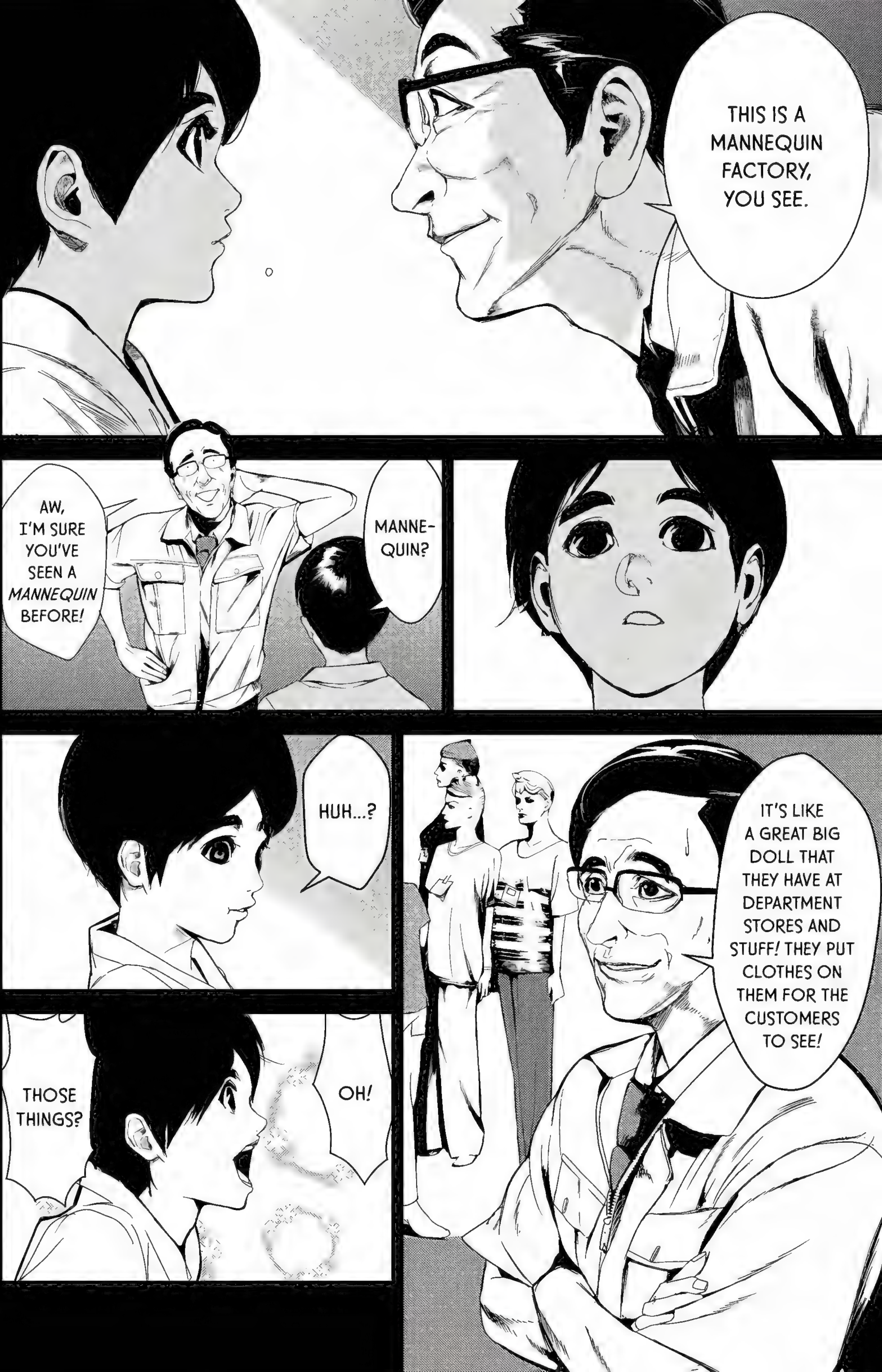

DAD...
YES, SON?
I DON'T FEEL GOOD...
IT'S SO COLD...
HELP ME...
OKAY, SHIN. HANG ON.

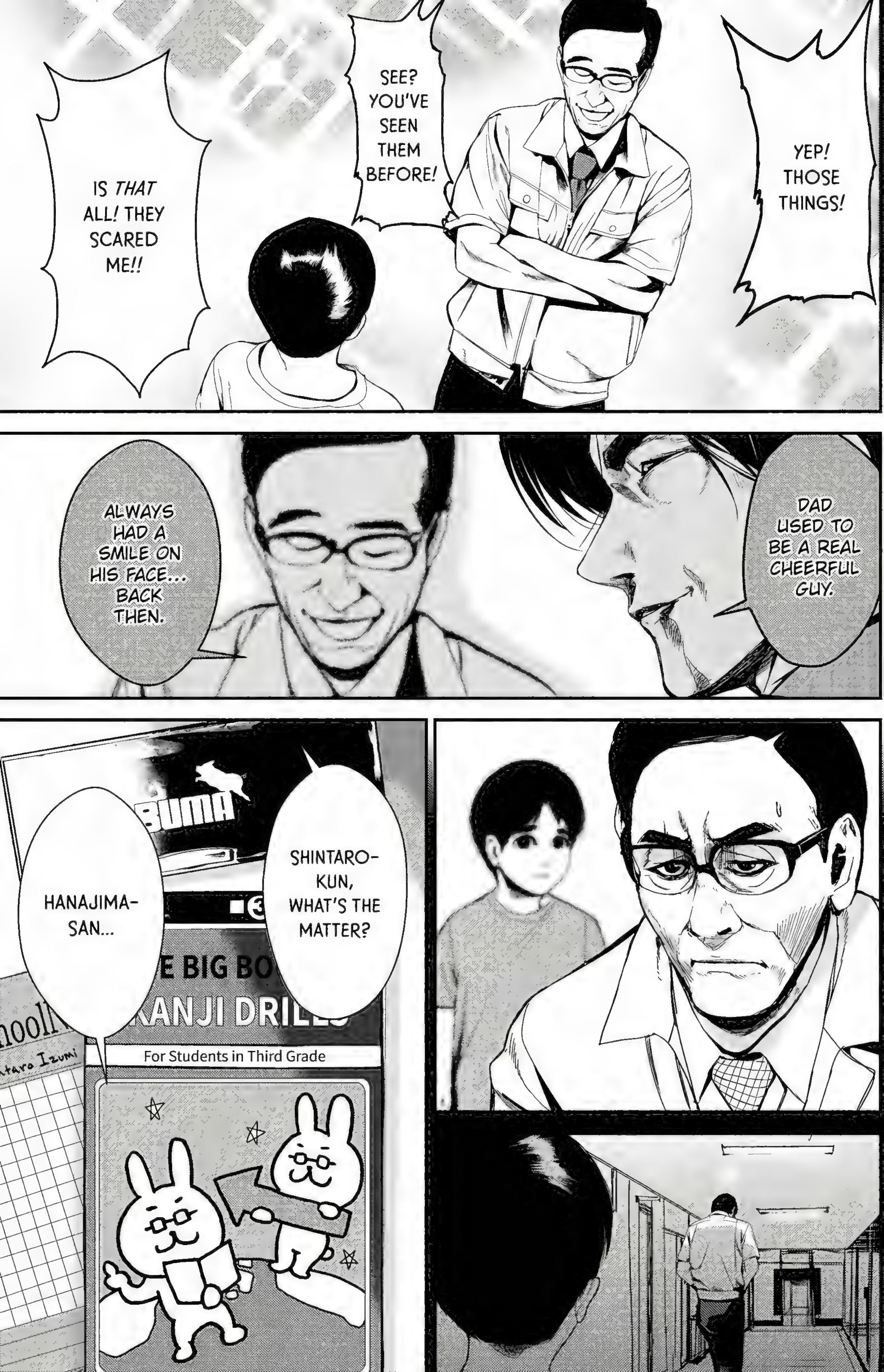

カチャ
CLINK
100円は、おつりが
No partial refunds for 100yen coins
カチャ
CLINK
カチャ
CLINK
HELLO? IT'S ME, IZUMI.
YES.
YES.
THAT'S RIGHT... I'VE CHANGED MY MIND.
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE.
NOT LONG AFTERWARDS, A CAR CARRYING TWO MEN PULLED UP.
YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH QUITE A LOT, HAVEN'T YOU, IZUMI-SAN?

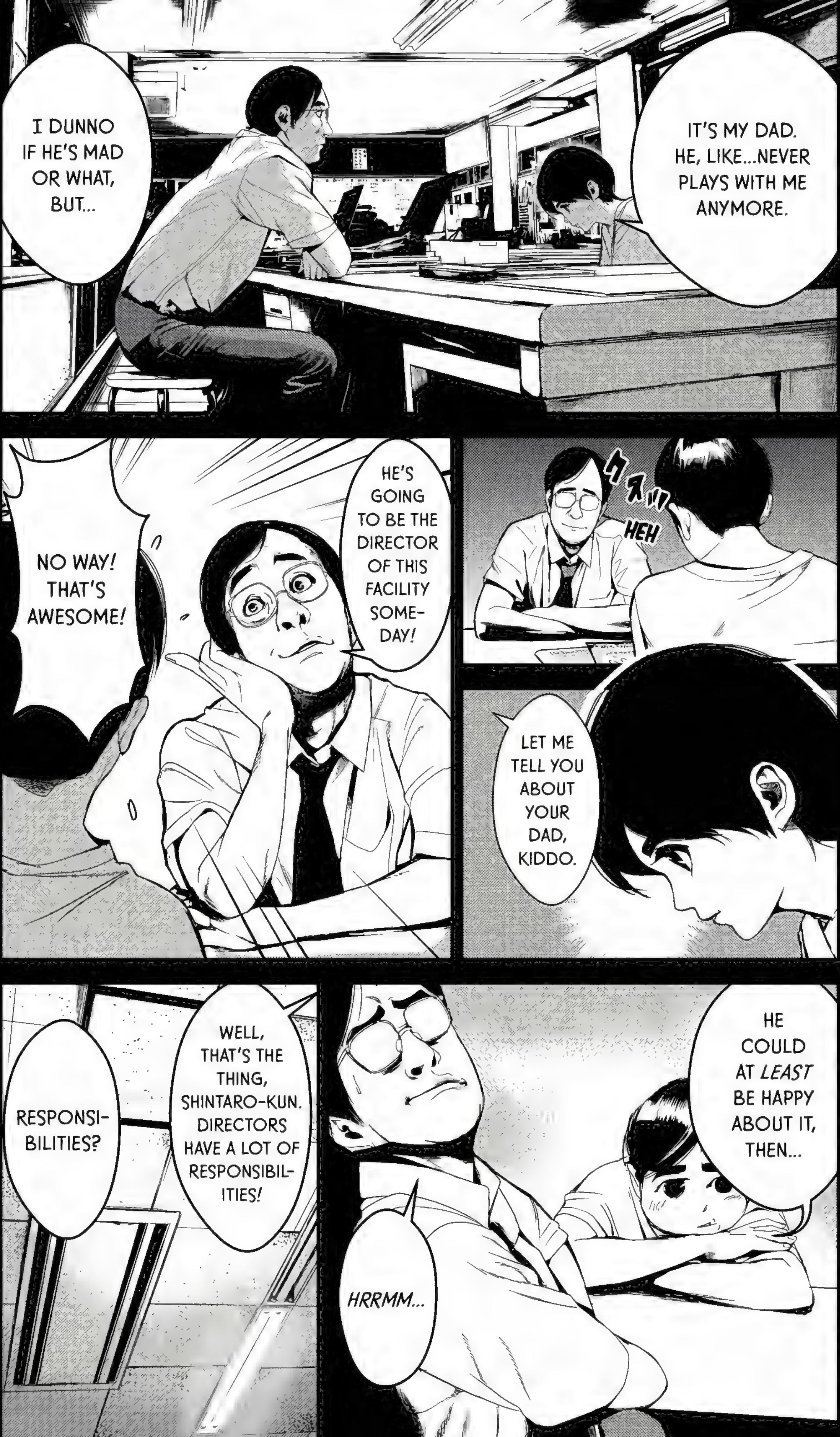

IF YOU'D ONLY DONE AS WE ASKED AND ACCEPTED THE TRANSFER, NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE HAPPENED, YOU KNOW.
I'M SORRY, SIR...
THEY PUT ME IN THE CAR AND DROVE ME TO THE FACILITY, RIGHT THEN AND THERE.
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN QUITE A WHILE, I GOT TO LIVE LIKE A HUMAN BEING. I BOUNCED BACK IN NO TIME.
BUT I SURE WAS IN FOR A SURPRISE!

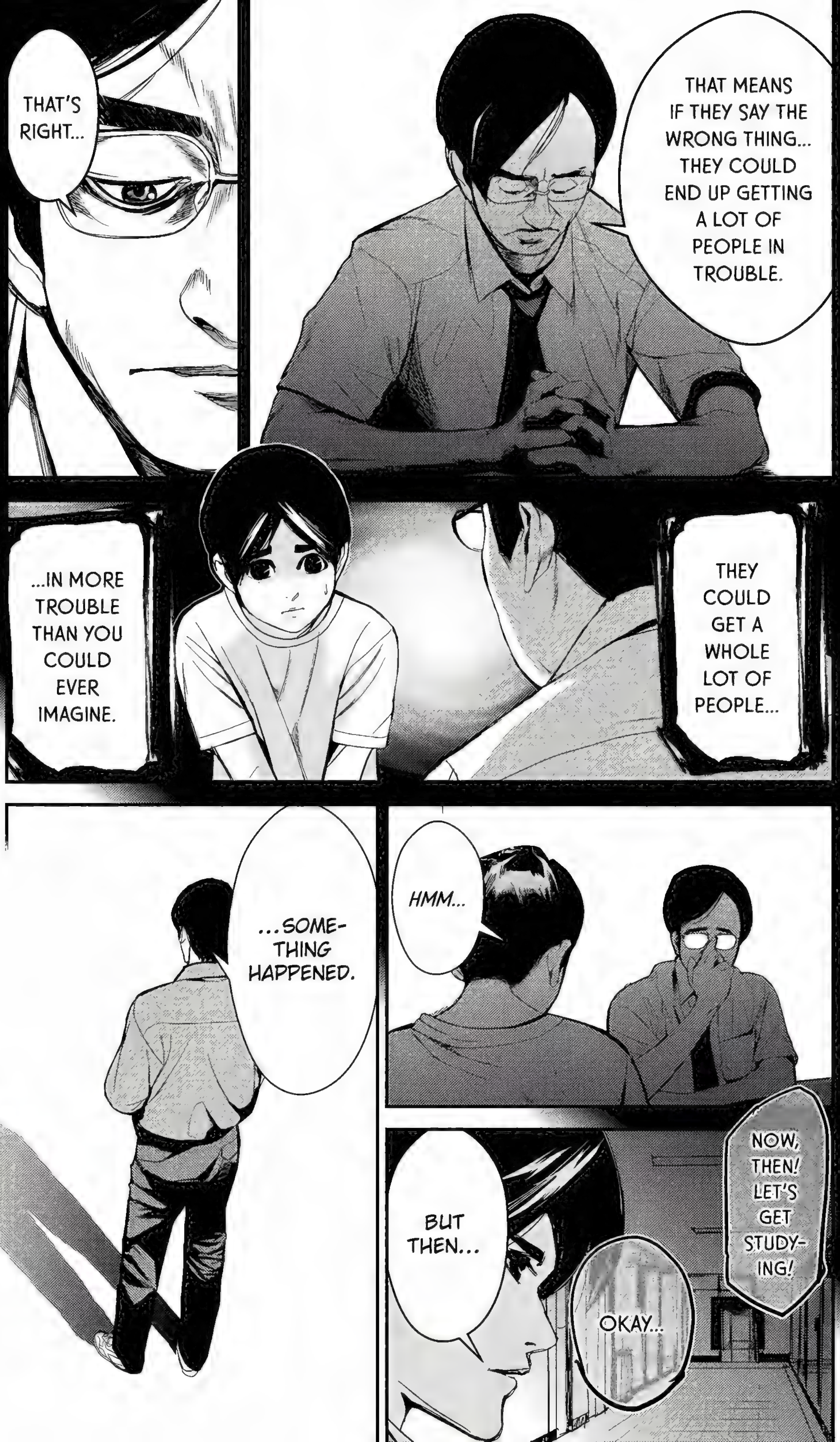


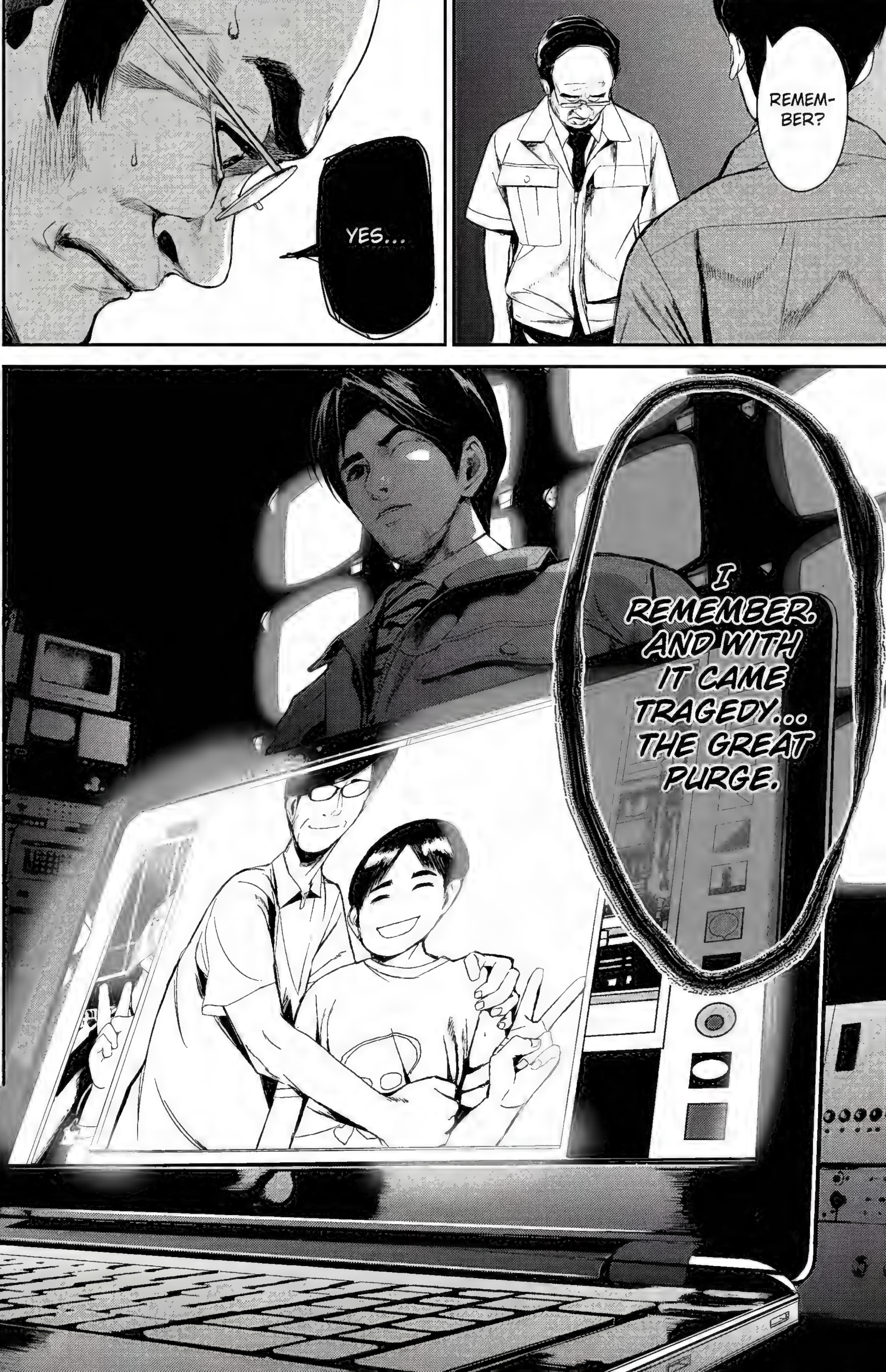

SHIN-TARO!!
SHHK
THUNK
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT OF BED?!!
THUNK
THUNK
ツカ
ツカ
ツカ
DAD... A TRUCK JUST DROVE BY...AND IT WAS FULL OF PEOPLE...!
WHAT...
WAS THAT ...?
LET ME TELL YOU!


THIS IS A MANNEQUIN FACTORY, YOU SEE.
MANNE-QUIN?
AW, I'M SURE YOU'VE SEEN A *MANNEQUIN* BEFORE!
IT'S LIKE A GREAT BIG DOLL THAT THEY HAVE AT DEPARTMENT STORES AND STUFF! THEY PUT CLOTHES ON THEM FOR THE CUSTOMERS TO SEE!
HUH...?
OH!
THOSE THINGS?


YEP! THOSE THINGS!
SEE? YOU'VE SEEN THEM BEFORE!
IS *THAT* ALL! THEY SCARED ME!!
DAD USED TO BE A REAL CHEERFUL GUY.
ALWAYS HAD A SMILE ON HIS FACE... BACK THEN.
SHINTARO-KUN, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
HANAJIMA-SAN...
BUMA
E BIG BO
KANJI DRILLS
For Students in Third Grade
tarо Izumi

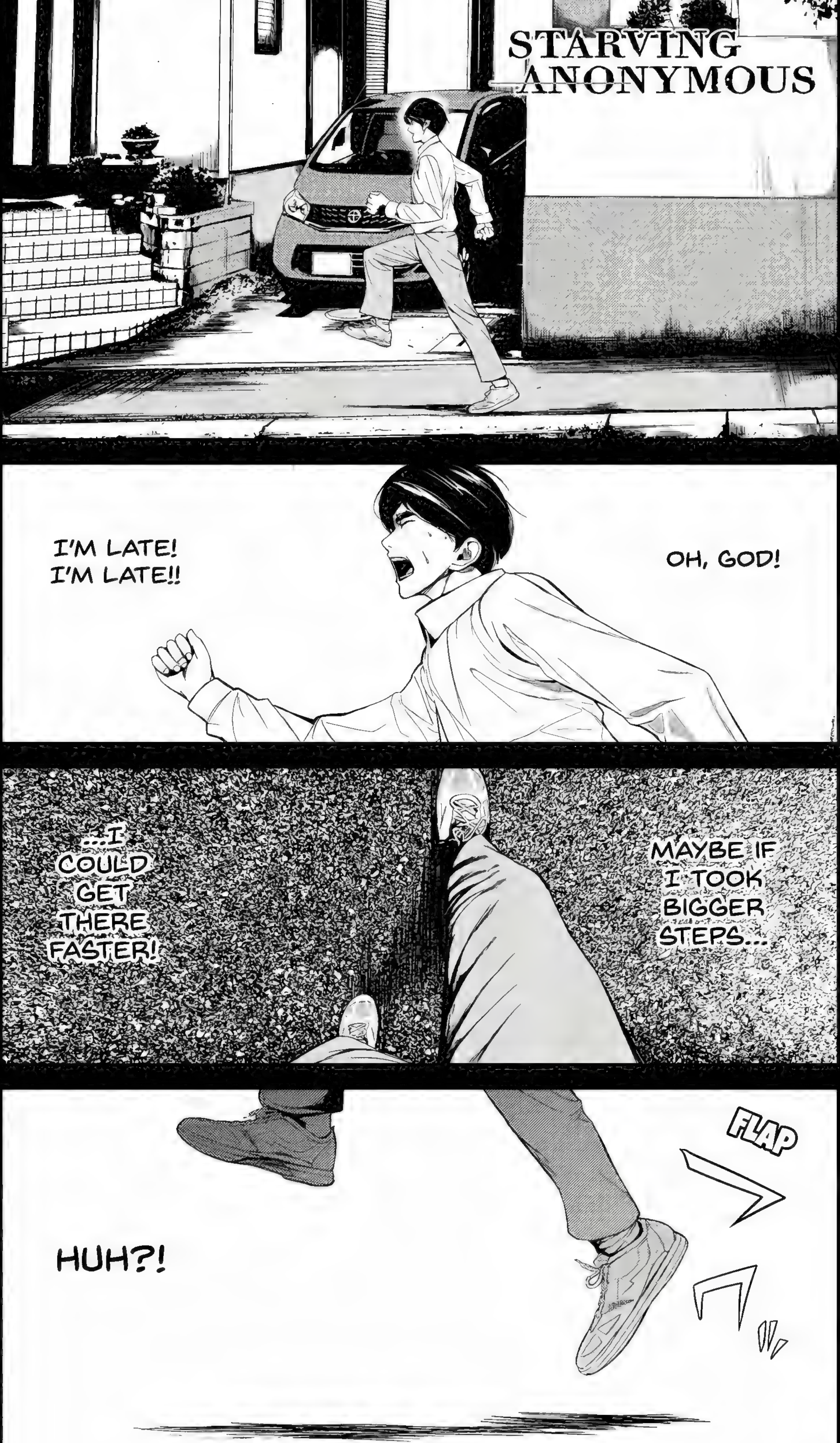

IT'S MY DAD. HE, LIKE...NEVER PLAYS WITH ME ANYMORE.
I DUNNO IF HE'S MAD OR WHAT, BUT...
クスッ
HEH
LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT YOUR DAD, KIDDO.
HE'S GOING TO BE THE DIRECTOR OF THIS FACILITY SOMEDAY!
NO WAY! THAT'S AWESOME!
HE COULD AT *LEAST* BE HAPPY ABOUT IT, THEN...
HRRMM...
WELL, THAT'S THE THING, SHINTARO-KUN. DIRECTORS HAVE A LOT OF RESPONSIBILITIES!
RESPONSIBILITIES?

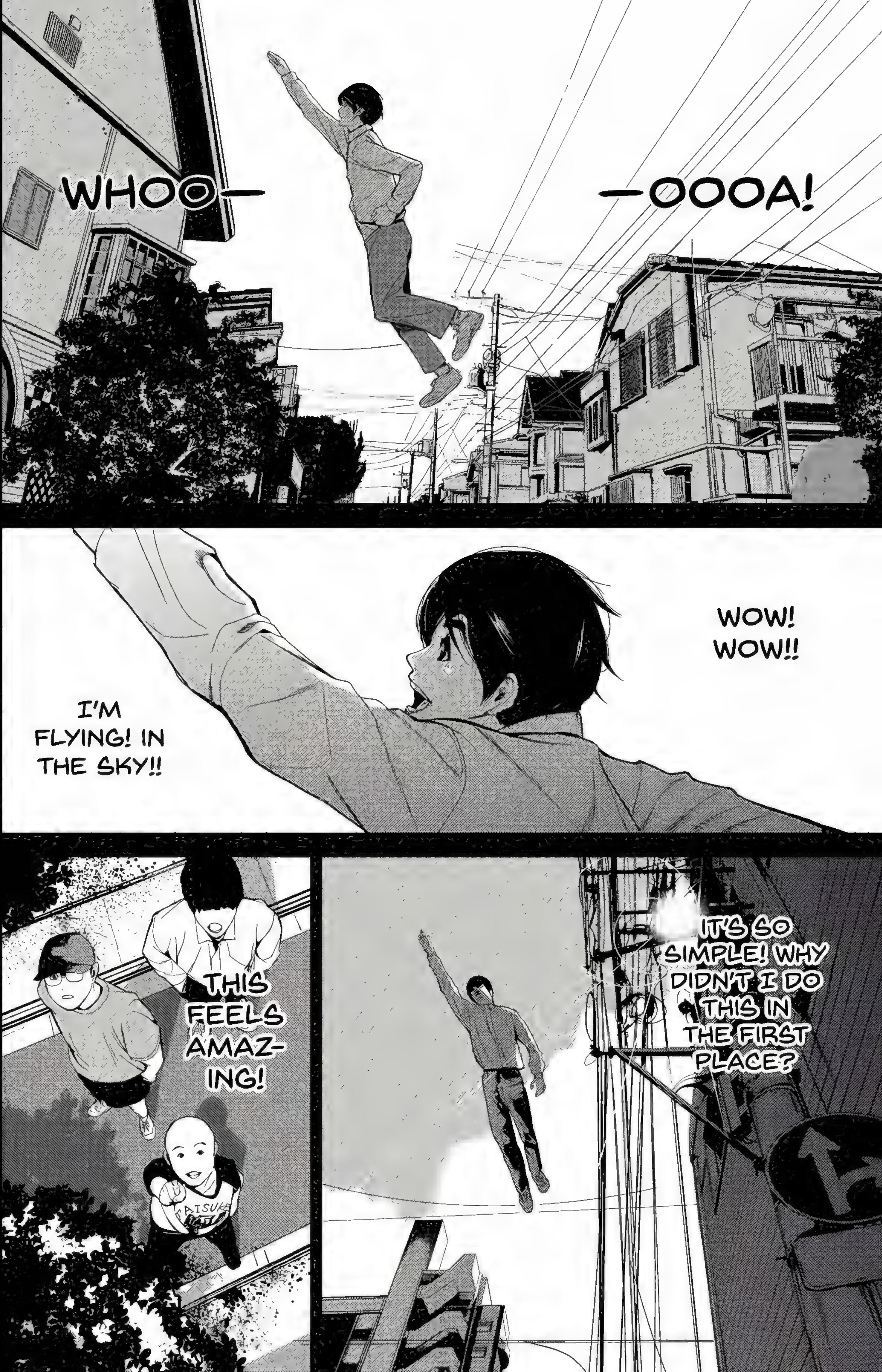

THAT MEANS IF THEY SAY THE WRONG THING... THEY COULD END UP GETTING A LOT OF PEOPLE IN TROUBLE.
THAT'S RIGHT...
THEY COULD GET A WHOLE LOT OF PEOPLE...
...IN MORE TROUBLE THAN YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE.
HMM...
NOW, THEN! LET'S GET STUDYING!
OKAY...
BUT THEN...
...SOMETHING HAPPENED.

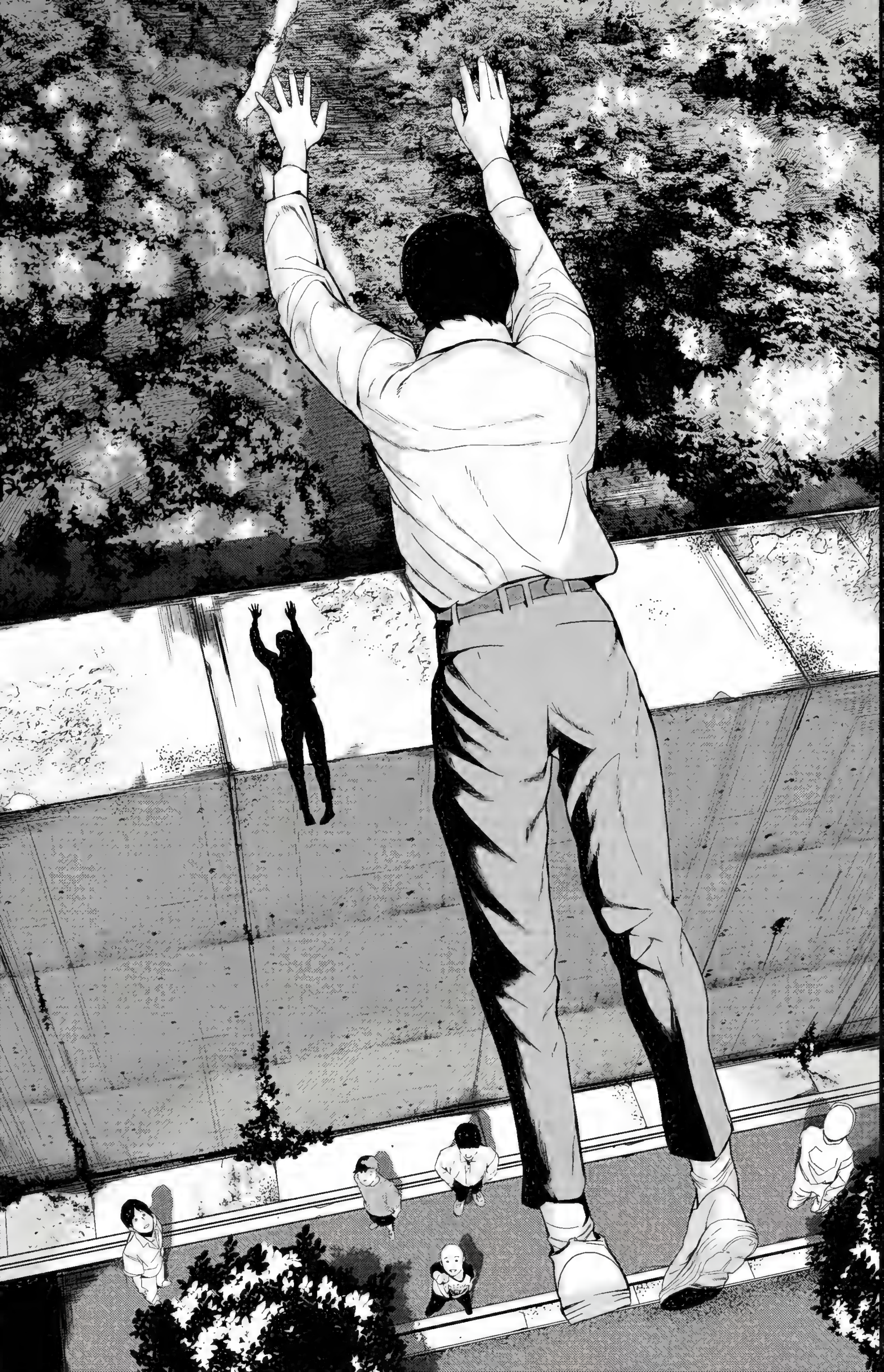

REMEMBER?
YES...
I REMEMBER. AND WITH IT CAME TRAGEDY... THE GREAT PURGE.

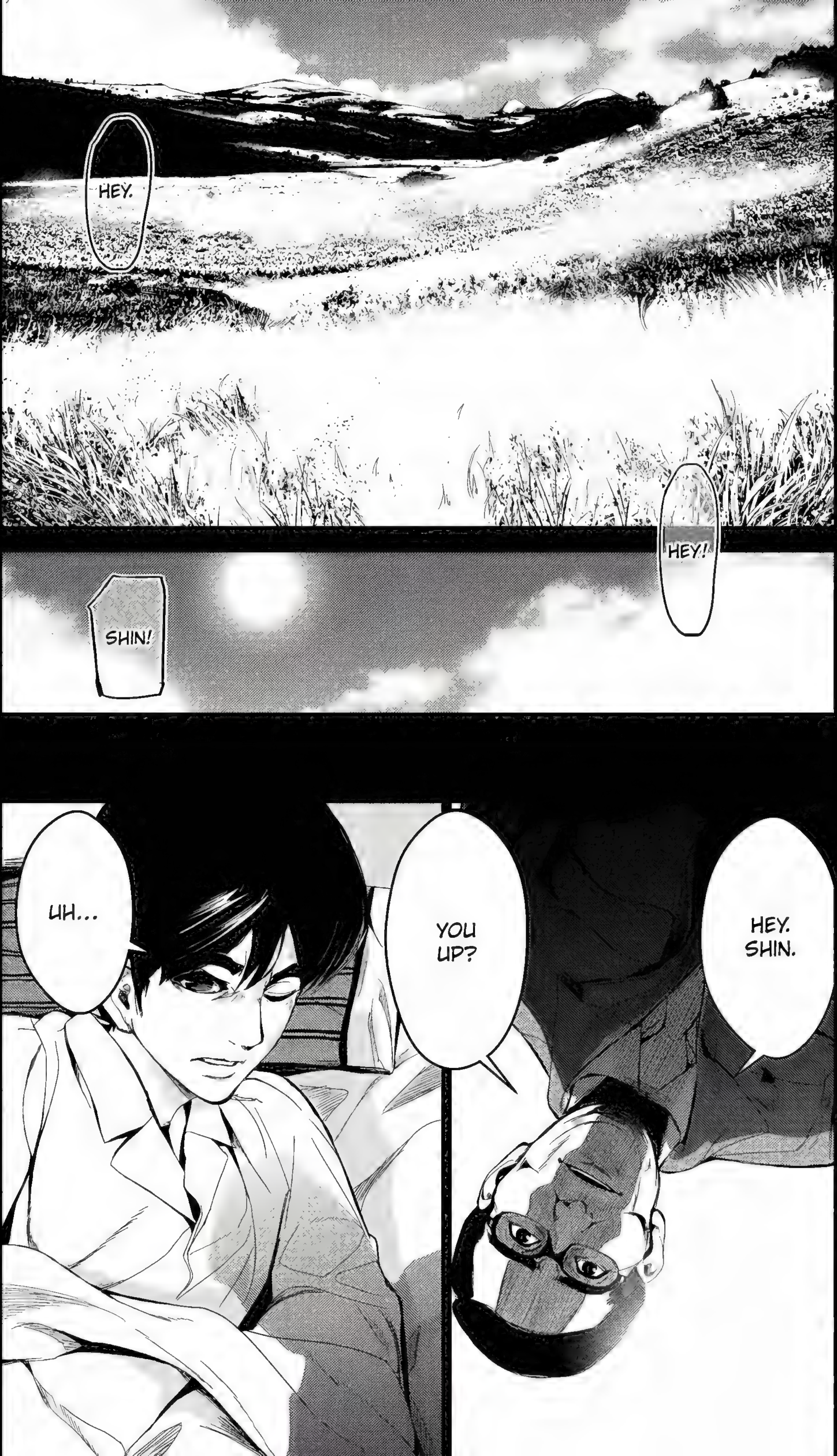
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

STARVING ANONYMOUS

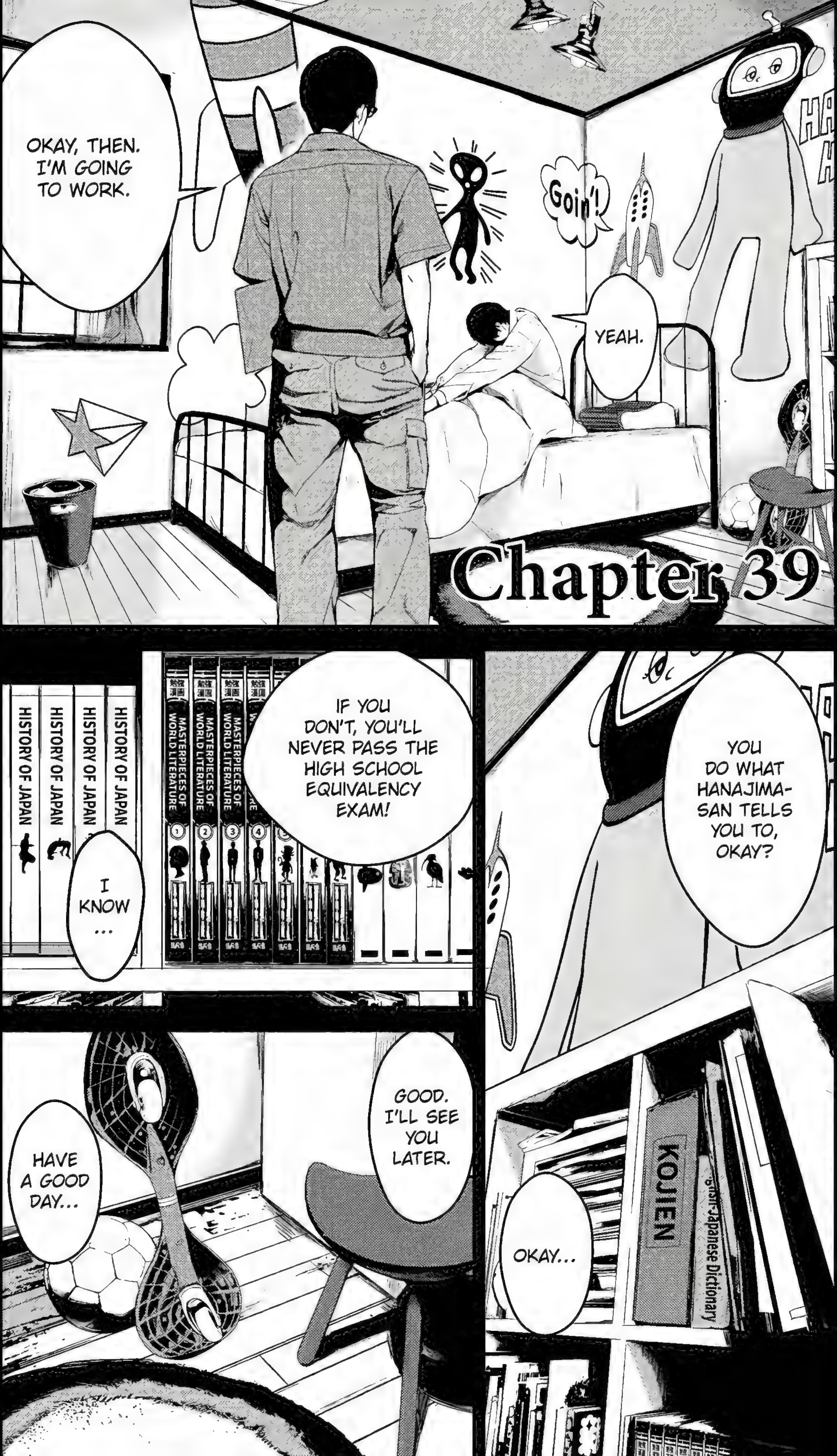

OH, GOD!
I'M LATE! I'M LATE!!
MAYBE IF I TOOK BIGGER STEPS...
...I COULD GET THERE FASTER!
FLAP
HUH?!

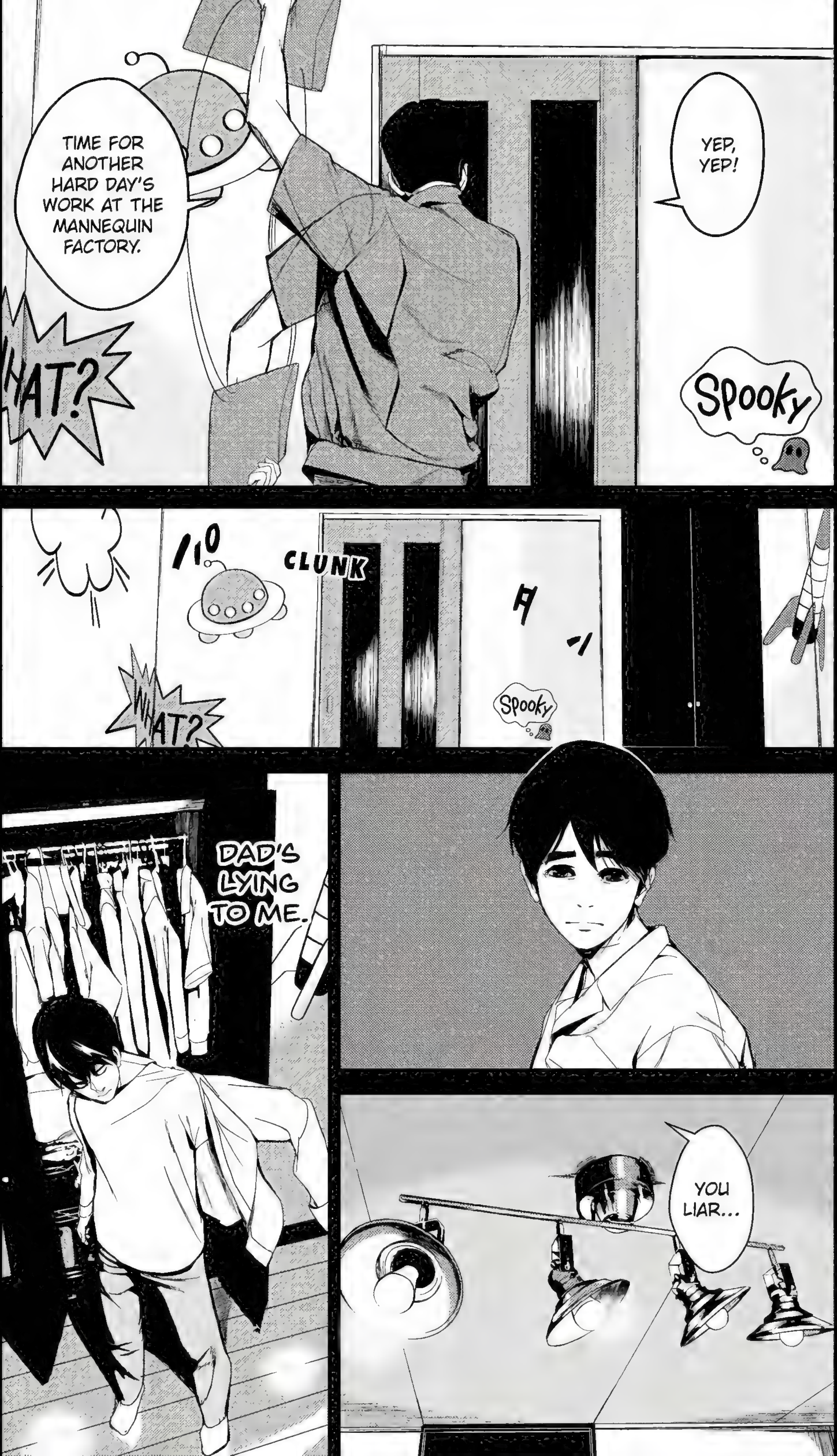

WHOO—
—OOOA!
WOW! WOW!!
I'M FLYING! IN THE SKY!!
IT'S SO SIMPLE! WHY DIDN'T I DO THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE?
THIS FEELS AMAZ-ING!



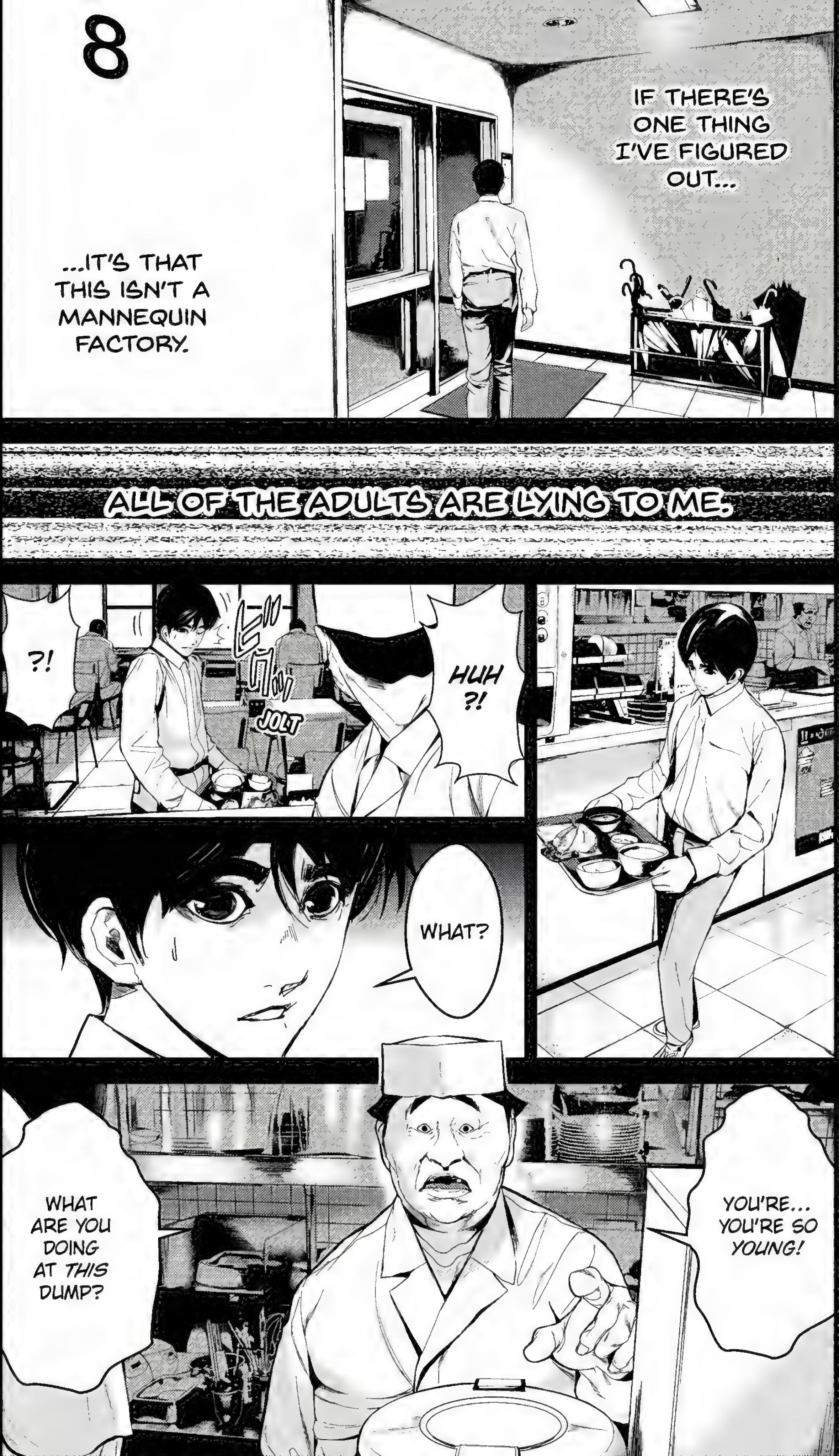

HEY.
HEY!
SHIN!
HEY. SHIN.
YOU UP?
UH...

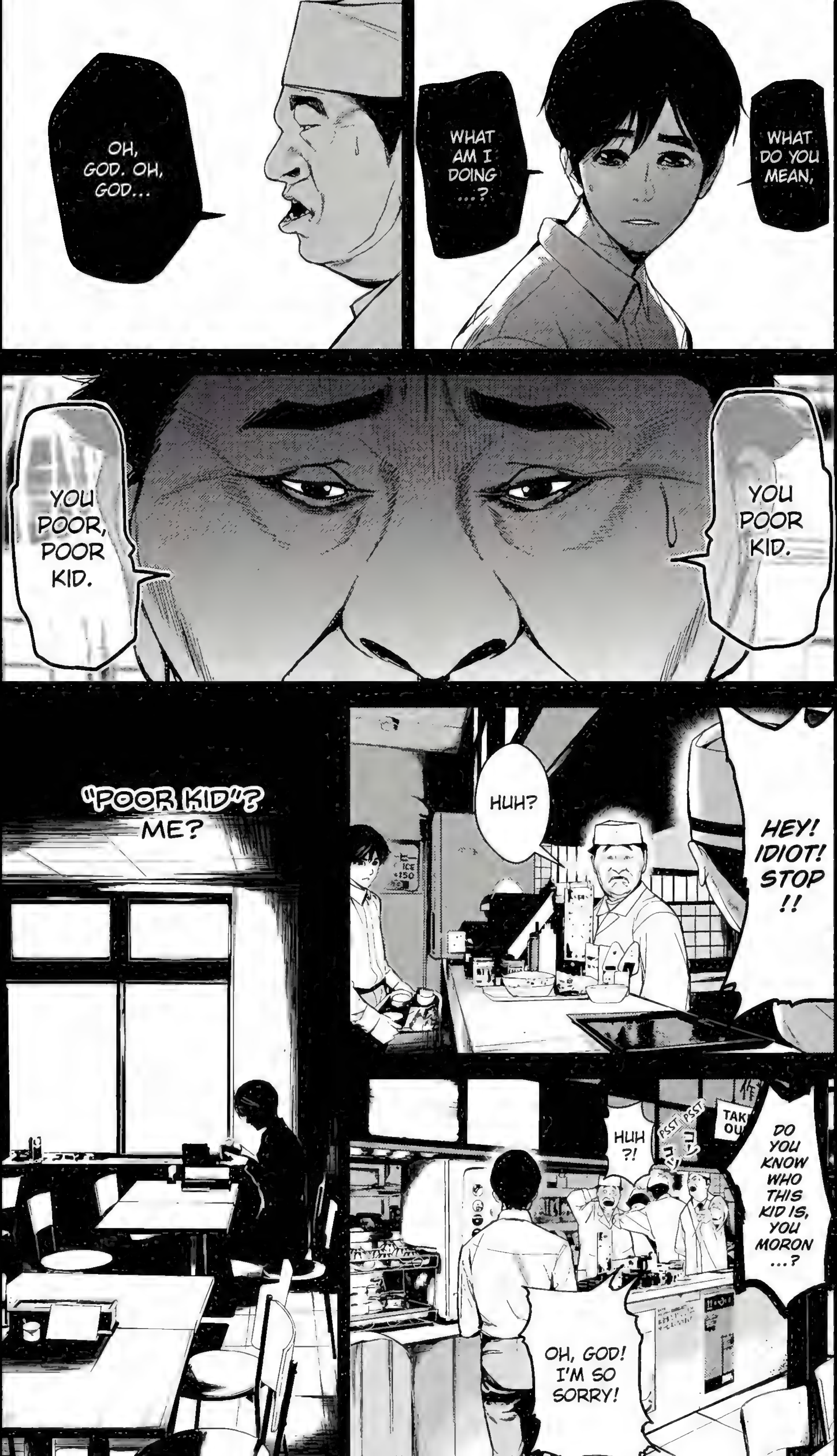
Chapter 39

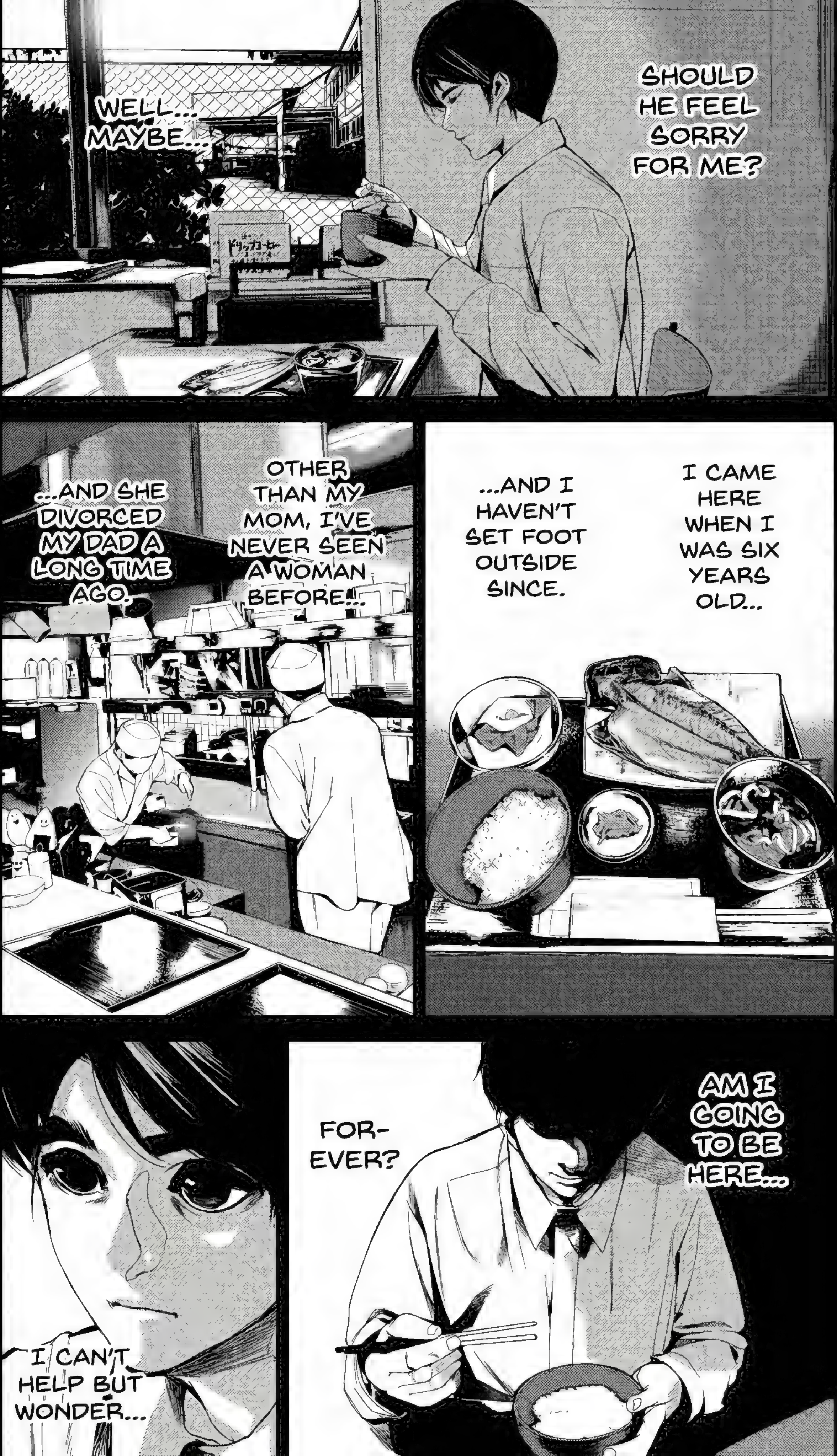

OKAY, THEN. I'M GOING TO WORK.
Goin'!
YEAH.
YOU DO WHAT HANAJIMA-SAN TELLS YOU TO, OKAY?
OKAY...
IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL NEVER PASS THE HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY EXAM!
I KNOW...
HISTORY OF JAPAN
MASTERPIECES OF WORLD LITERATURE
GOOD. I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
HAVE A GOOD DAY...
KOJIEN
Japanese Dictionary

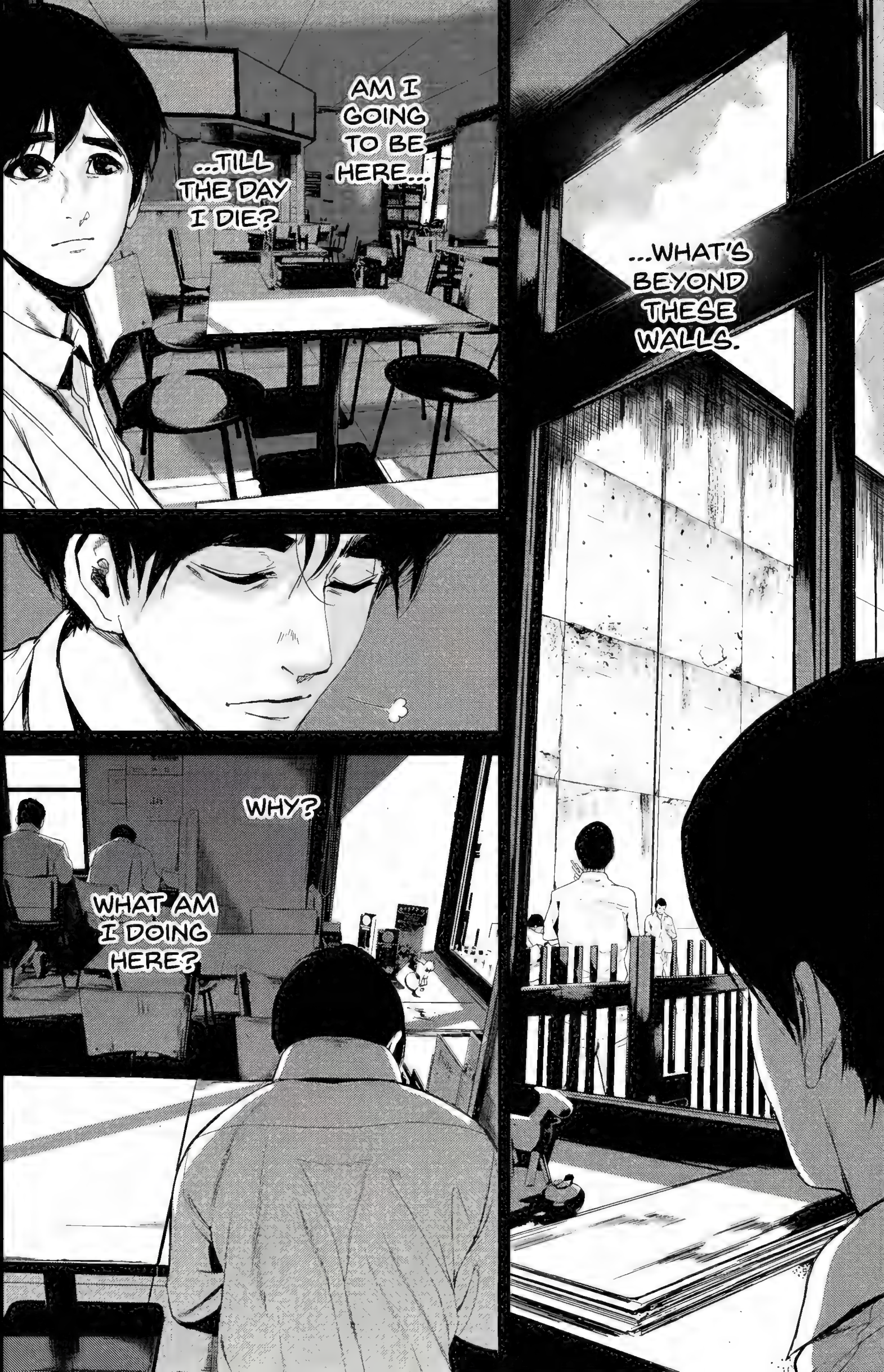

YEP, YEP!
Spooky
TIME FOR ANOTHER HARD DAY'S WORK AT THE MANNEQUIN FACTORY.
WHAT?
タッ
Spooky
CLUNK
パ
WHAT?
DAD'S LYING TO ME.
YOU LIAR...

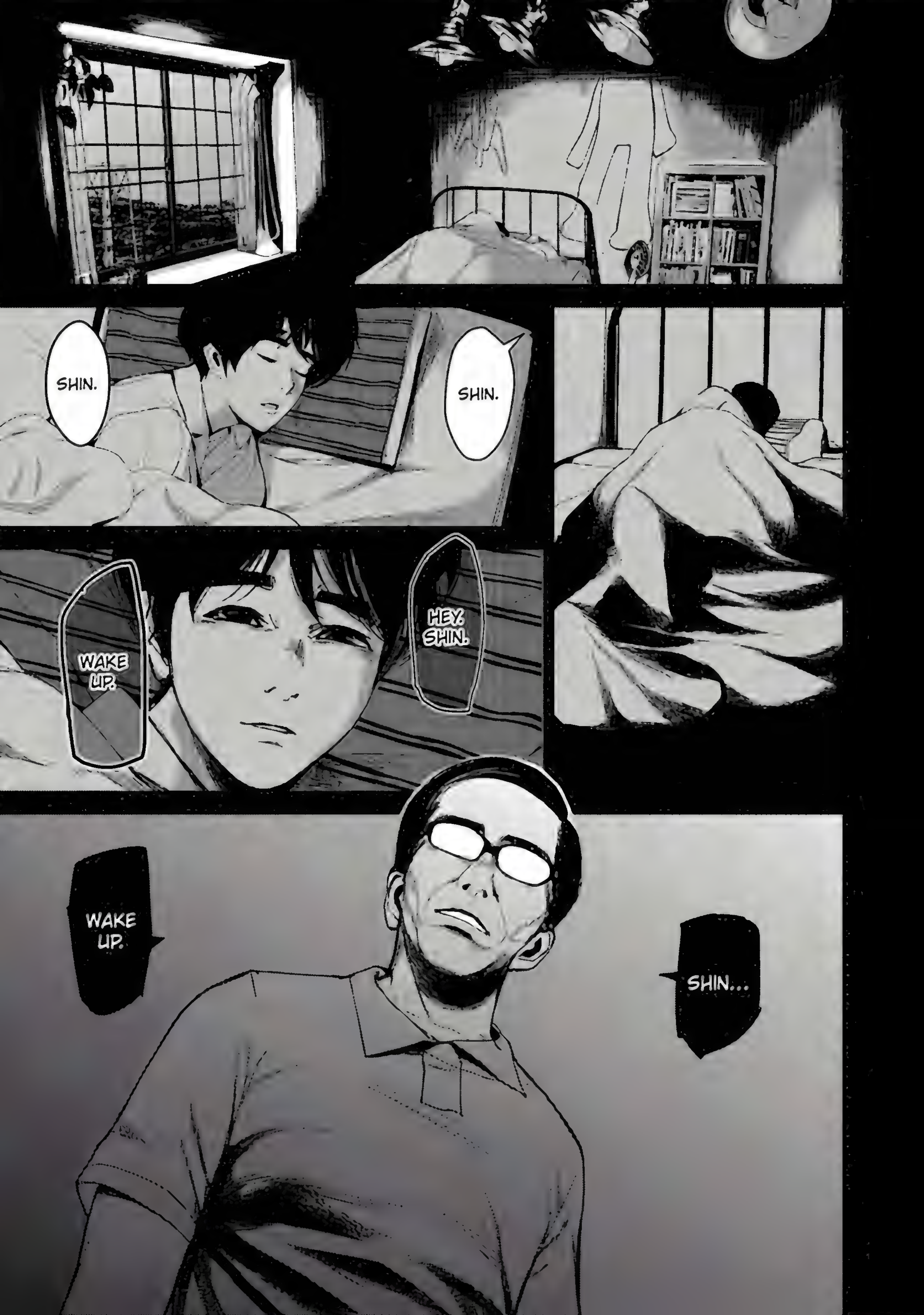
8

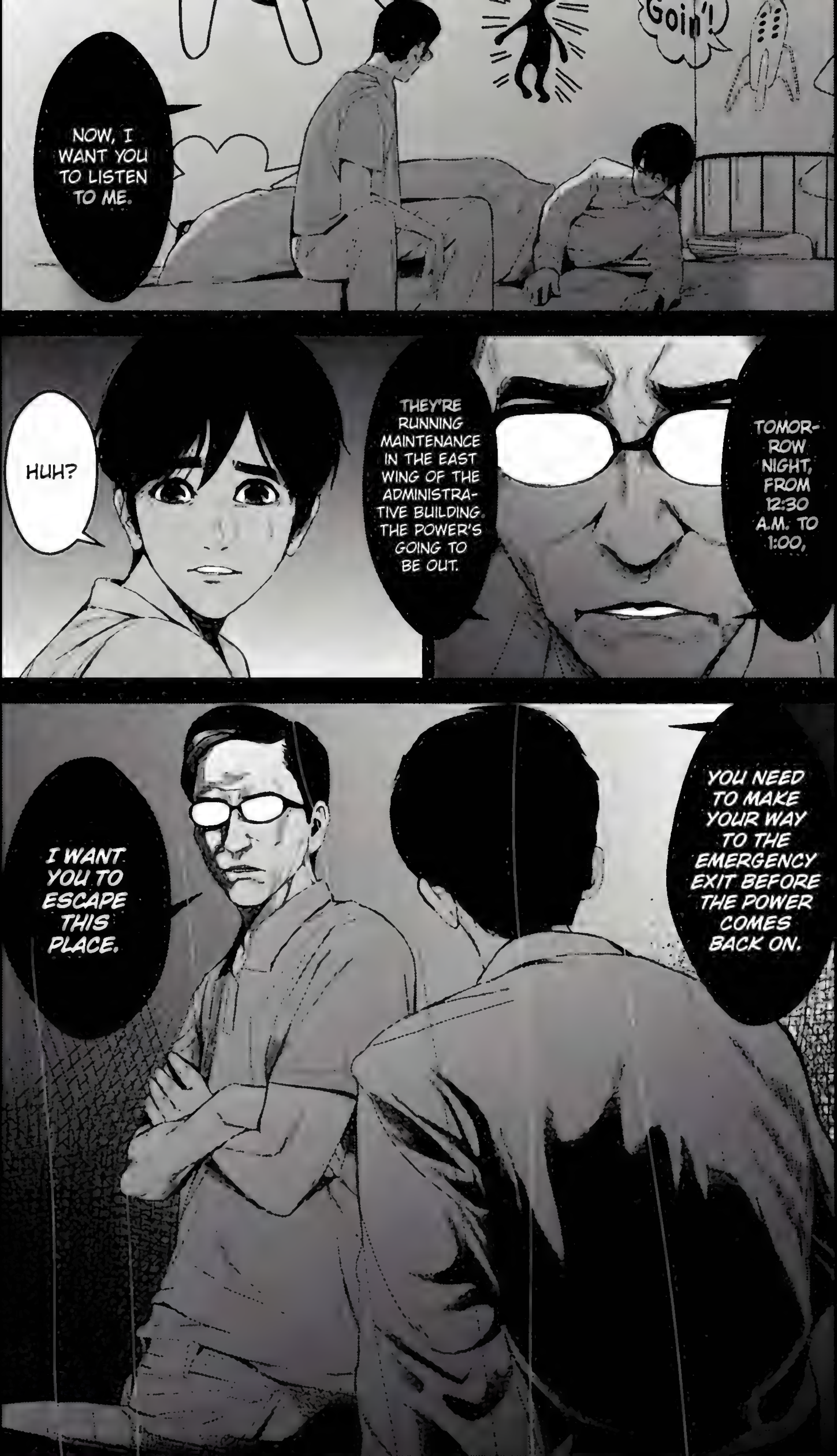

IF THERE'S ONE THING I'VE FIGURED OUT...
...IT'S THAT THIS ISN'T A MANNEQUIN FACTORY.
ALL OF THE ADULTS ARE LYING TO ME.
HUH ?!
JOLT
?!
WHAT?
YOU'RE... YOU'RE SO *YOUNG!*
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT *THIS* DUMP?

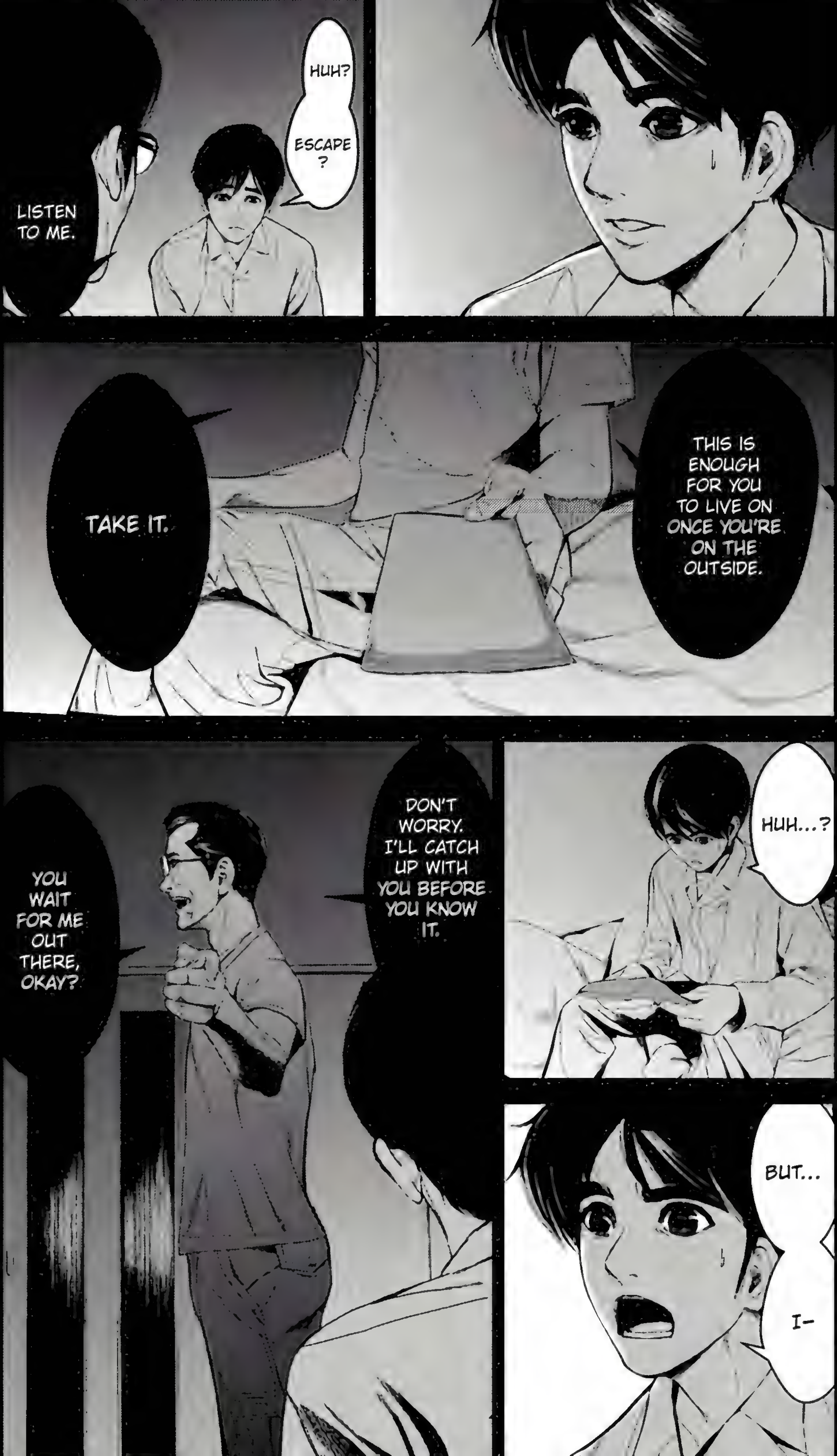

WHAT DO YOU MEAN,
WHAT AM I DOING ...?
OH, GOD. OH, GOD...
YOU POOR KID.
YOU POOR, POOR KID.
HEY! IDIOT! STOP!!
HUH?
ICE ¥150
DO YOU KNOW WHO THIS KID IS, YOU MORON...?
TAKE OU
PSST PSST
HUH?!
OH, GOD! I'M SO SORRY!
"POOR KID"? ME?

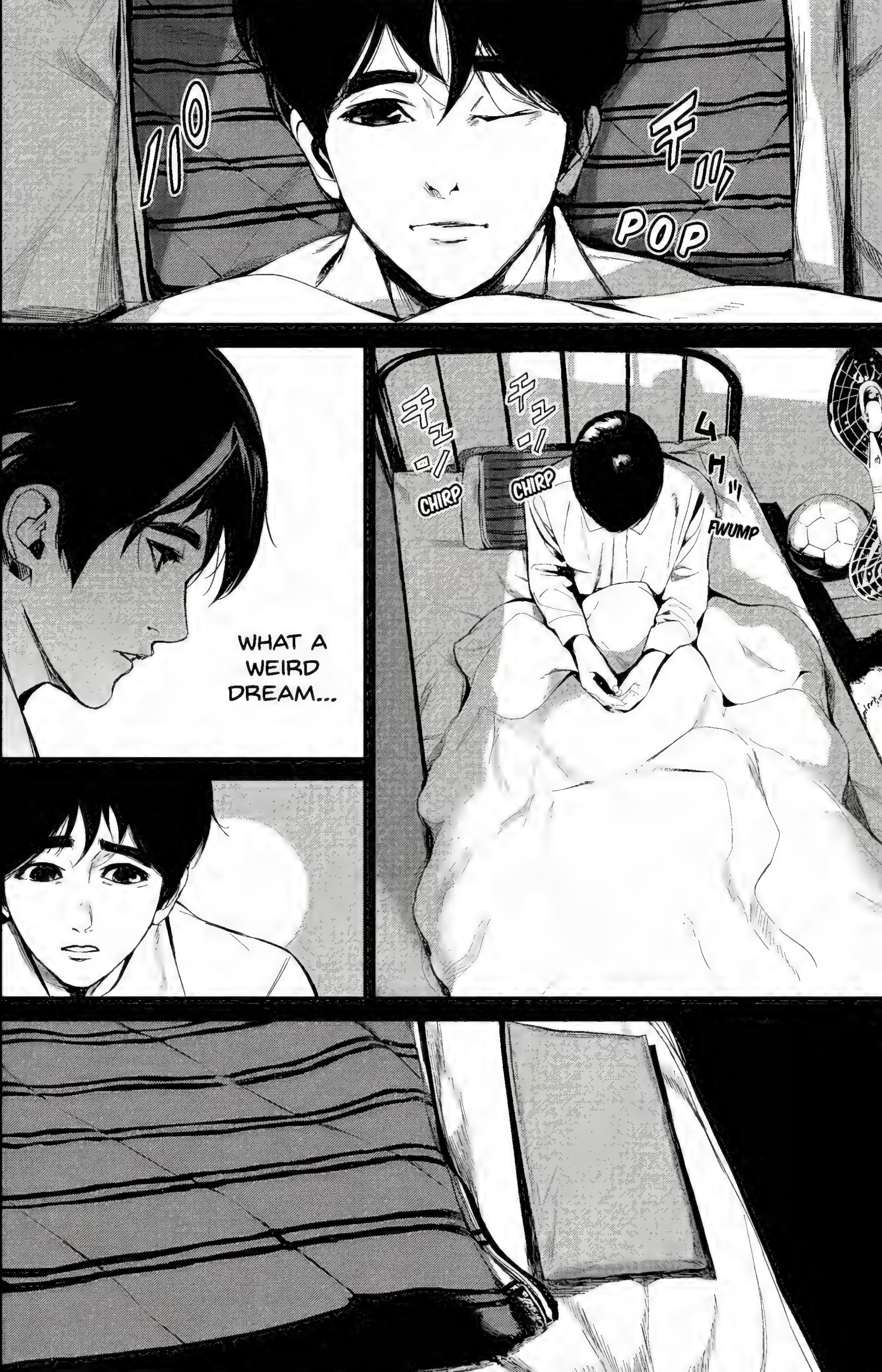

SHOULD HE FEEL SORRY FOR ME?
WELL... MAYBE...
I CAME HERE WHEN I WAS SIX YEARS OLD...
...AND I HAVEN'T SET FOOT OUTSIDE SINCE.
OTHER THAN MY MOM, I'VE NEVER SEEN A WOMAN BEFORE...
...AND SHE DIVORCED MY DAD A LONG TIME AGO.
AM I GOING TO BE HERE...
FOREVER?
I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER...

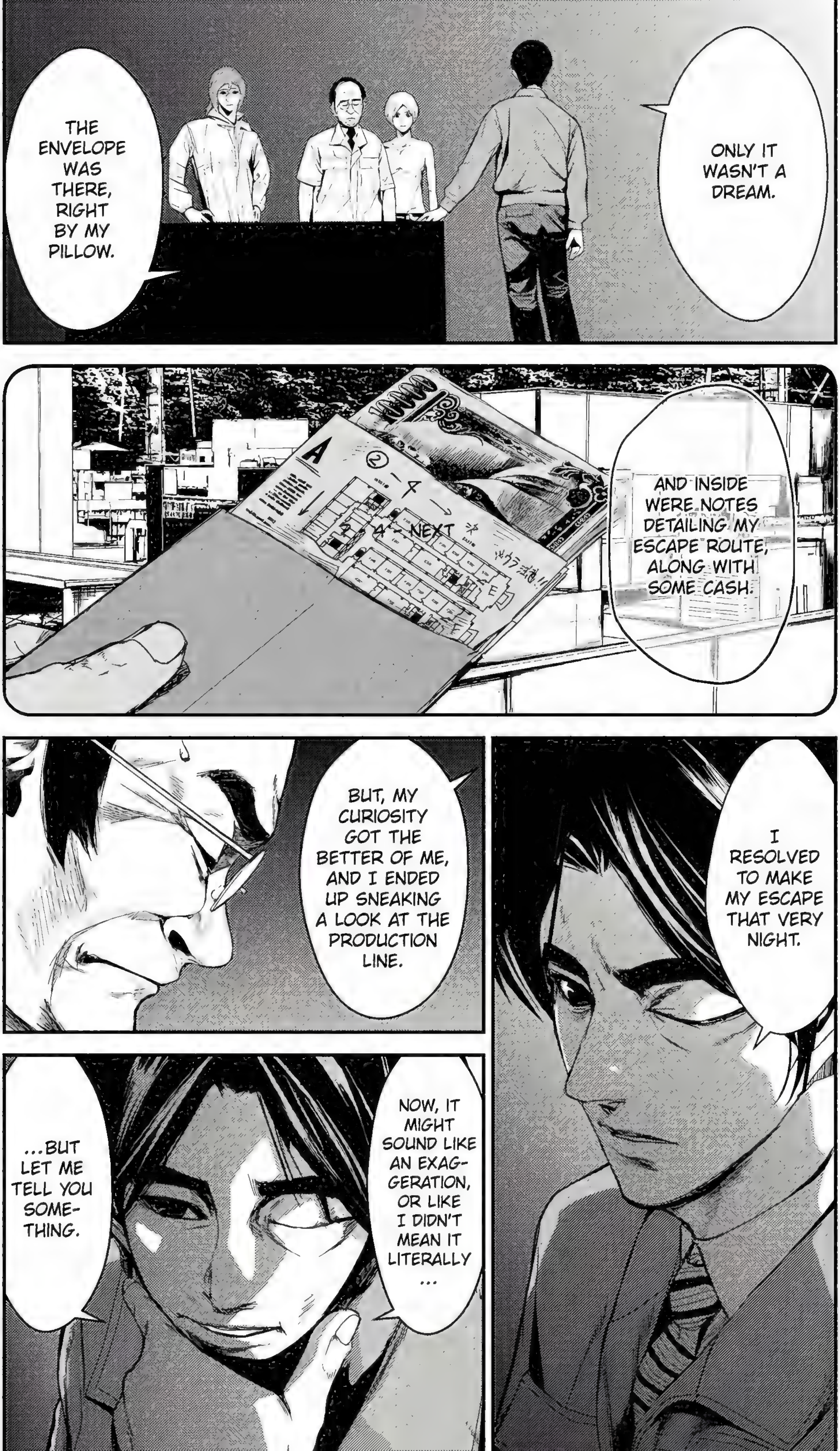

AM I GOING TO BE HERE...
...TILL THE DAY I DIE?
WHY?
WHAT AM I DOING HERE?
...WHAT'S BEYOND THESE WALLS.

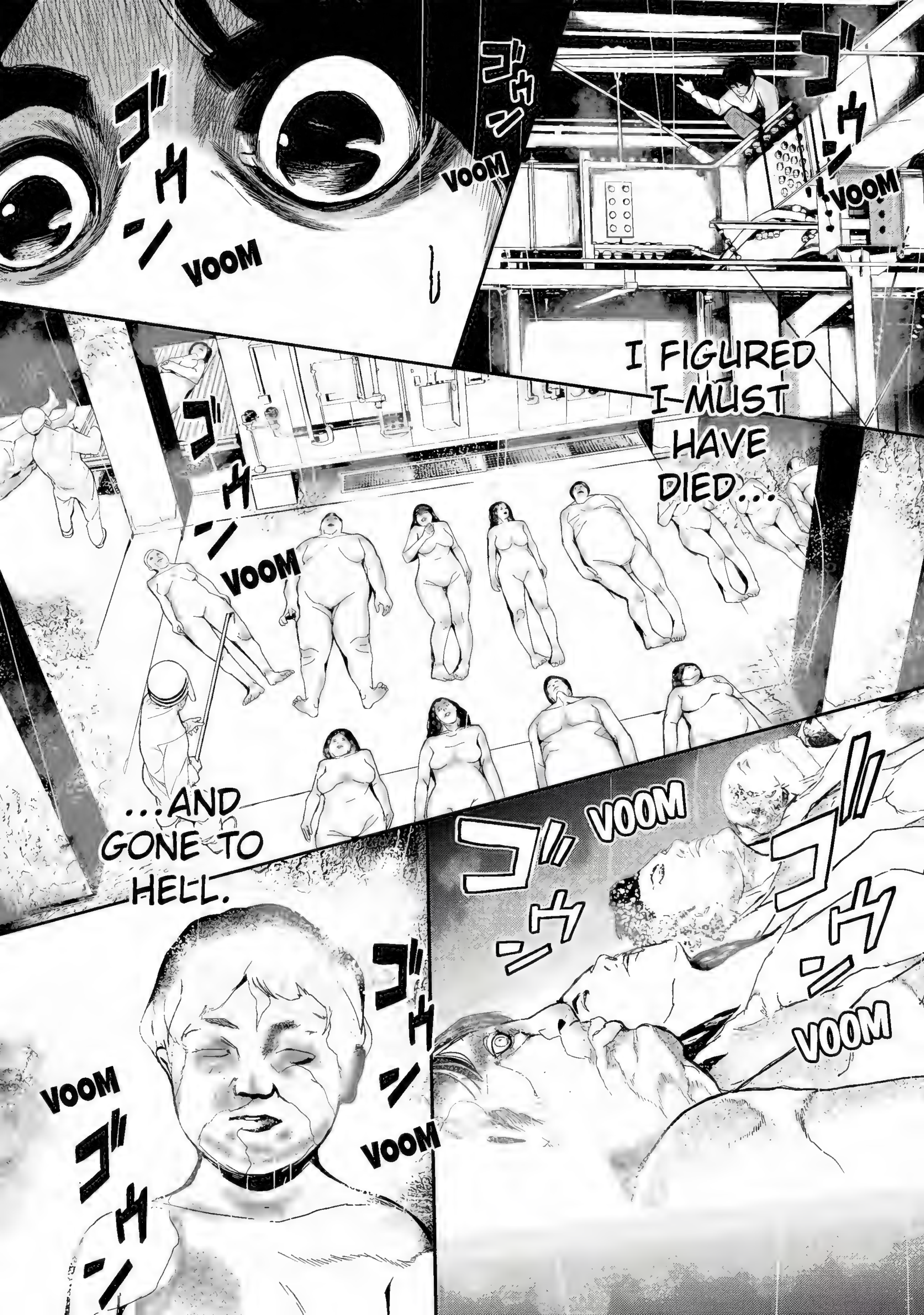

SHIN.
SHIN.
HEY. SHIN.
WAKE UP.
SHIN...
WAKE UP.

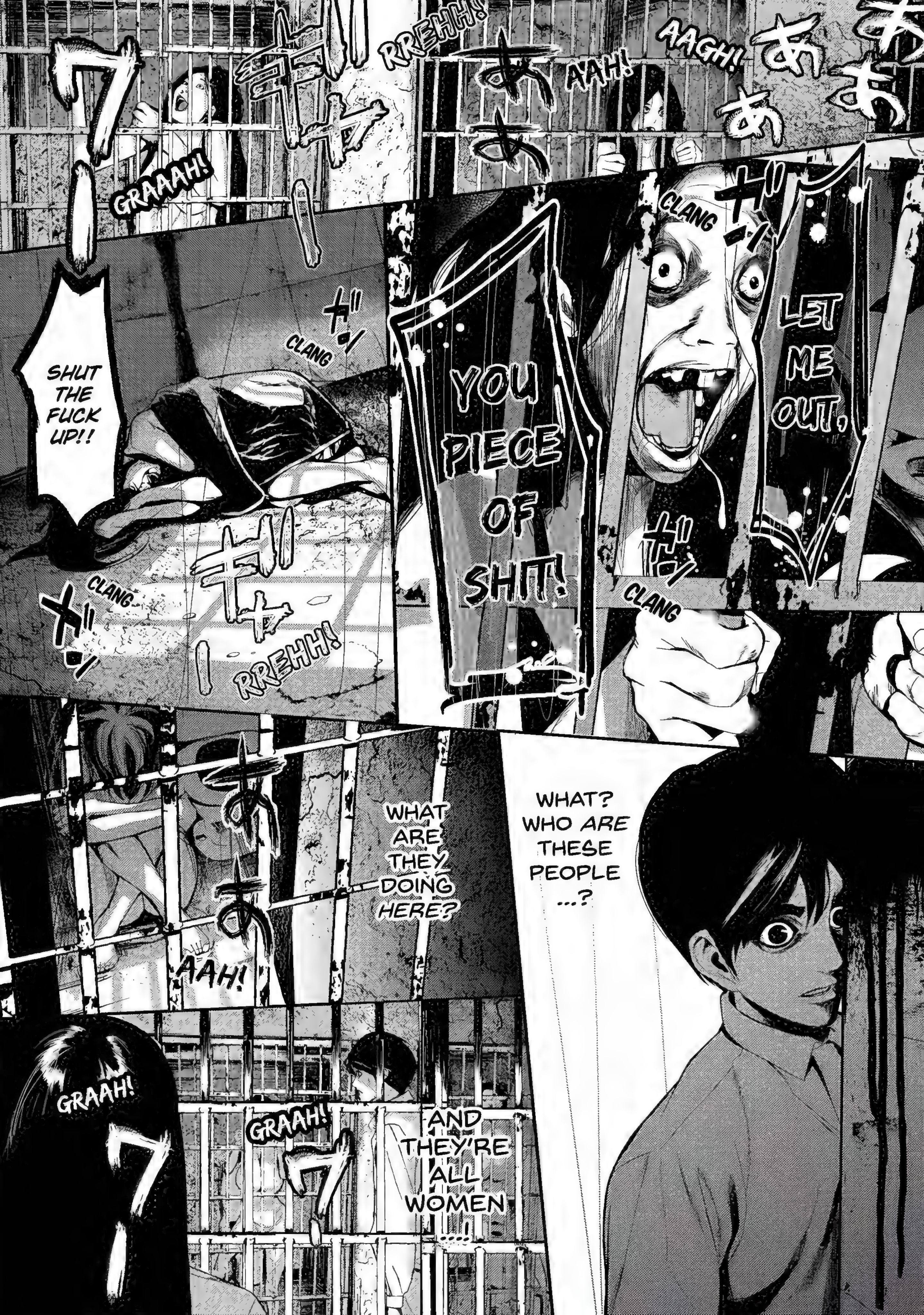

Goin'!
NOW, I WANT YOU TO LISTEN TO ME.
TOMORROW NIGHT, FROM 12:30 A.M. TO 1:00,
THEY'RE RUNNING MAINTENANCE IN THE EAST WING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING THE POWER'S GOING TO BE OUT.
HUH?
YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE EMERGENCY EXIT BEFORE THE POWER COMES BACK ON.
I WANT YOU TO ESCAPE THIS PLACE.

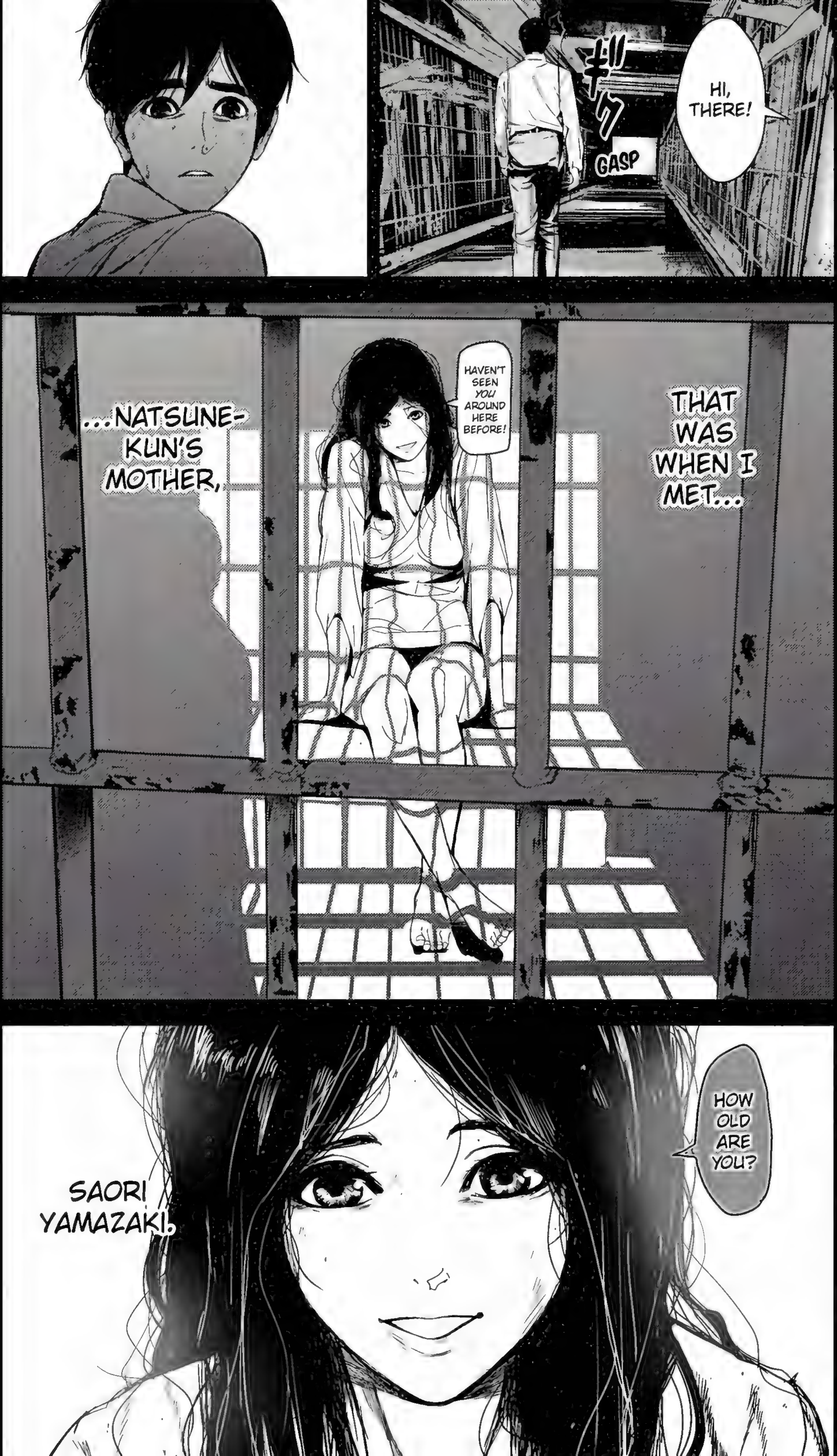

HUH?
ESCAPE?
LISTEN TO ME.
THIS IS ENOUGH FOR YOU TO LIVE ON ONCE YOU'RE ON THE OUTSIDE.
TAKE IT.
HUH...?
DON'T WORRY. I'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.
YOU WAIT FOR ME OUT THERE, OKAY?
BUT...
I-


チッ
POP
パ
ムクッ
FWUMP
チュン
CHIRP
チュン
CHIRP
WHAT A WEIRD DREAM...

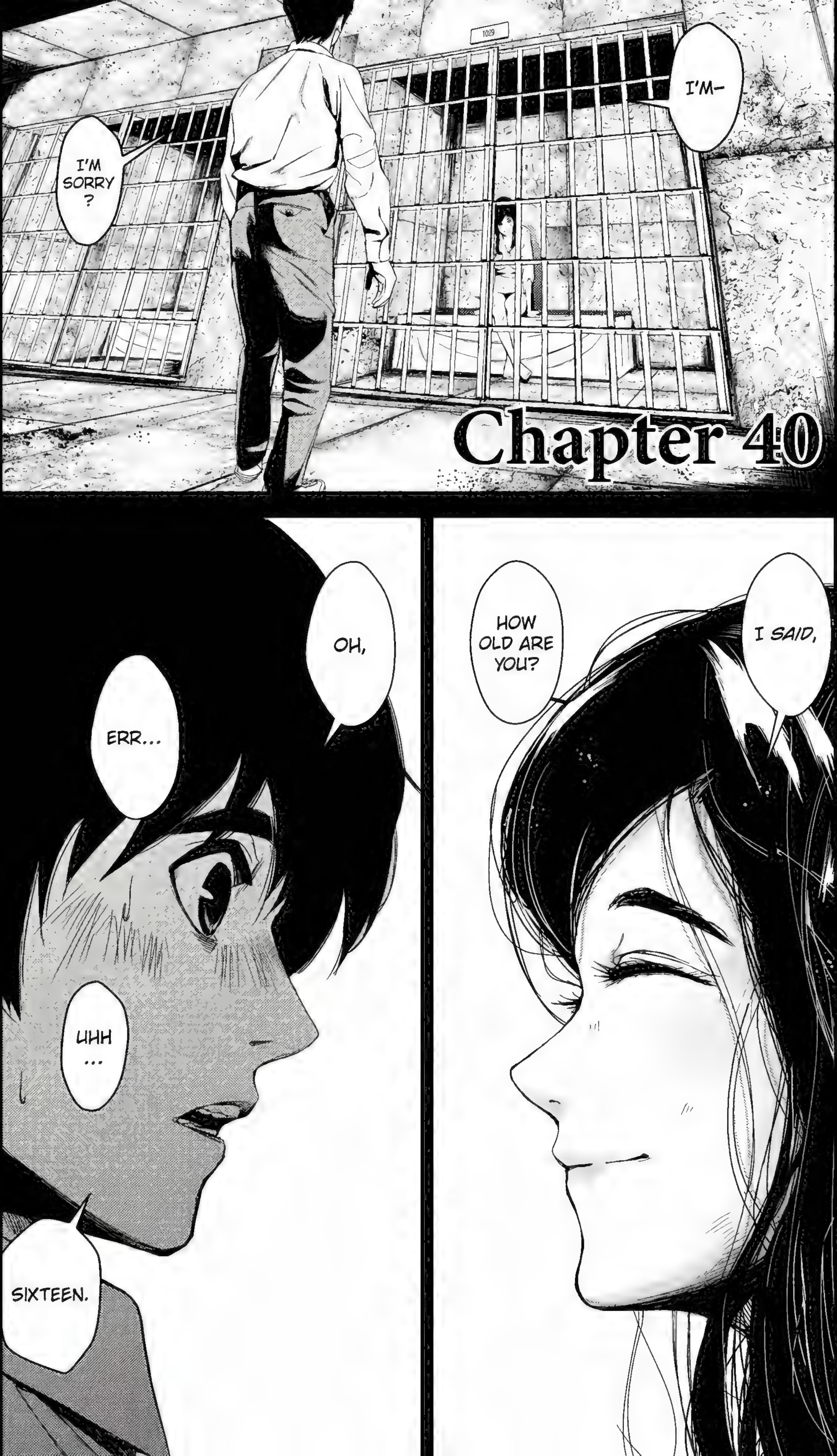

ONLY IT WASN'T A DREAM.
THE ENVELOPE WAS THERE, RIGHT BY MY PILLOW.
AND INSIDE WERE NOTES DETAILING MY ESCAPE ROUTE, ALONG WITH SOME CASH.
A
②-4 →
2-4 NEXT 次
I RESOLVED TO MAKE MY ESCAPE THAT VERY NIGHT.
BUT, MY CURIOSITY GOT THE BETTER OF ME, AND I ENDED UP SNEAKING A LOOK AT THE PRODUCTION LINE.
NOW, IT MIGHT SOUND LIKE AN EXAGGERATION, OR LIKE I DIDN'T MEAN IT LITERALLY...
...BUT LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING.

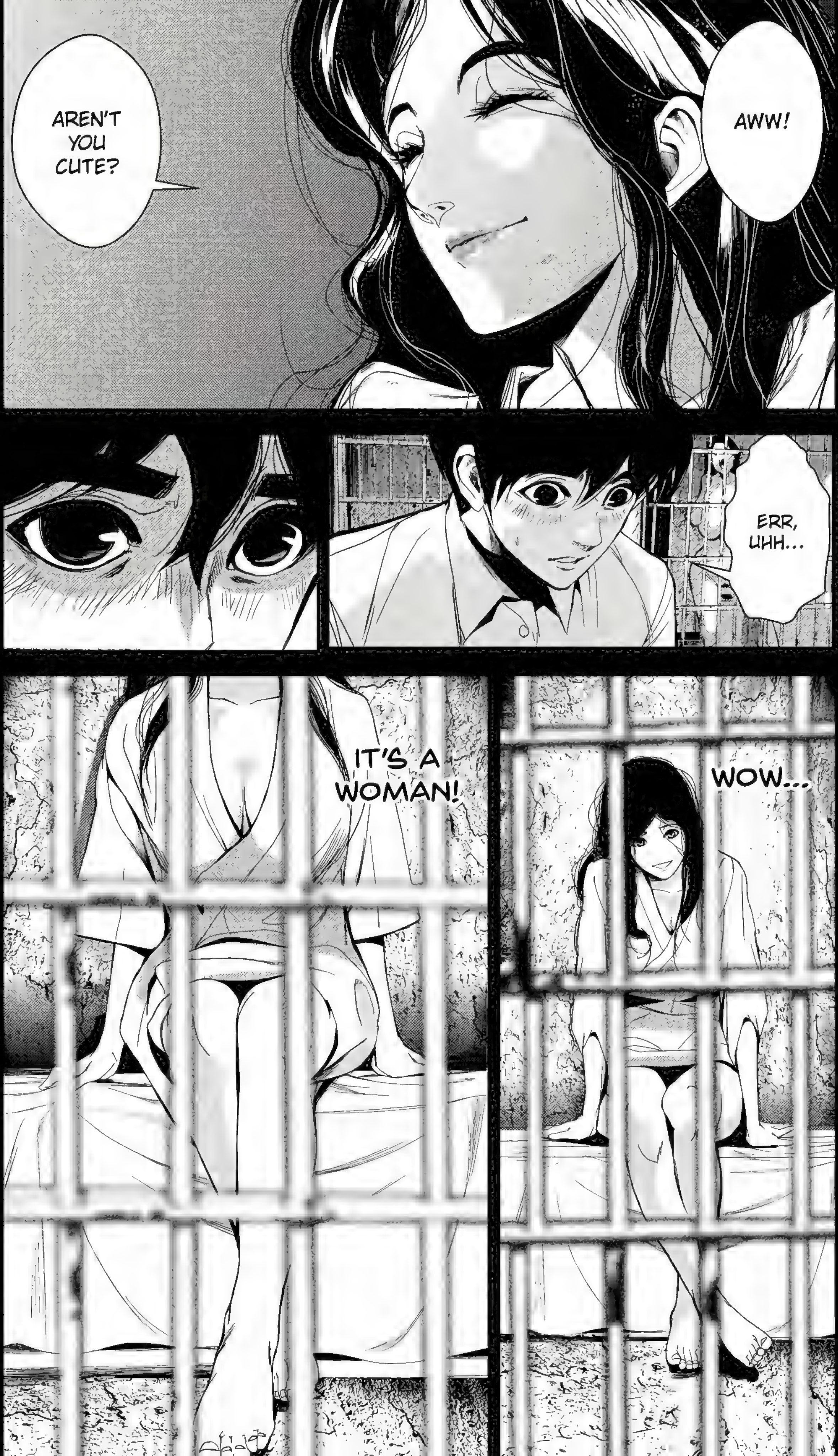

ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
I FIGURED I MUST HAVE DIED...
ゴウン
VOOM
...AND GONE TO HELL.
VOOM
ゴウン
ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
VOOM
ゴウン

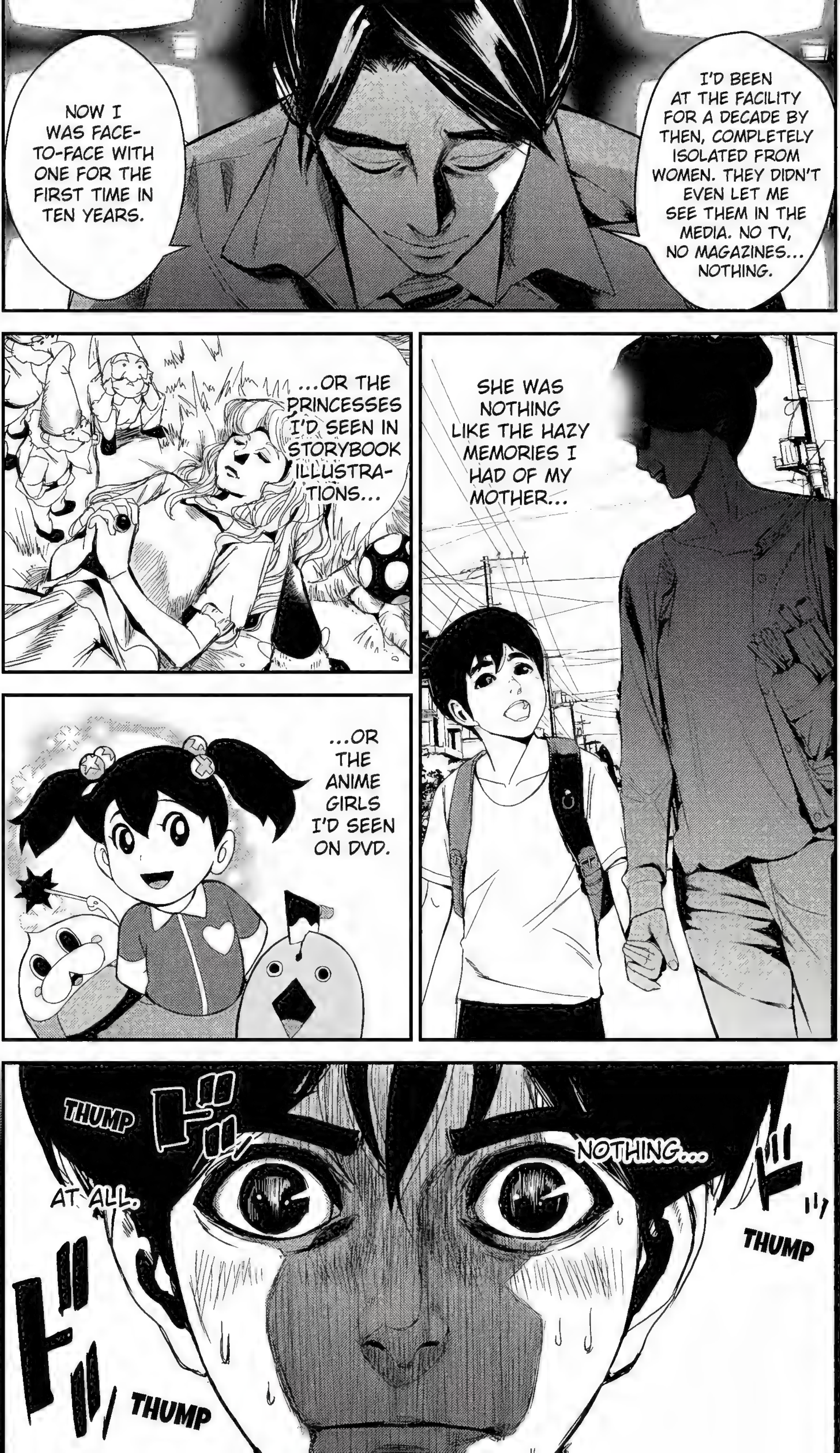

あああ
AAGH!
ああ
AAH!
ギャー
RREHH!
ワー
GRAAAH!
ガッ
CLANG
LET ME OUT,
YOU PIECE OF SHIT!
ガッ
CLANG
ガッ
CLANG
SHUT THE FUCK UP!!
ギャー
RREHH!
ガッ
CLANG
WHAT? WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE ...?
WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE?
ああ
AAH!
AND THEY'RE ALL WOMEN ...!
ワー
GRAAH!
GRAAH!

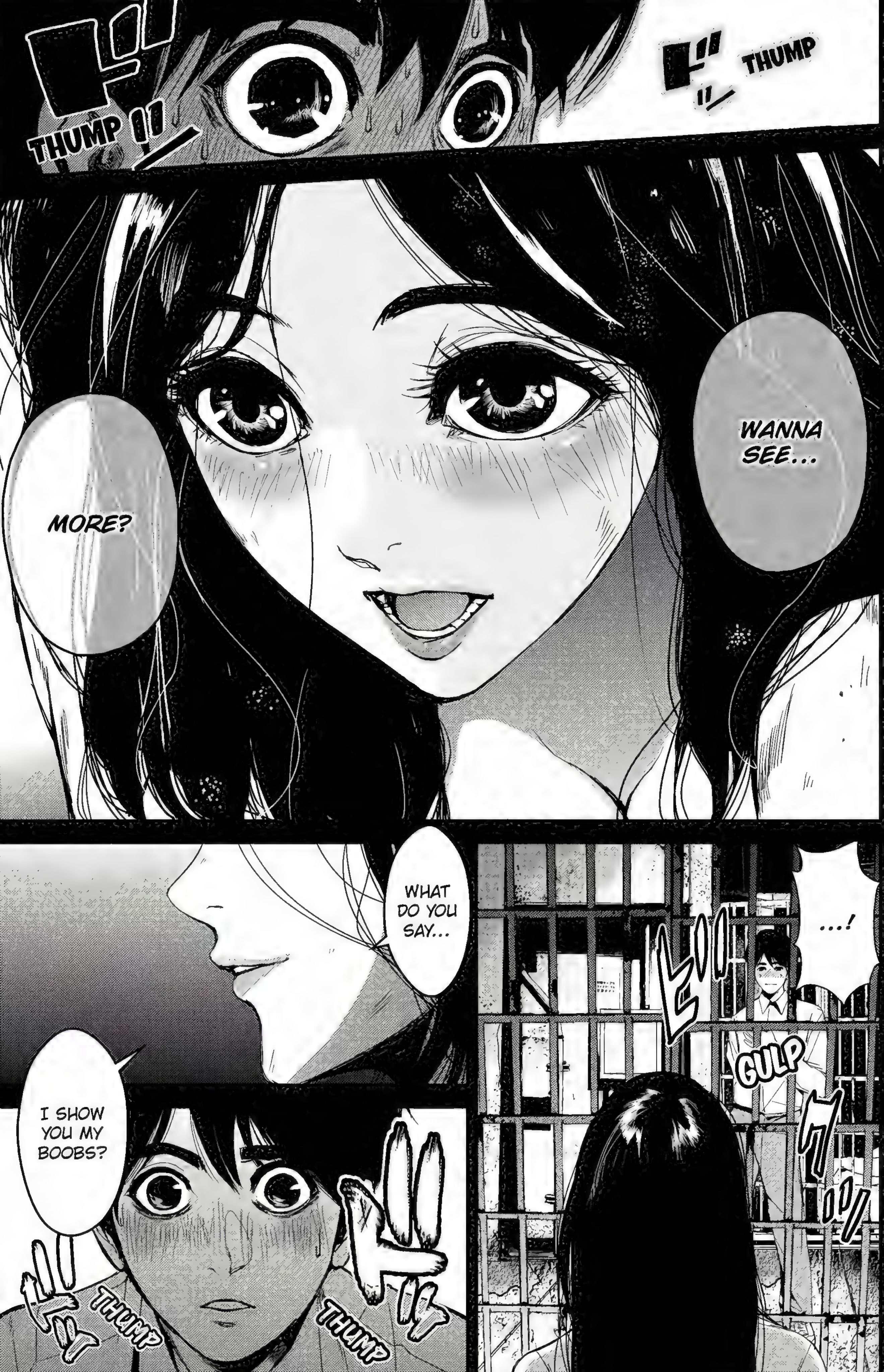

HI, THERE!
ギク
GASP
THAT WAS WHEN I MET...
HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND HERE BEFORE!
...NATSUNE-KUN'S MOTHER,
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
SAORI YAMAZAKI.

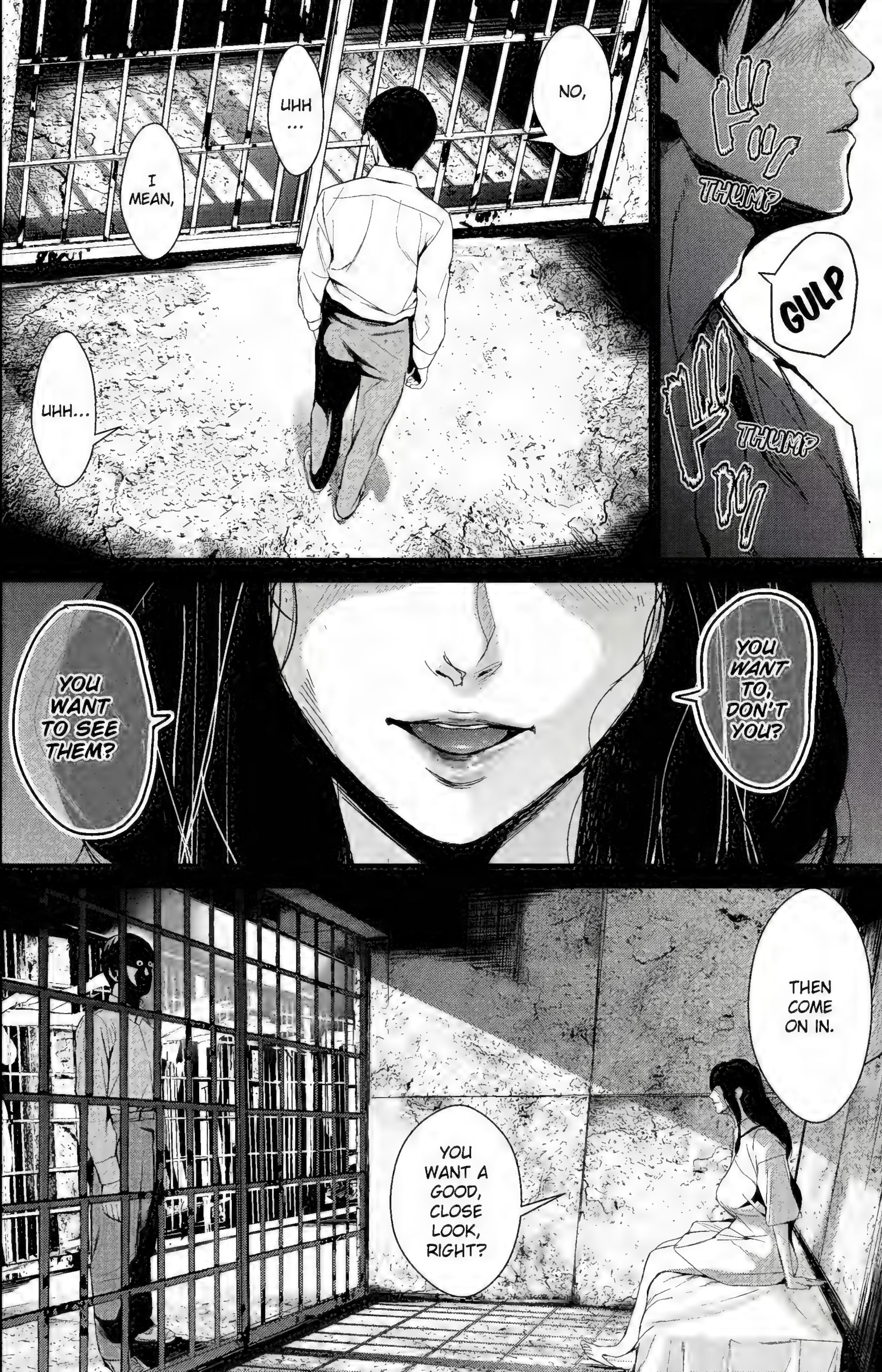
Chapter 40

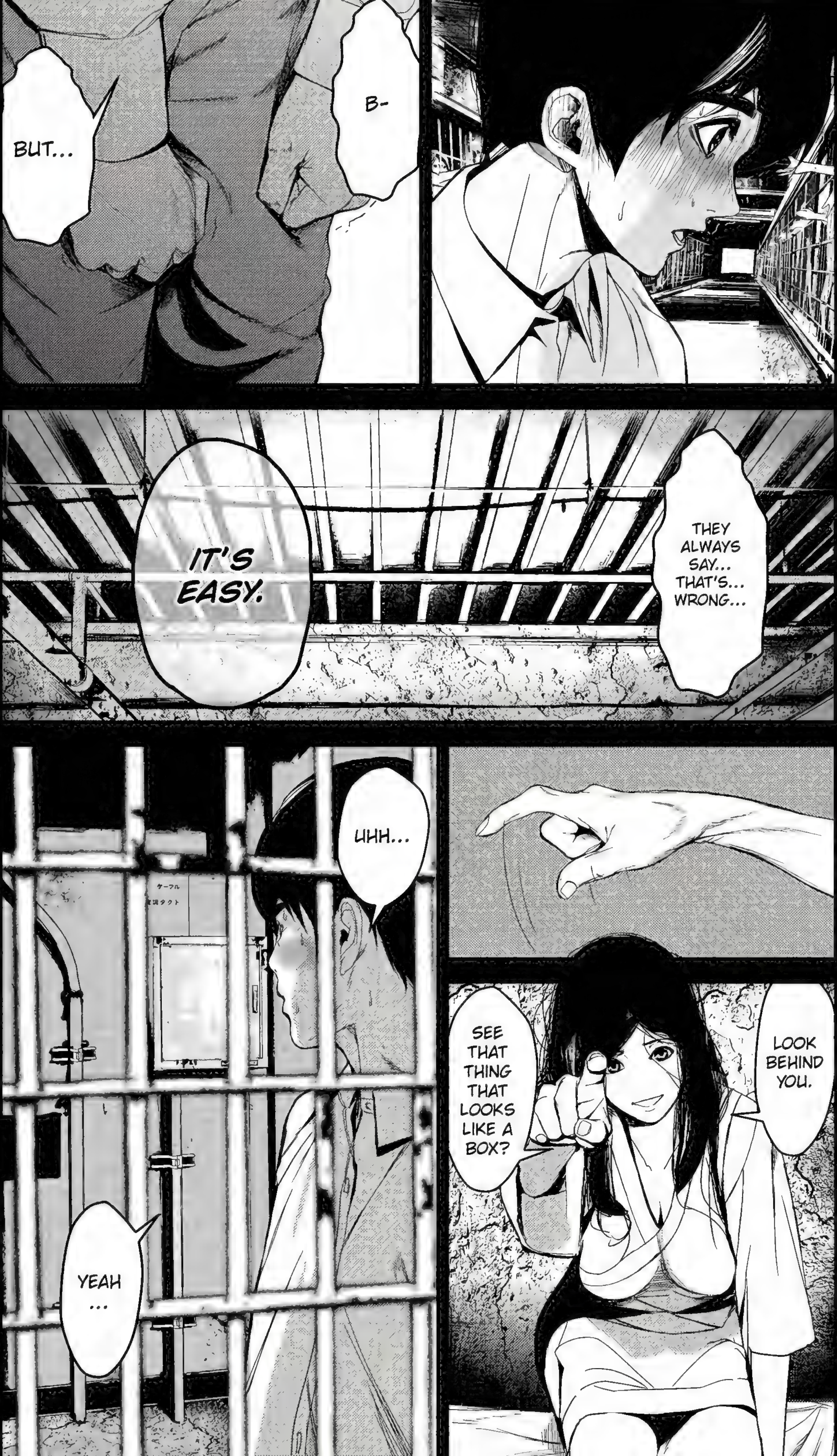

1029
I'M–
I'M SORRY?
I SAID,
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
OH,
ERR…
UHH…
SIXTEEN.

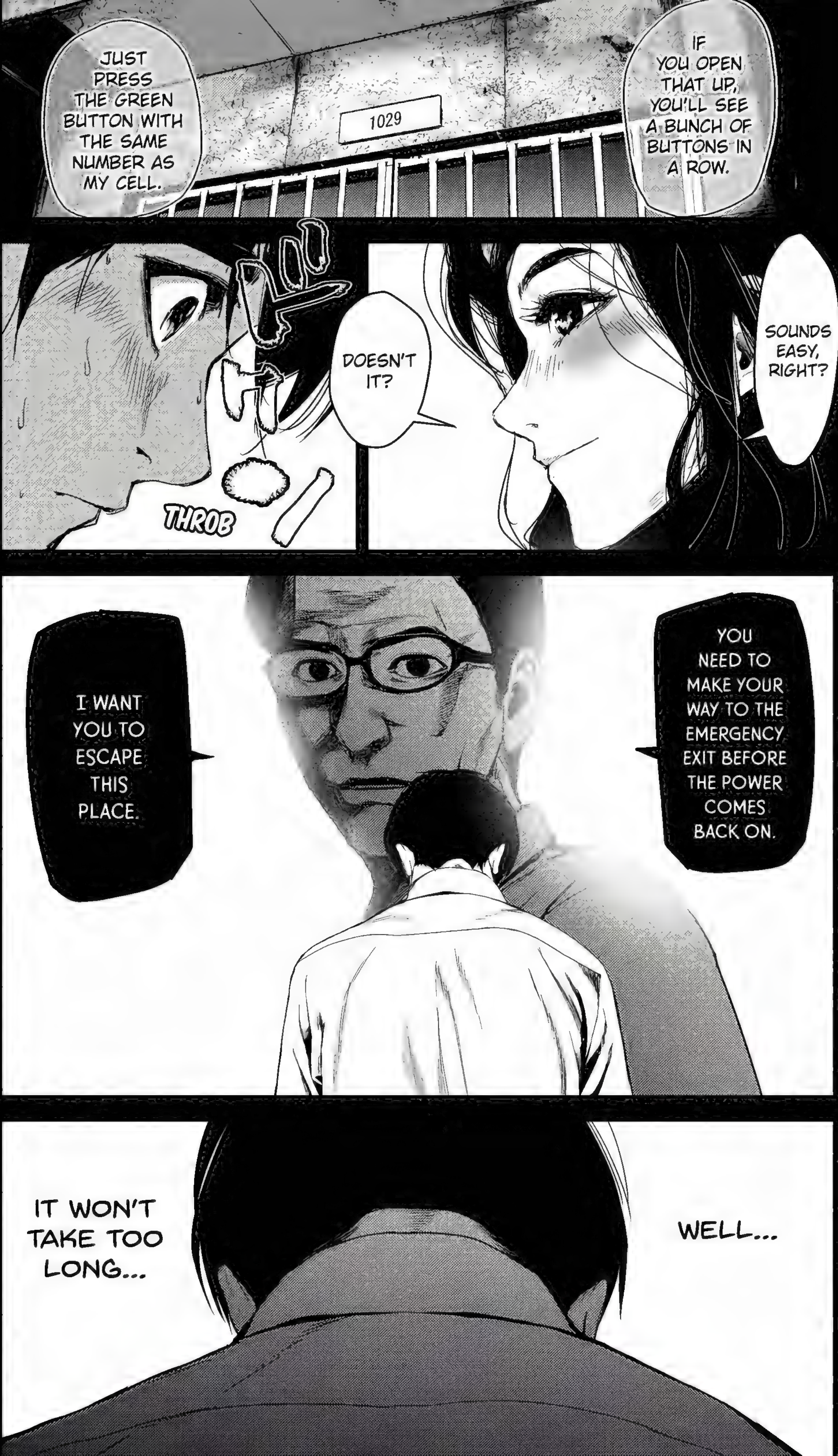

AWW!
AREN'T YOU CUTE?
ERR, UHH...
WOW...
IT'S A WOMAN!

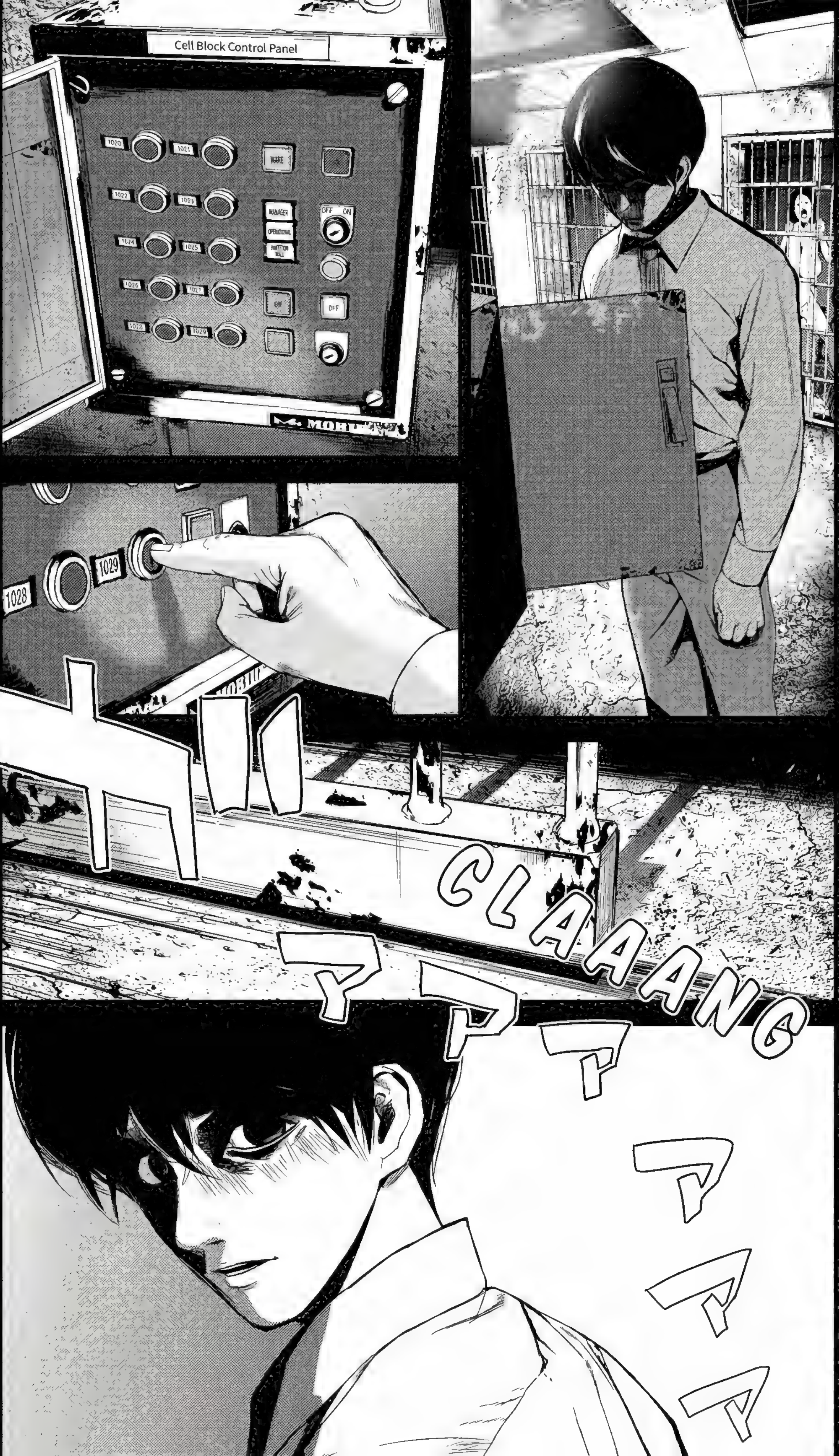

I'D BEEN AT THE FACILITY FOR A DECADE BY THEN, COMPLETELY ISOLATED FROM WOMEN. THEY DIDN'T EVEN LET ME SEE THEM IN THE MEDIA. NO TV, NO MAGAZINES... NOTHING.
NOW I WAS FACE-TO-FACE WITH ONE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TEN YEARS.
SHE WAS NOTHING LIKE THE HAZY MEMORIES I HAD OF MY MOTHER...
...OR THE PRINCESSES I'D SEEN IN STORYBOOK ILLUSTRATIONS...
...OR THE ANIME GIRLS I'D SEEN ON DVD.
THUMP
NOTHING...
AT ALL.
THUMP
THUMP

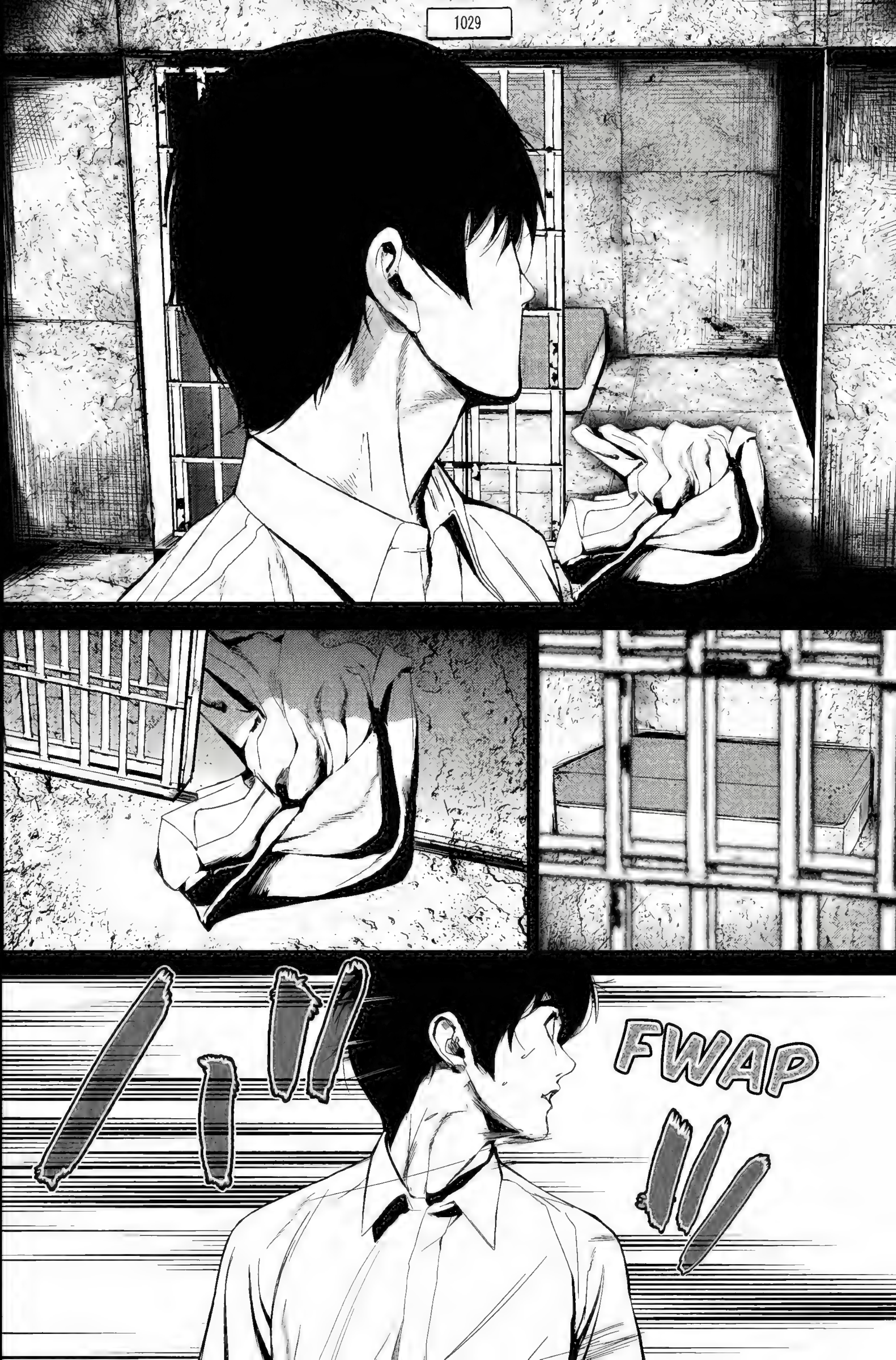

THUMP
THUMP!!
WANNA SEE...
MORE?
WHAT DO YOU SAY...
I SHOW YOU MY BOOBS?
THUMP
THUMP
...!
GULP

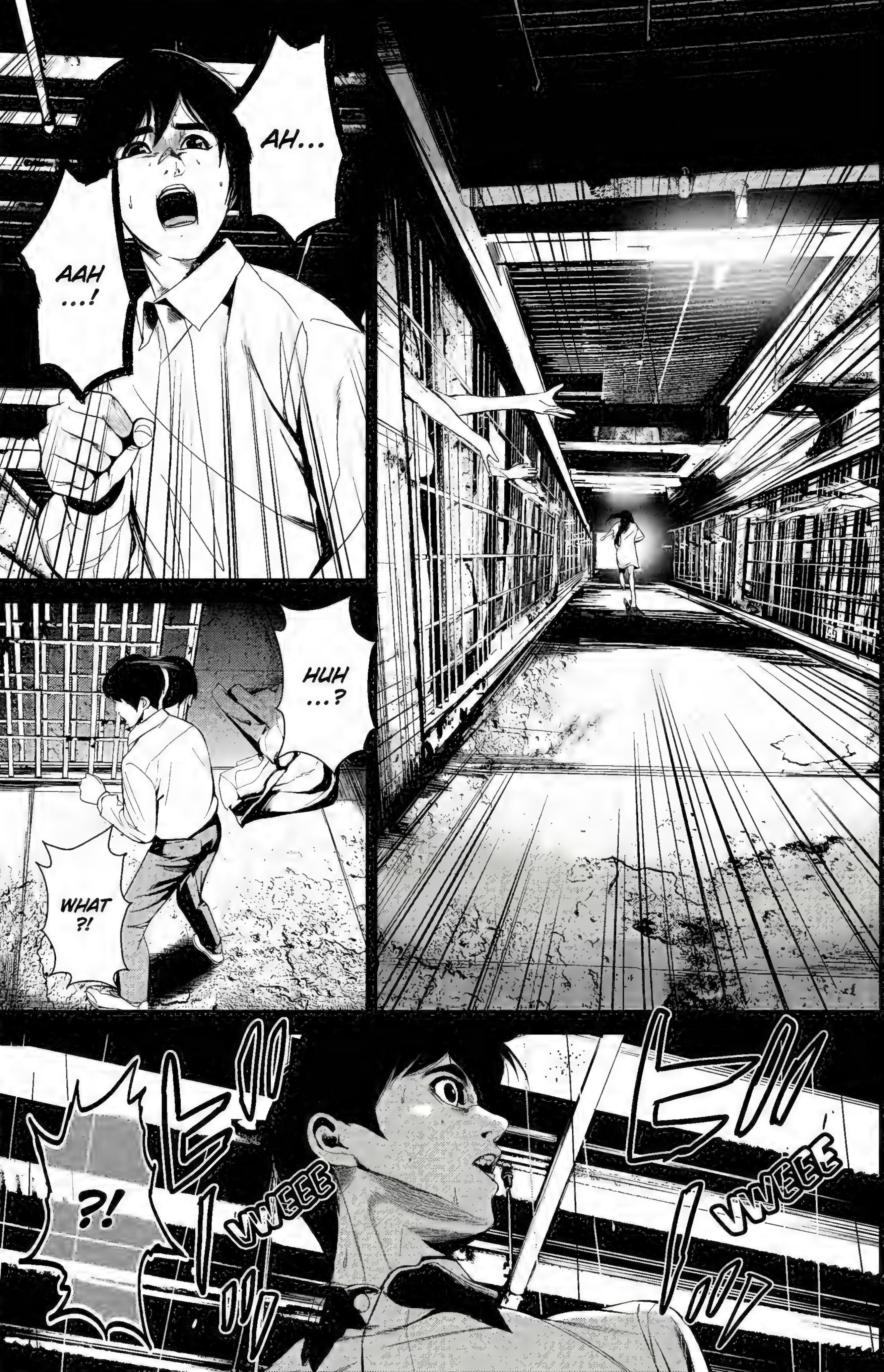

THUMP
GULP
THUMP
NO,
UHH...
I MEAN,
UHH...
YOU WANT TO, DON'T YOU?
YOU WANT TO SEE THEM?
THEN COME ON IN.
YOU WANT A GOOD, CLOSE LOOK, RIGHT?

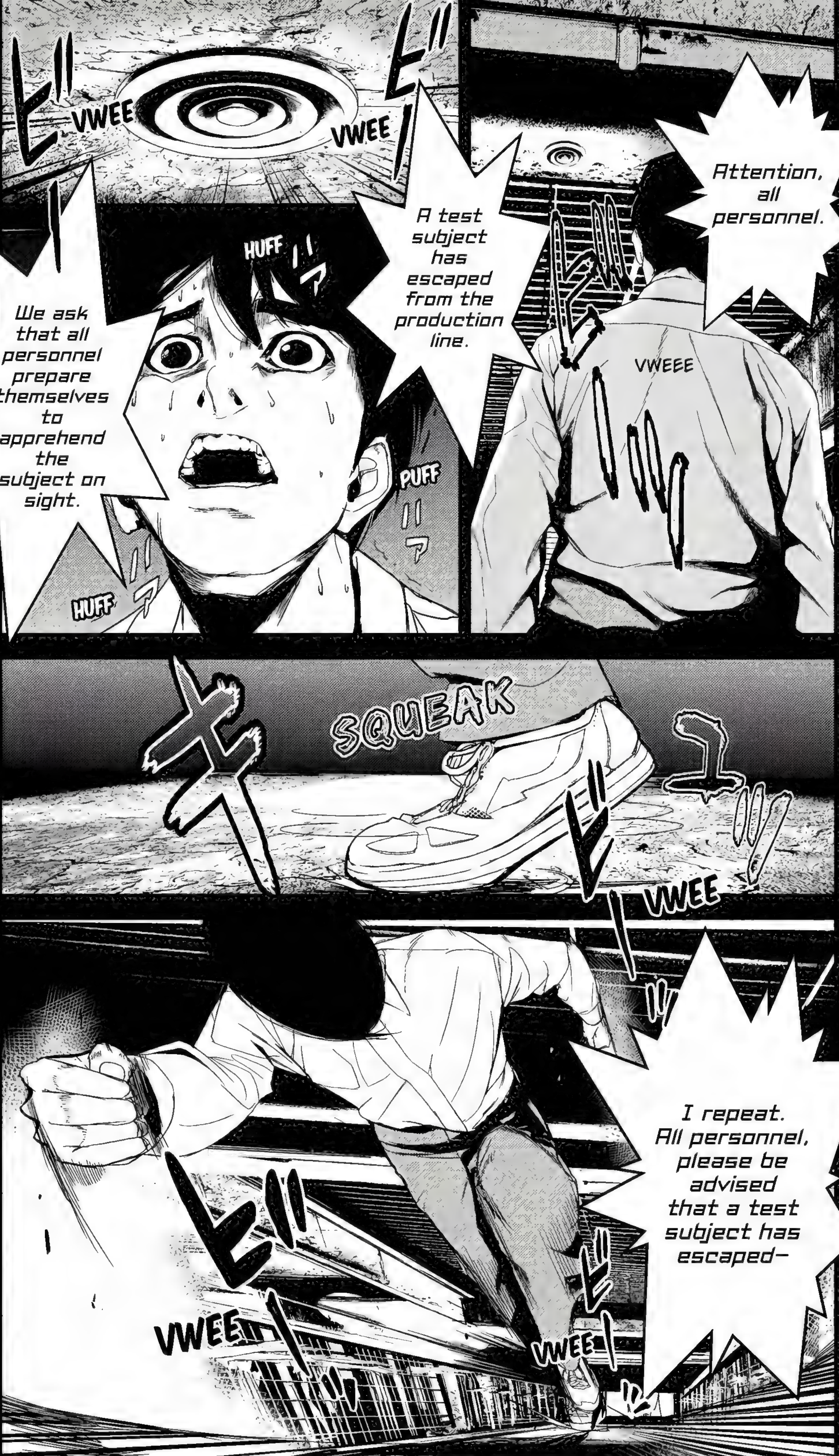

B-
BUT...
THEY ALWAYS SAY... THAT'S... WRONG...
IT'S EASY.
LOOK BEHIND YOU.
SEE THAT THING THAT LOOKS LIKE A BOX?
UHH...
ケーブル
空調ダクト
YEAH ...

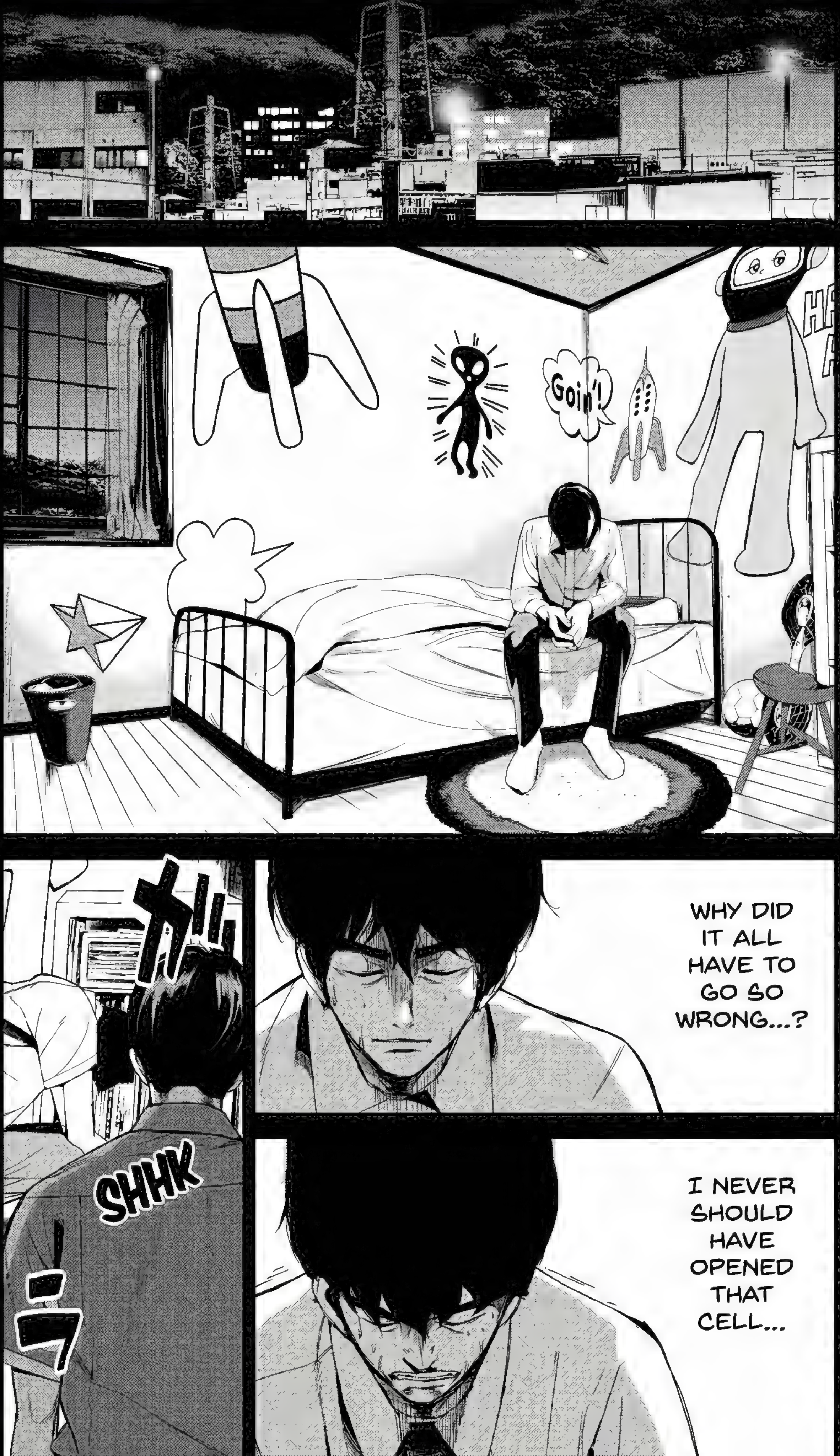

IF YOU OPEN THAT UP, YOU'LL SEE A BUNCH OF BUTTONS IN A ROW.
1029
JUST PRESS THE GREEN BUTTON WITH THE SAME NUMBER AS MY CELL.
SOUNDS EASY, RIGHT?
DOESN'T IT?
THROB
YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE EMERGENCY EXIT BEFORE THE POWER COMES BACK ON.
I WANT YOU TO ESCAPE THIS PLACE.
WELL...
IT WON'T TAKE TOO LONG...

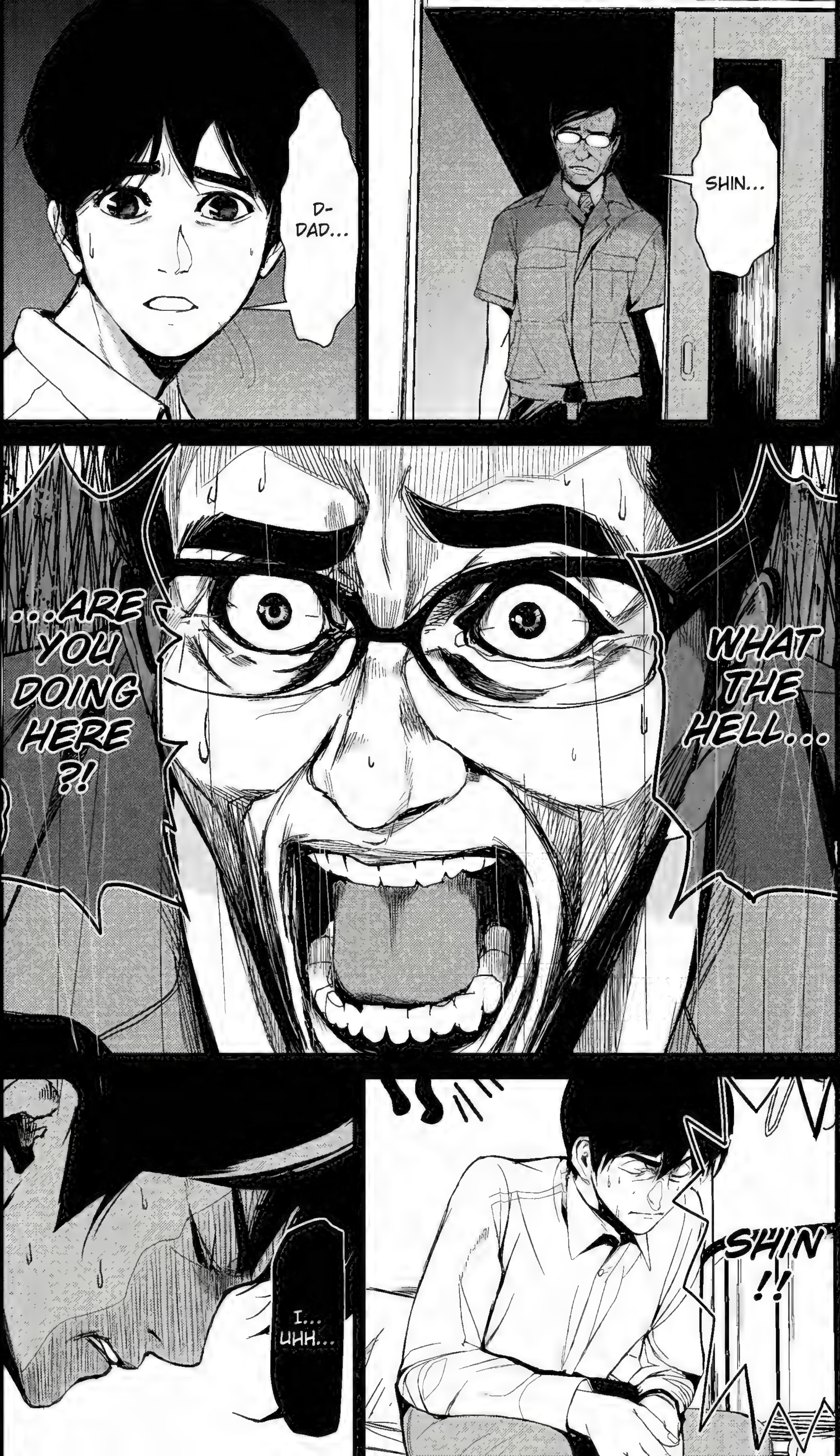

Cell Block Control Panel
1020
1021
1022
1023
MANAGER
OPERATIONAL
PARTITION WALL
OFF ON
1024
1025
1026
1027
ON
OFF
1028
1029
MORI
1028
1029
ガ
CLAAANG
ァァァァァァ

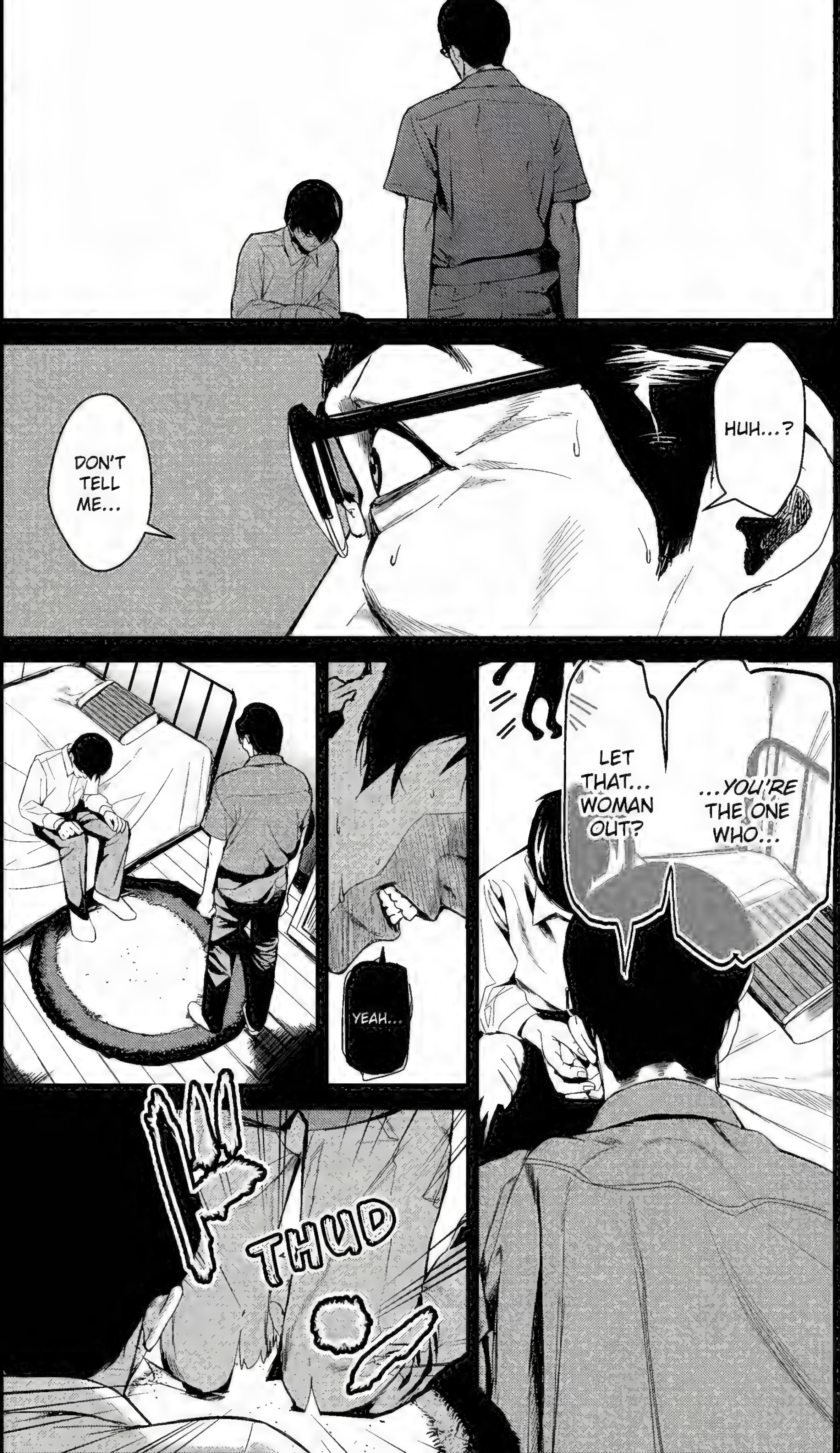

1029
FWAP

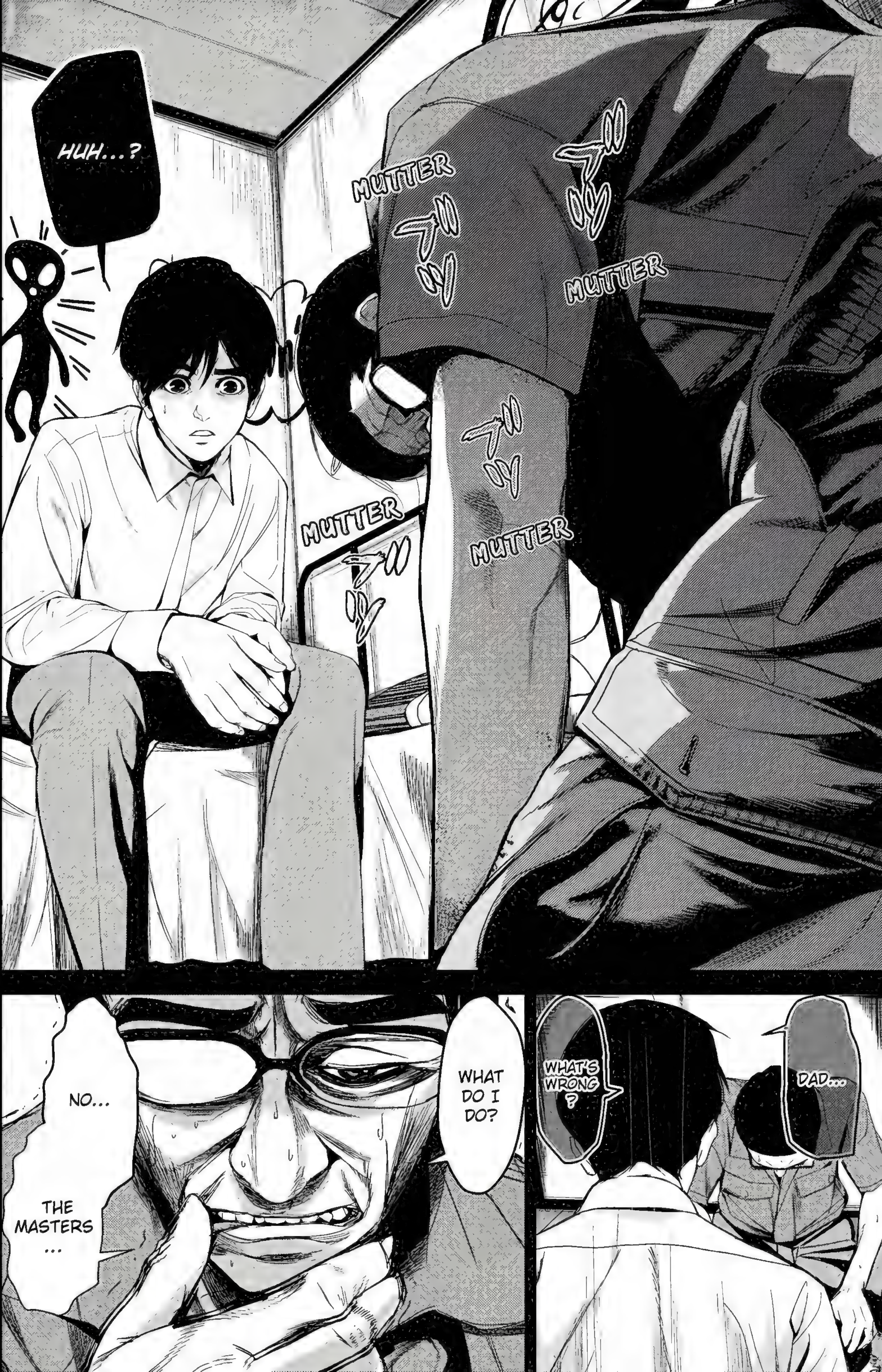

AH…
AAH…!
HUH…?
WHAT?!
VWEEE
?!
VWEEE

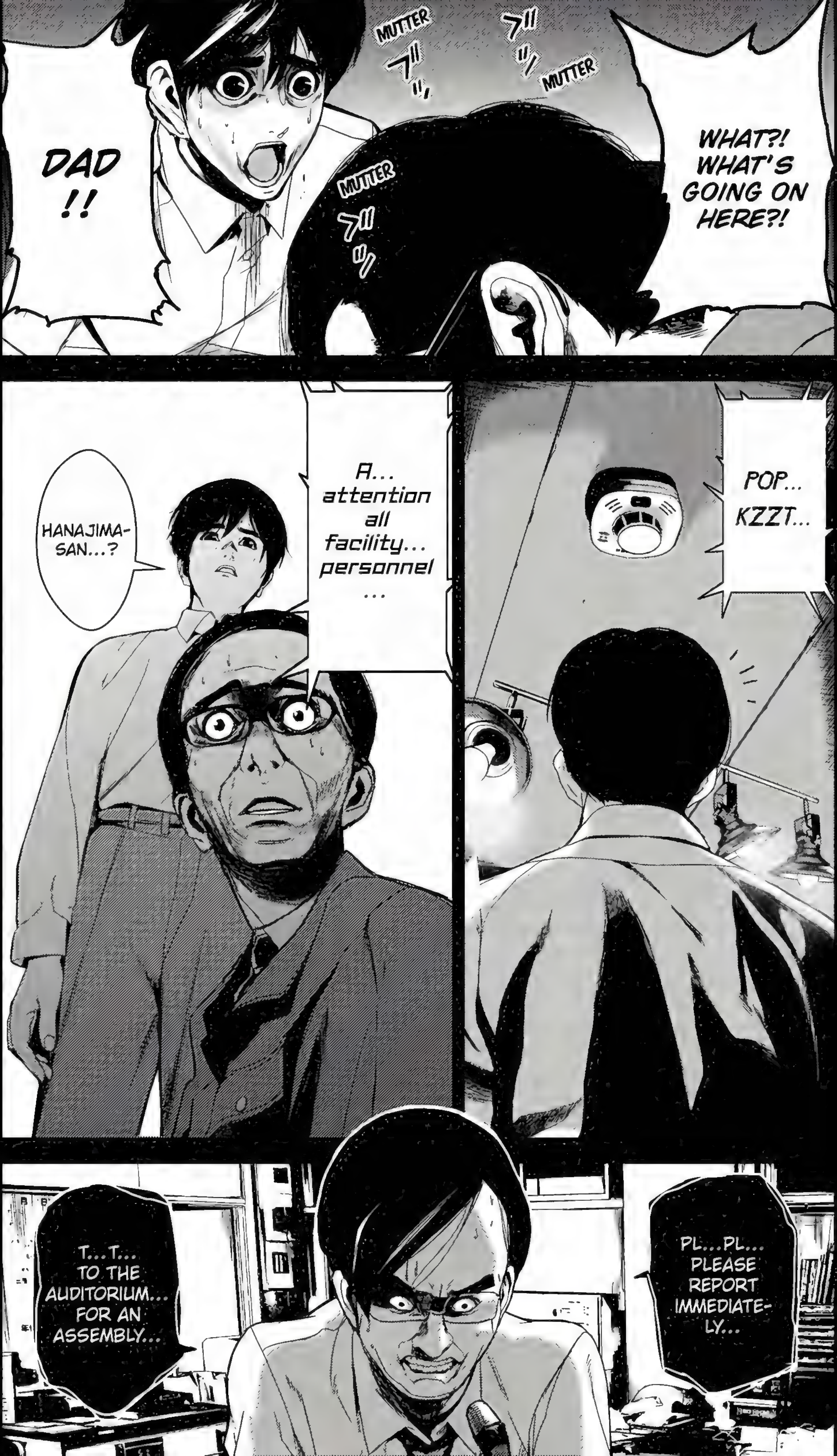

Attention, all personnel.
VWEEE
A test subject has escaped from the production line.
VWEE
VWEE
HUFF
PUFF
HUFF
We ask that all personnel prepare themselves to apprehend the subject on sight.
SQUEAK
VWEE
I repeat. All personnel, please be advised that a test subject has escaped—
VWEE
VWEE

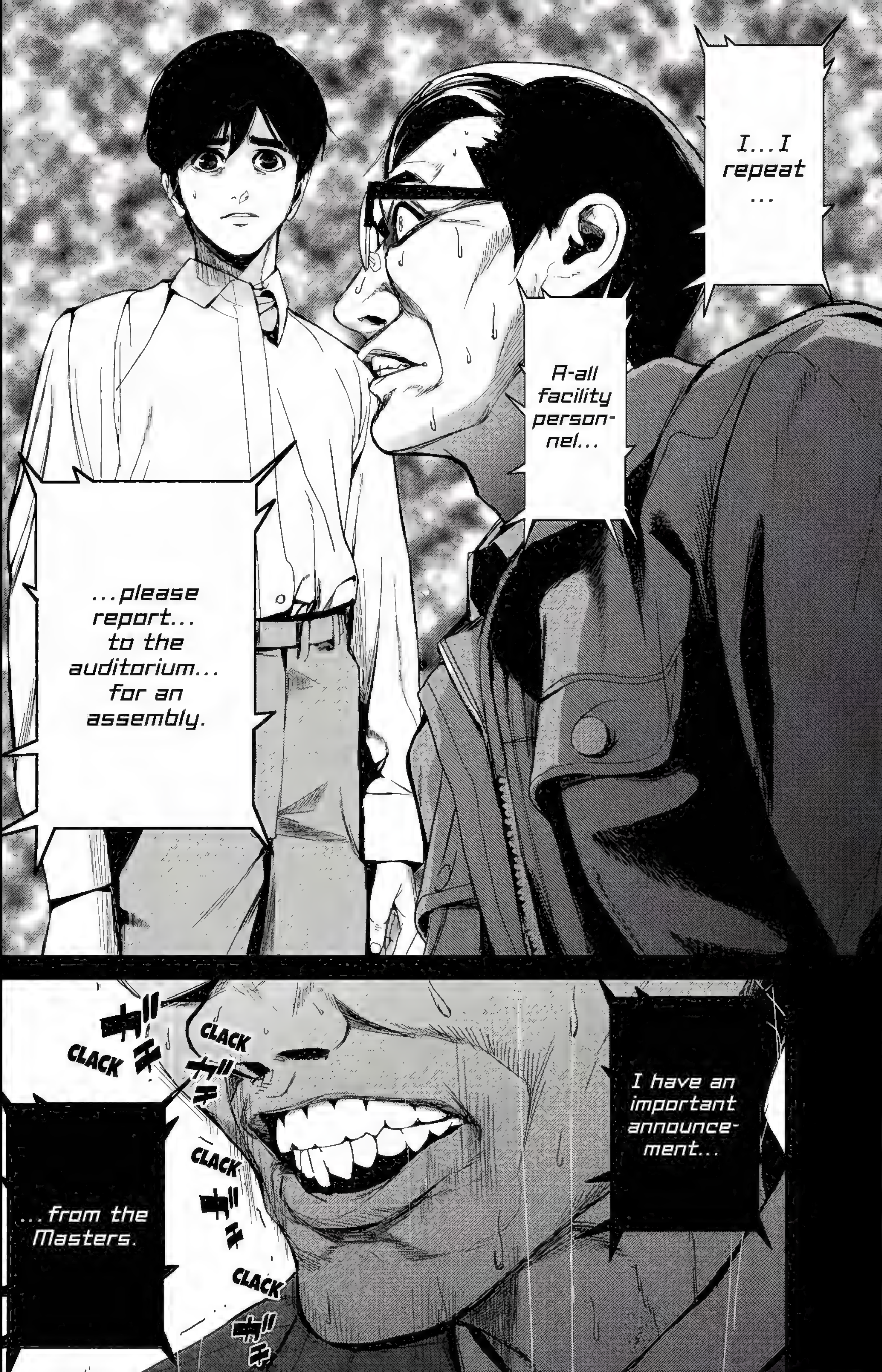

Goin'!
WHY DID IT ALL HAVE TO GO SO WRONG...?
I NEVER SHOULD HAVE OPENED THAT CELL...
SHHK


SHIN...
D-DAD...
WHAT THE HELL...
...ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
SHIN!!
I... UHH...

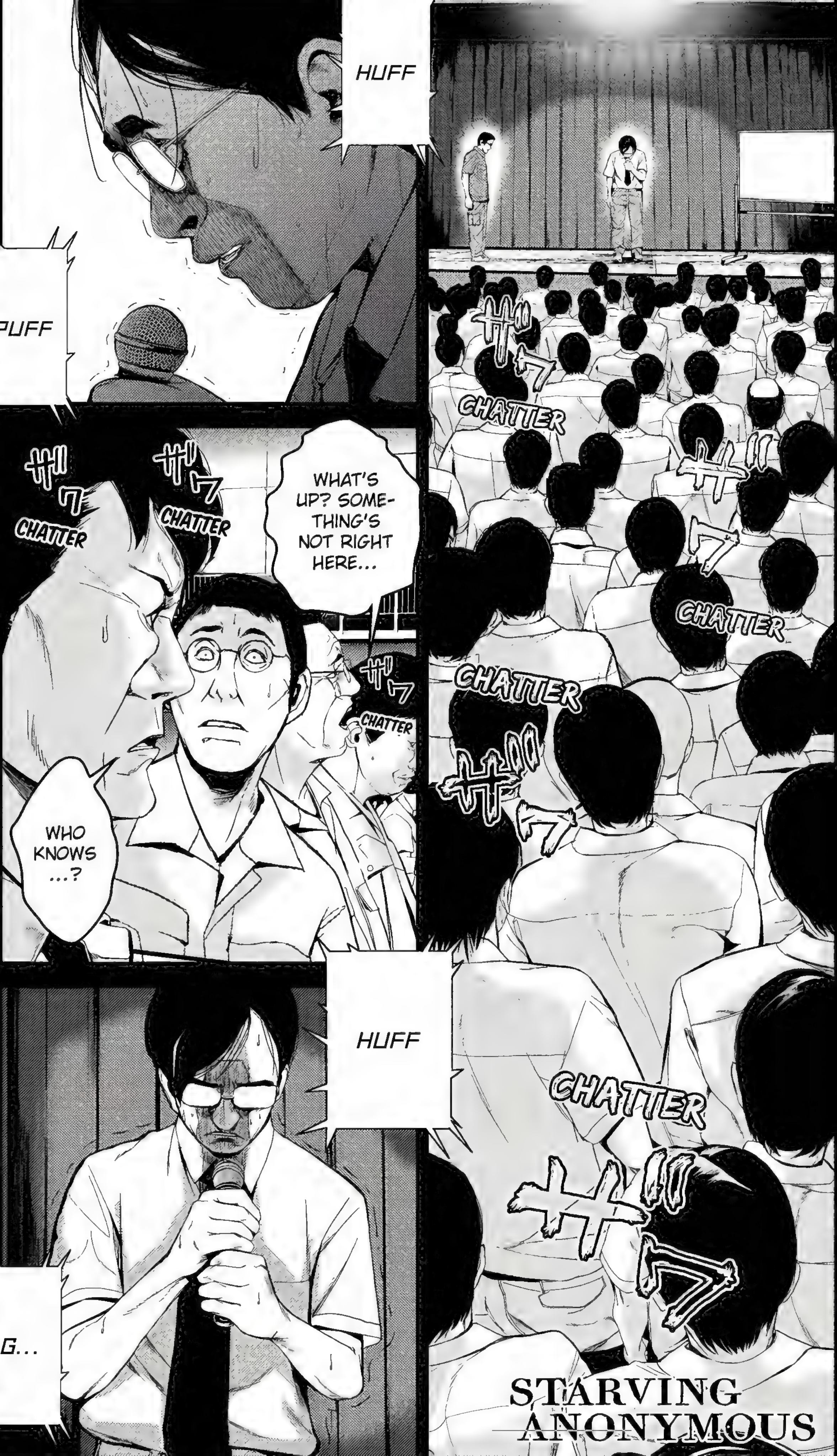

HUH…?
DON'T TELL ME…
…YOU'RE THE ONE WHO…
LET THAT… WOMAN OUT?
YEAH…
THUD

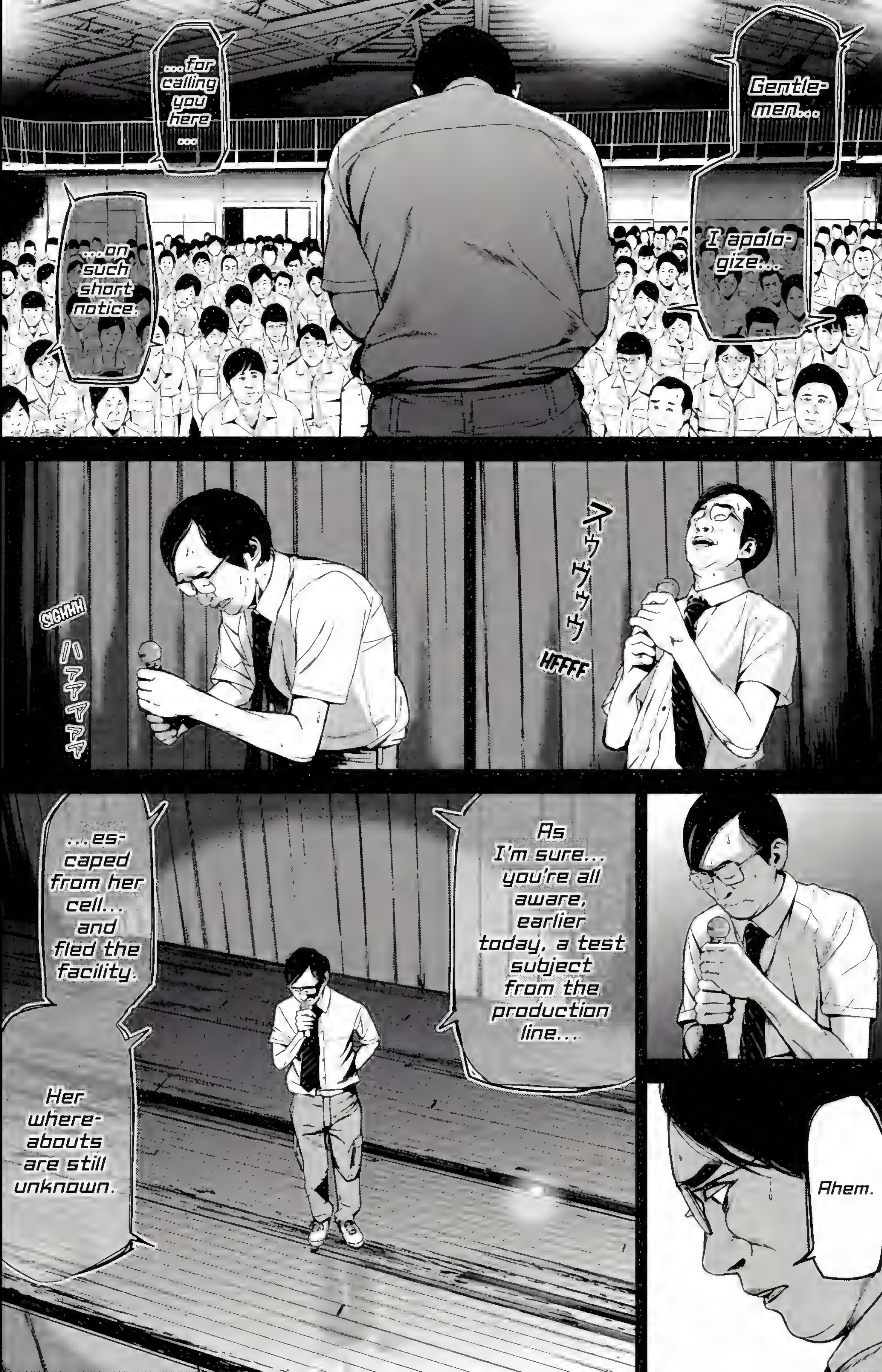

HUH...?
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
DAD...
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT DO I DO?
NO...
THE MASTERS...

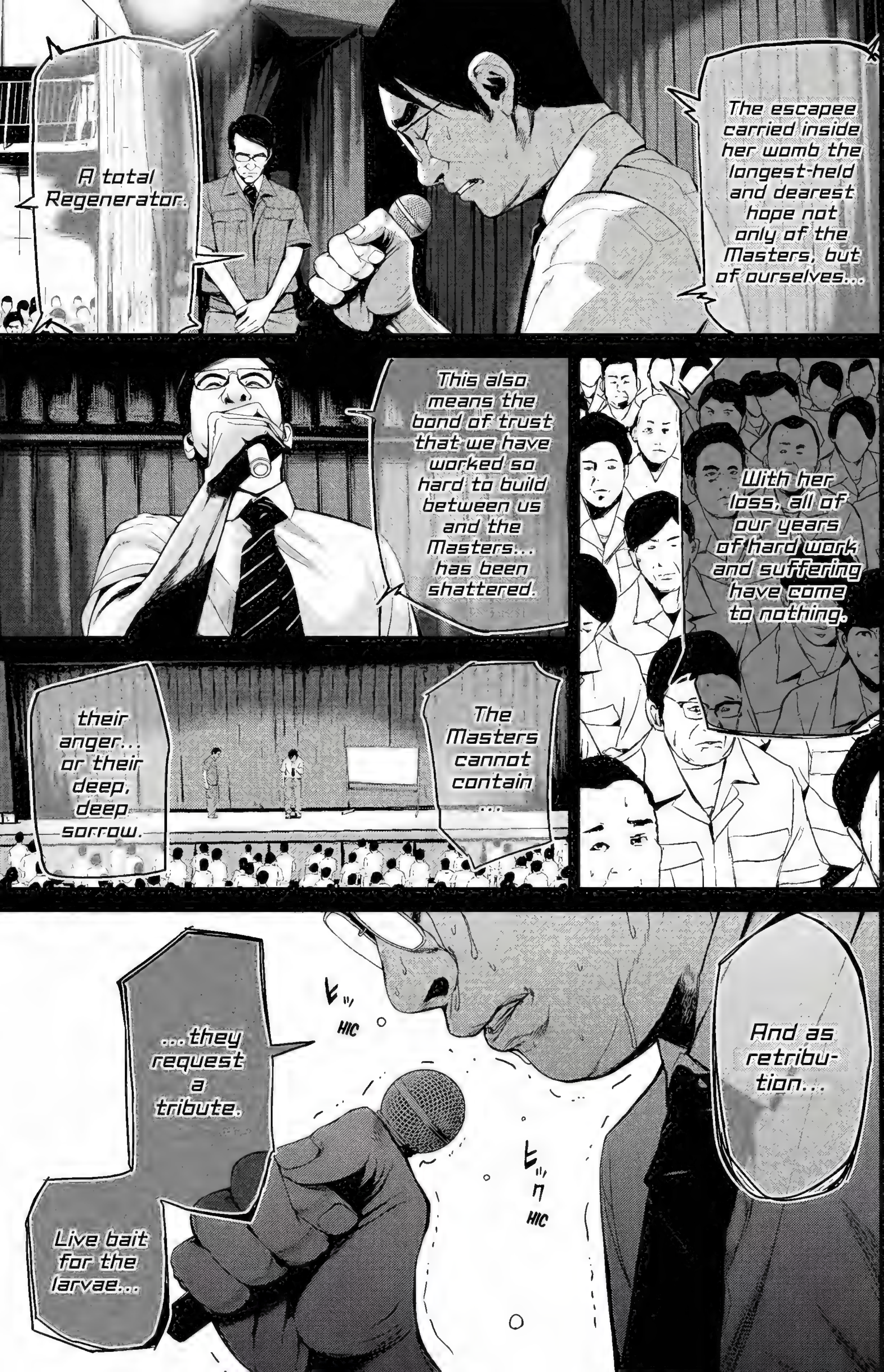

WHAT?! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!
MUTTER
ブツ
MUTTER
ブツ
MUTTER
ブツ
DAD !!
POP... KZZT...
A... attention all facility... personnel ...
HANAJIMA-SAN...?
PL...PL... PLEASE REPORT IMMEDIATE-LY...
T...T... TO THE AUDITORIUM... FOR AN ASSEMBLY...


I…I repeat…
A-all facility personnel…
…please report… to the auditorium… for an assembly.
I have an important announcement…
ガチ
CLACK
CLACK
ガチ
CLACK
ガチ
CLACK
ガチ
…from the Masters.

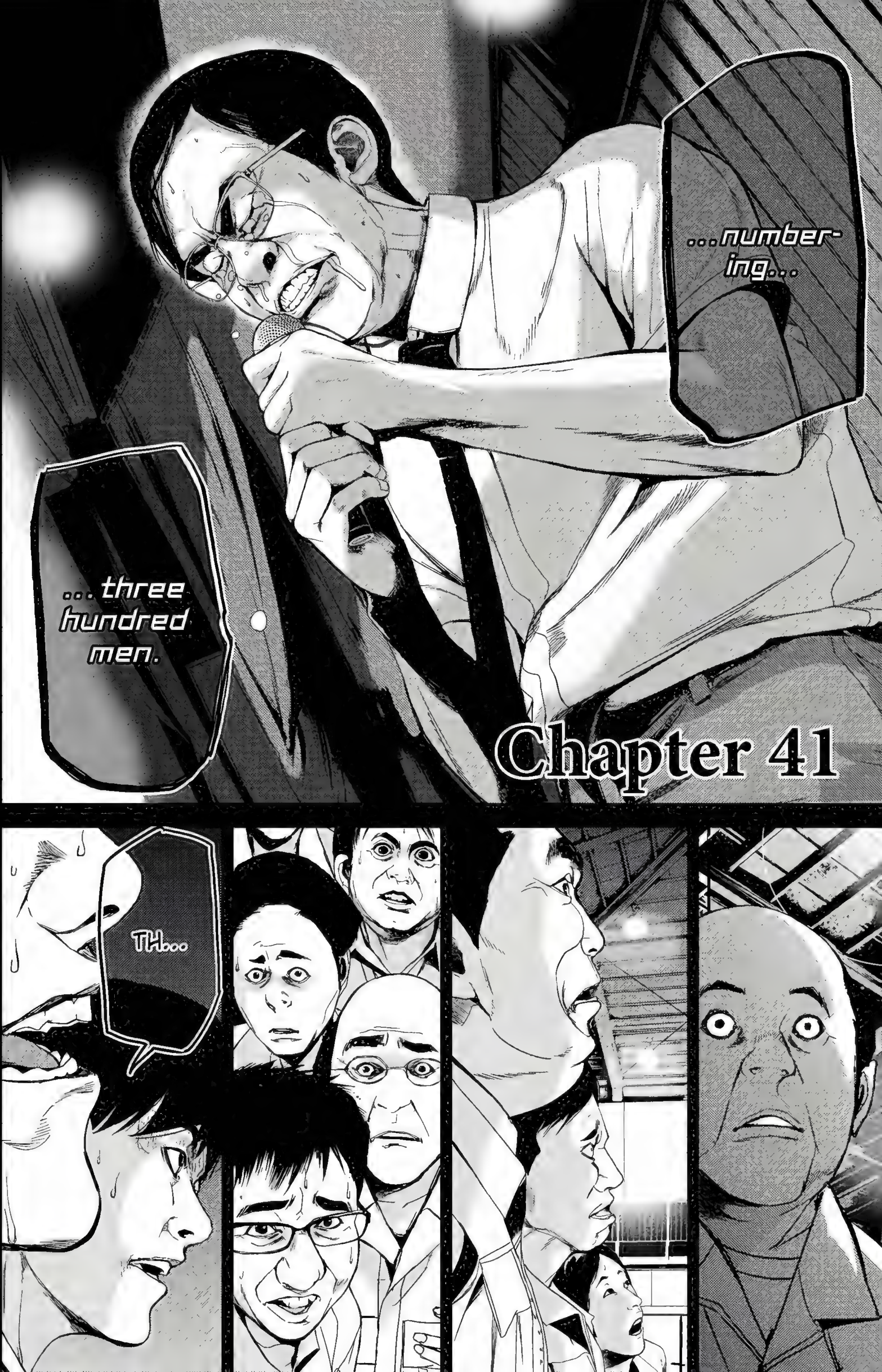
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

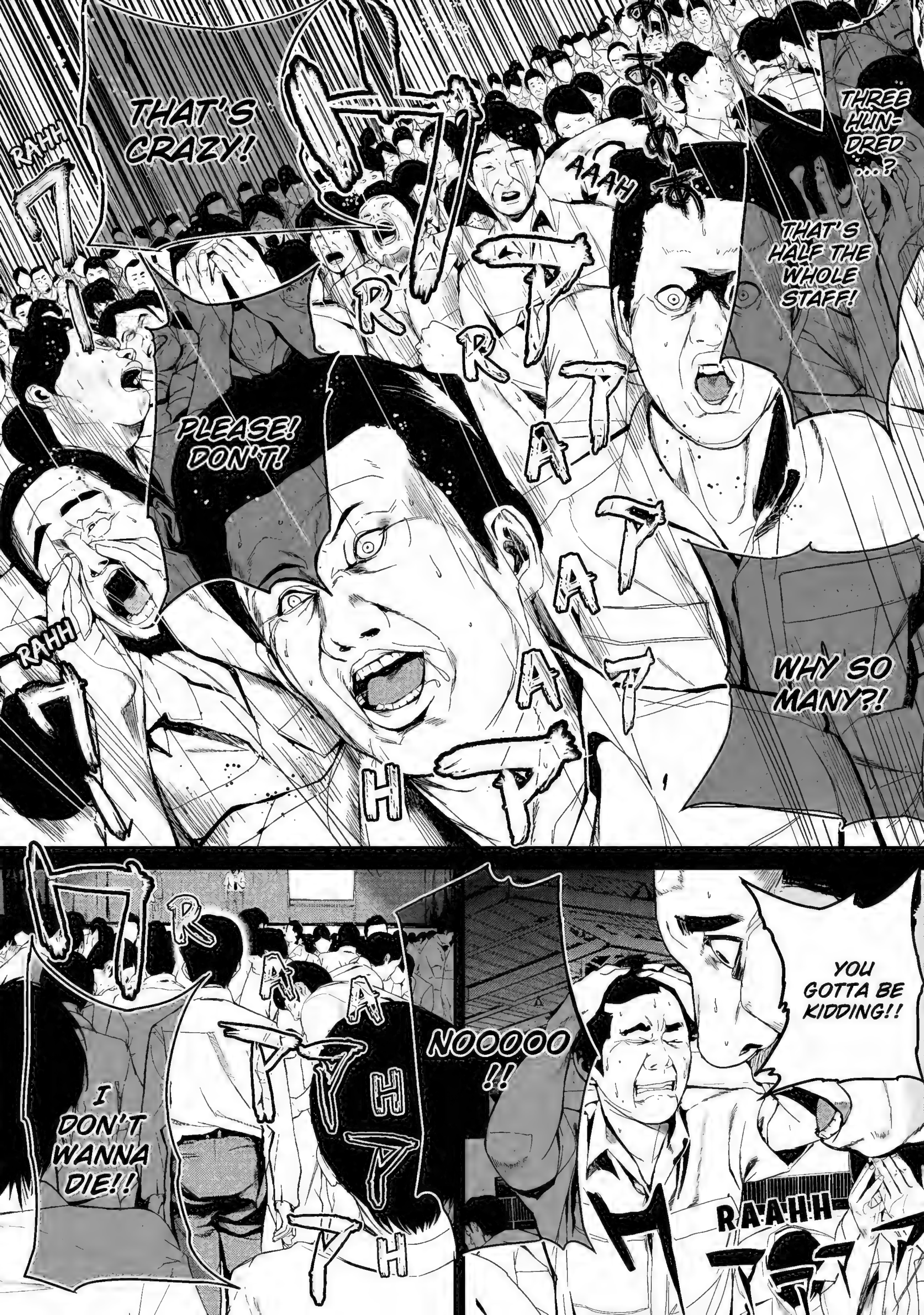

ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
HUFF
PUFF
ザワ
CHATTER
ザワ
CHATTER
WHAT'S UP? SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT HERE...
ザワ
CHATTER
WHO KNOWS ...?
HUFF
G...
STARVING ANONYMOUS

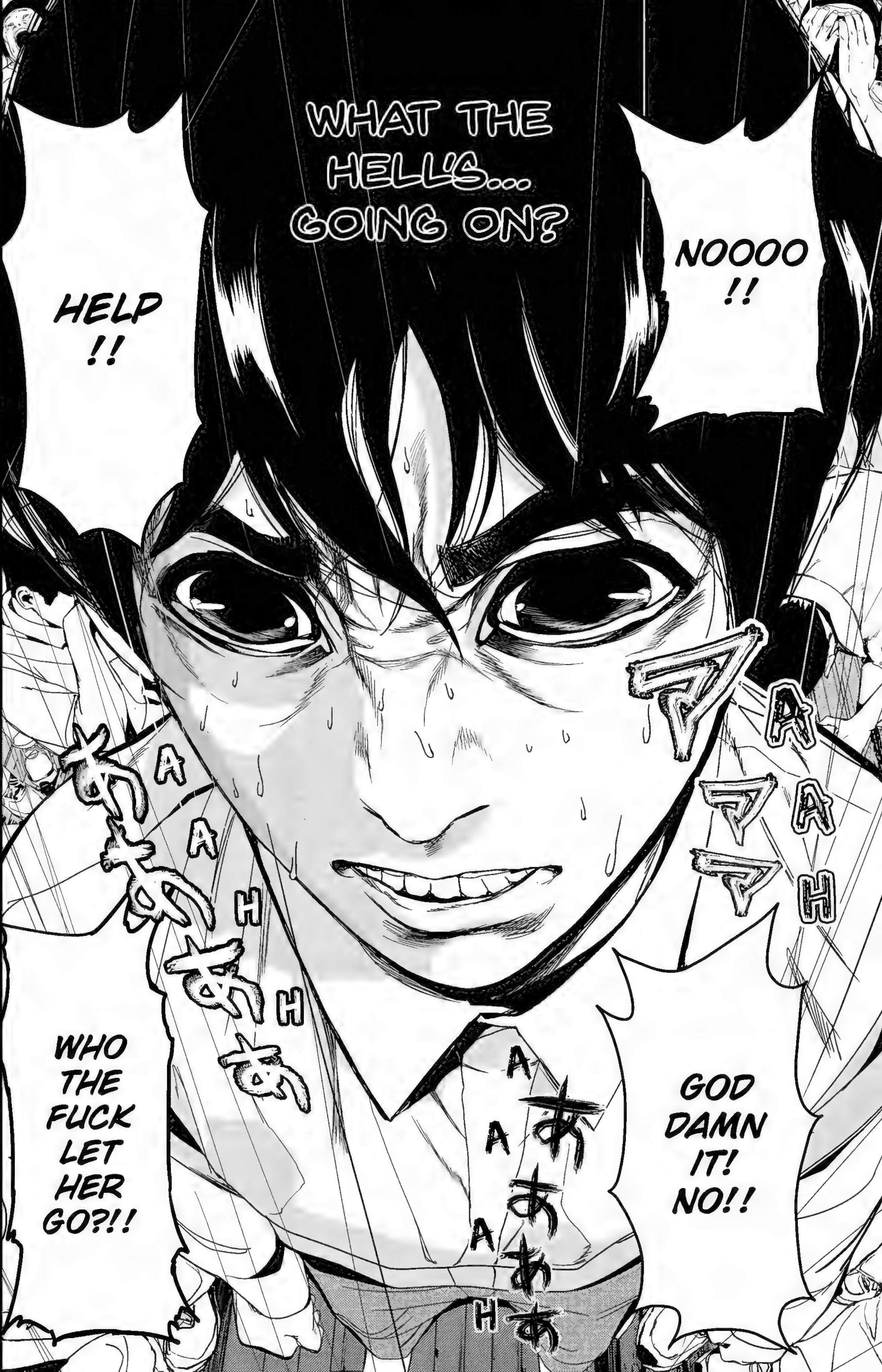

Gentlemen... I apologize...
...for calling you here... ...on such short notice.
ヌウヴゥウ
HFFFF
SIGHHH
ハァァァァ
Ahem.
As I'm sure... you're all aware, earlier today, a test subject from the production line...
...escaped from her cell... and fled the facility.
Her whereabouts are still unknown.

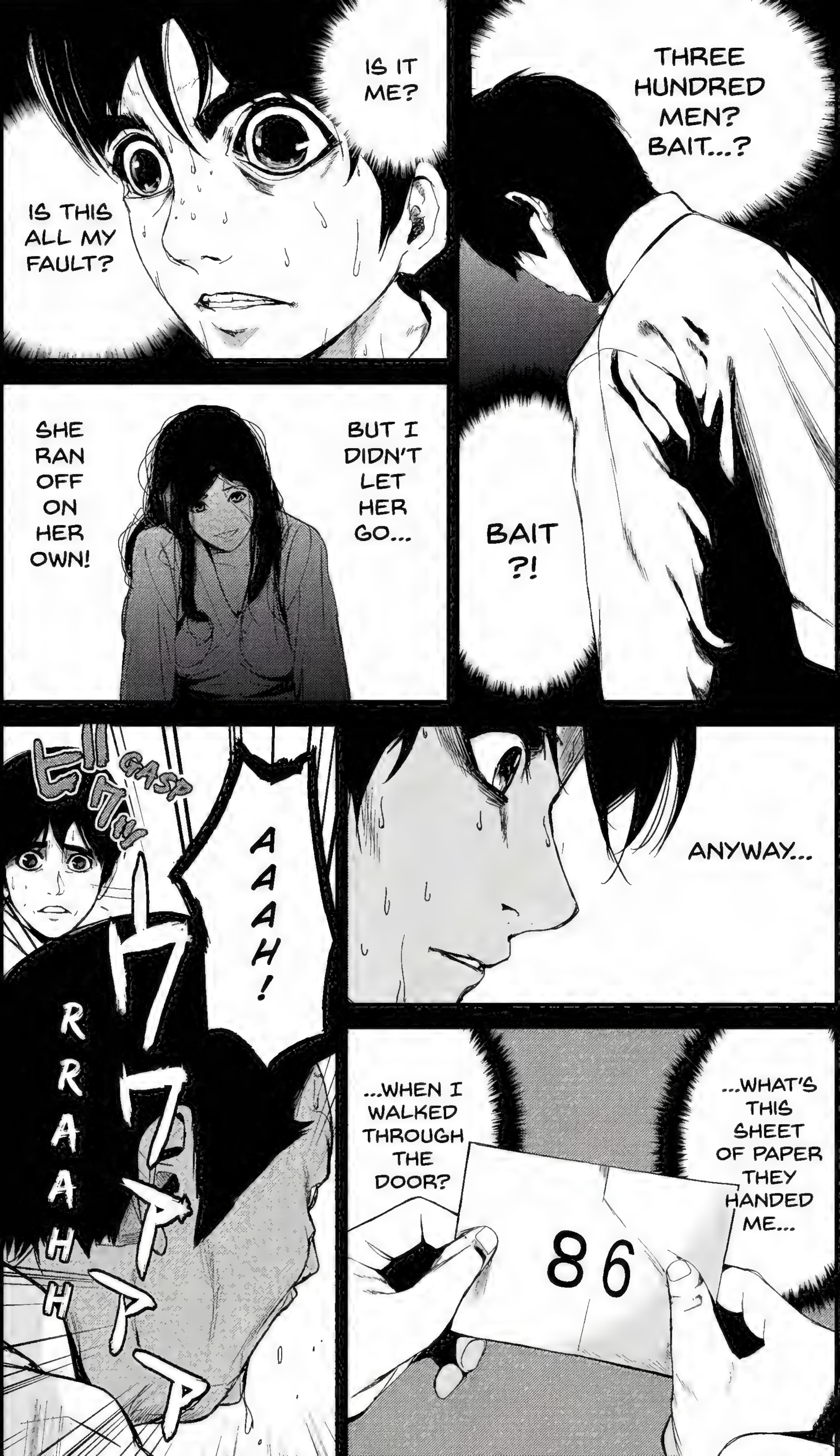

The escapee carried inside her womb the longest-held and dearest hope not only of the Masters, but of ourselves...
A total Regenerator.
With her loss, all of our years of hard work and suffering have come to nothing.
This also means the bond of trust that we have worked so hard to build between us and the Masters... has been shattered.
The Masters cannot contain...
their anger... or their deep, deep sorrow.
And as retribution...
ヒッ HIC
...they request a tribute.
ヒッ HIC
Live bait for the larvae...

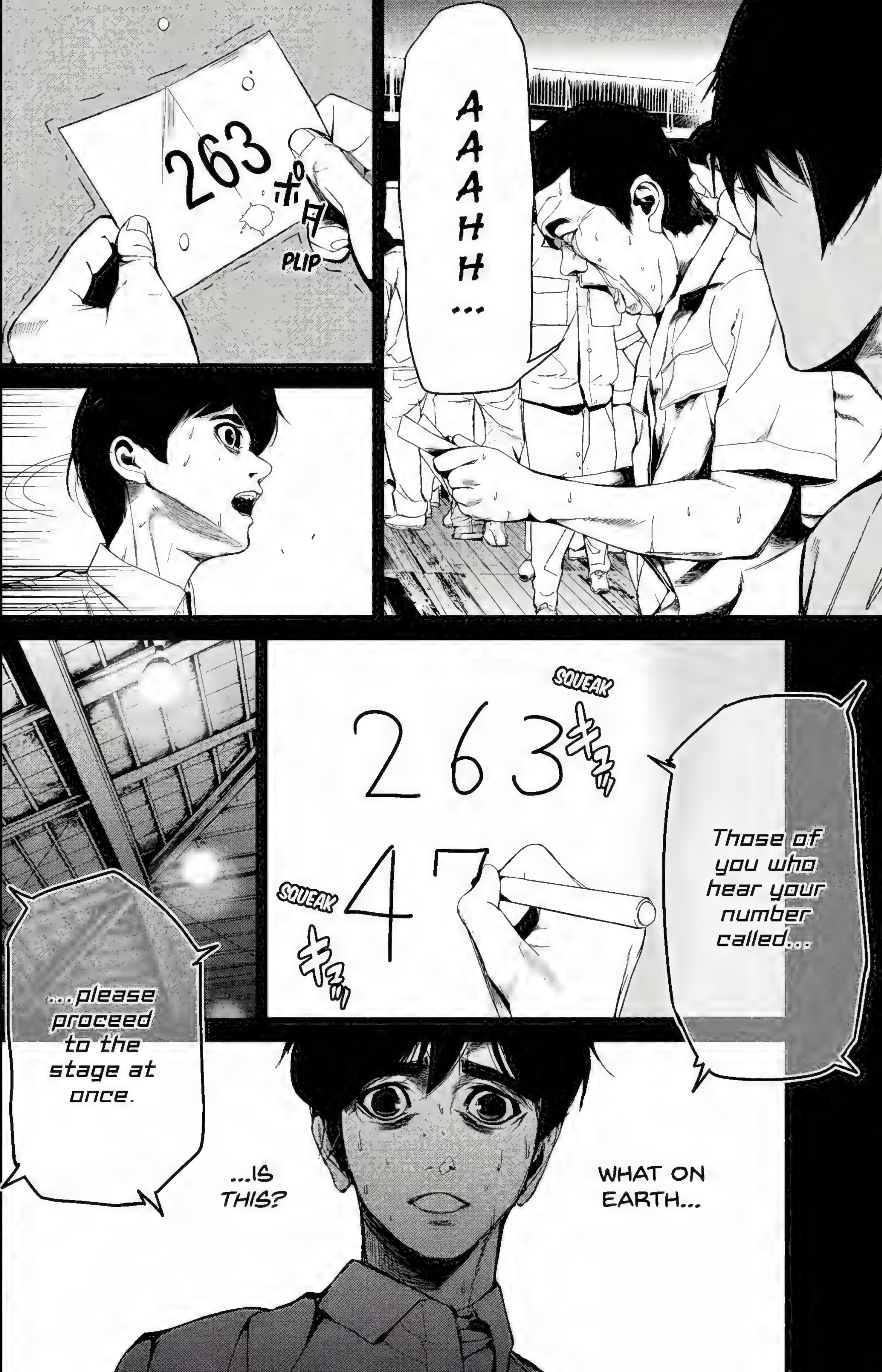
Chapter 41

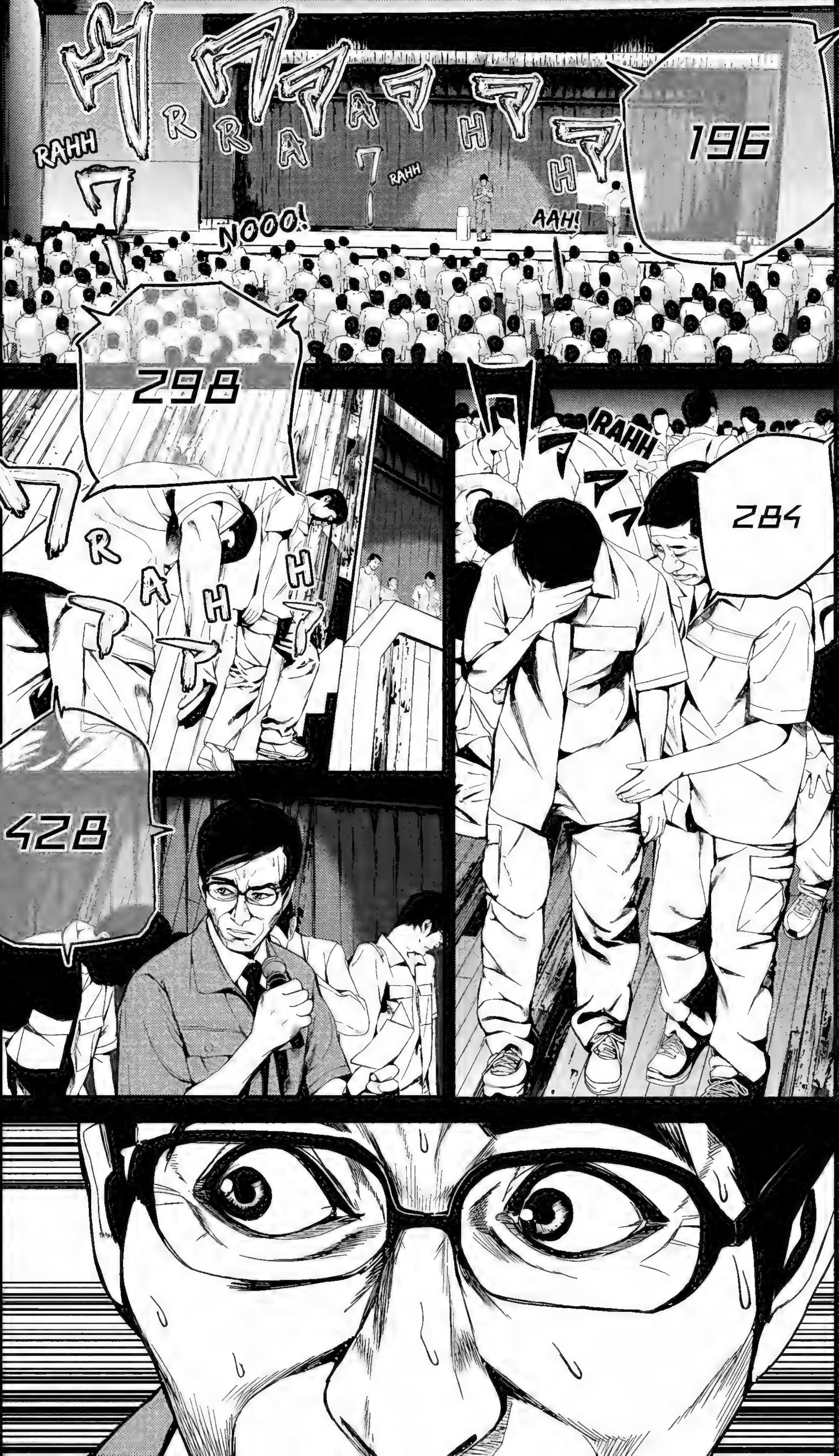

...number-ing...
...three hundred men.
TH...

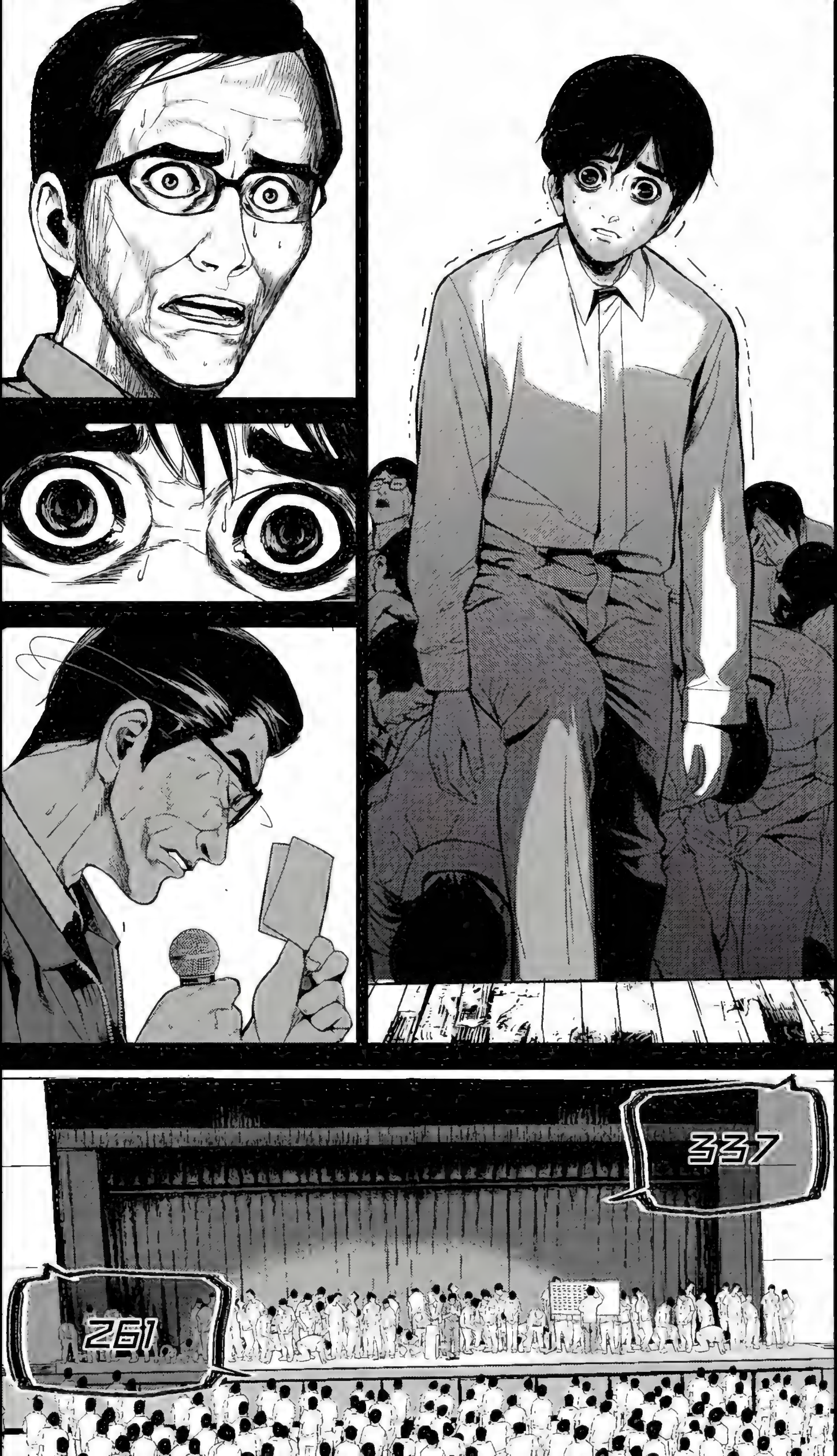

THREE HUNDRED...?
THAT'S HALF THE WHOLE STAFF!
AAAH
THAT'S CRAZY!
RAHH
RRAAAH
WHY SO MANY?!
PLEASE! DON'T!
RAHH
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING!!
RAAHH
NOOOOO!!
RAAHH
I DON'T WANNA DIE!!

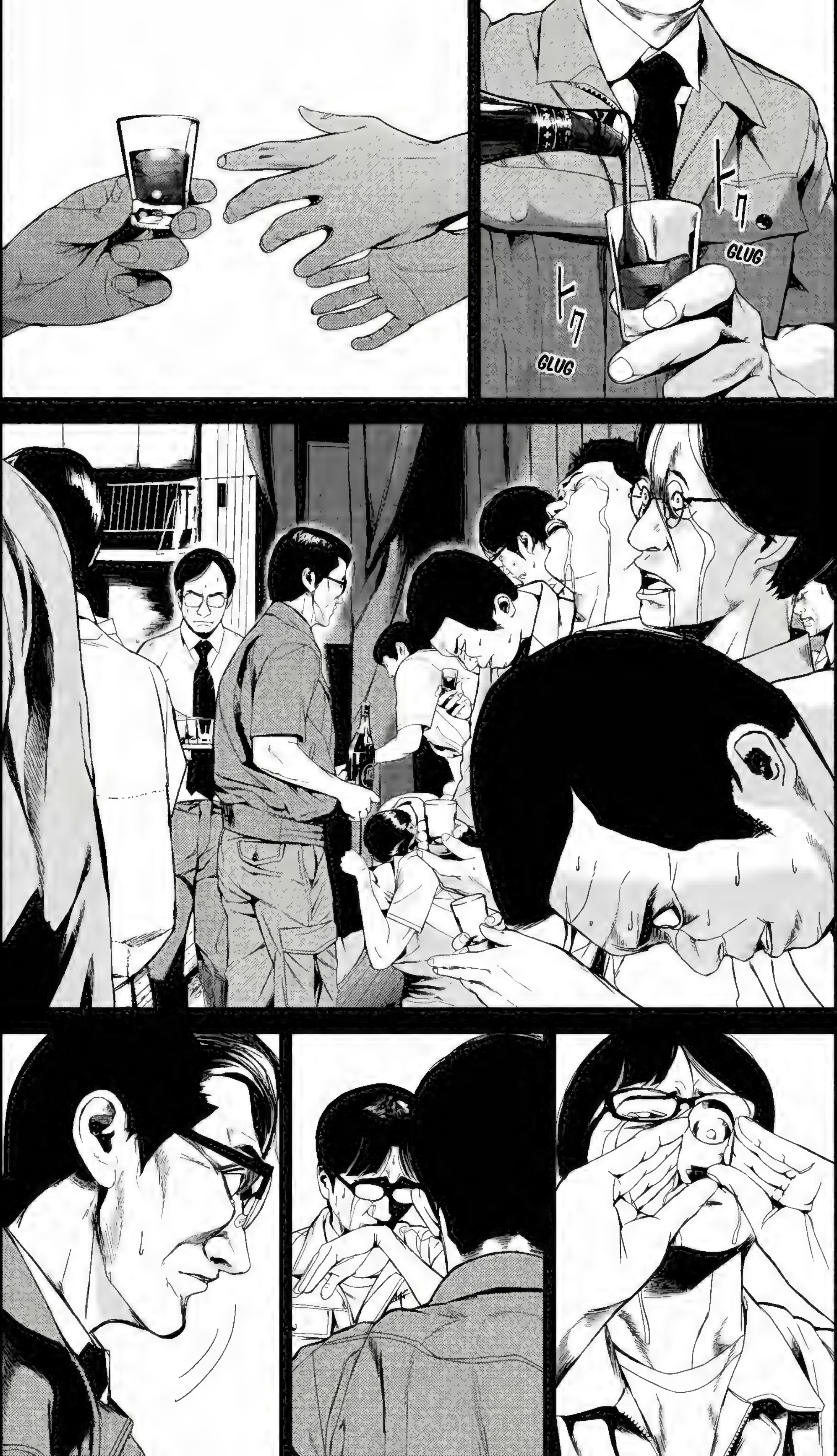

WHAT THE HELL'S... GOING ON?
NOOOO !!
HELP !!
アァァ AAAH
あああ AAHH
GOD DAMN IT! NO!!
あああ AAAH
WHO THE FUCK LET HER GO?!!

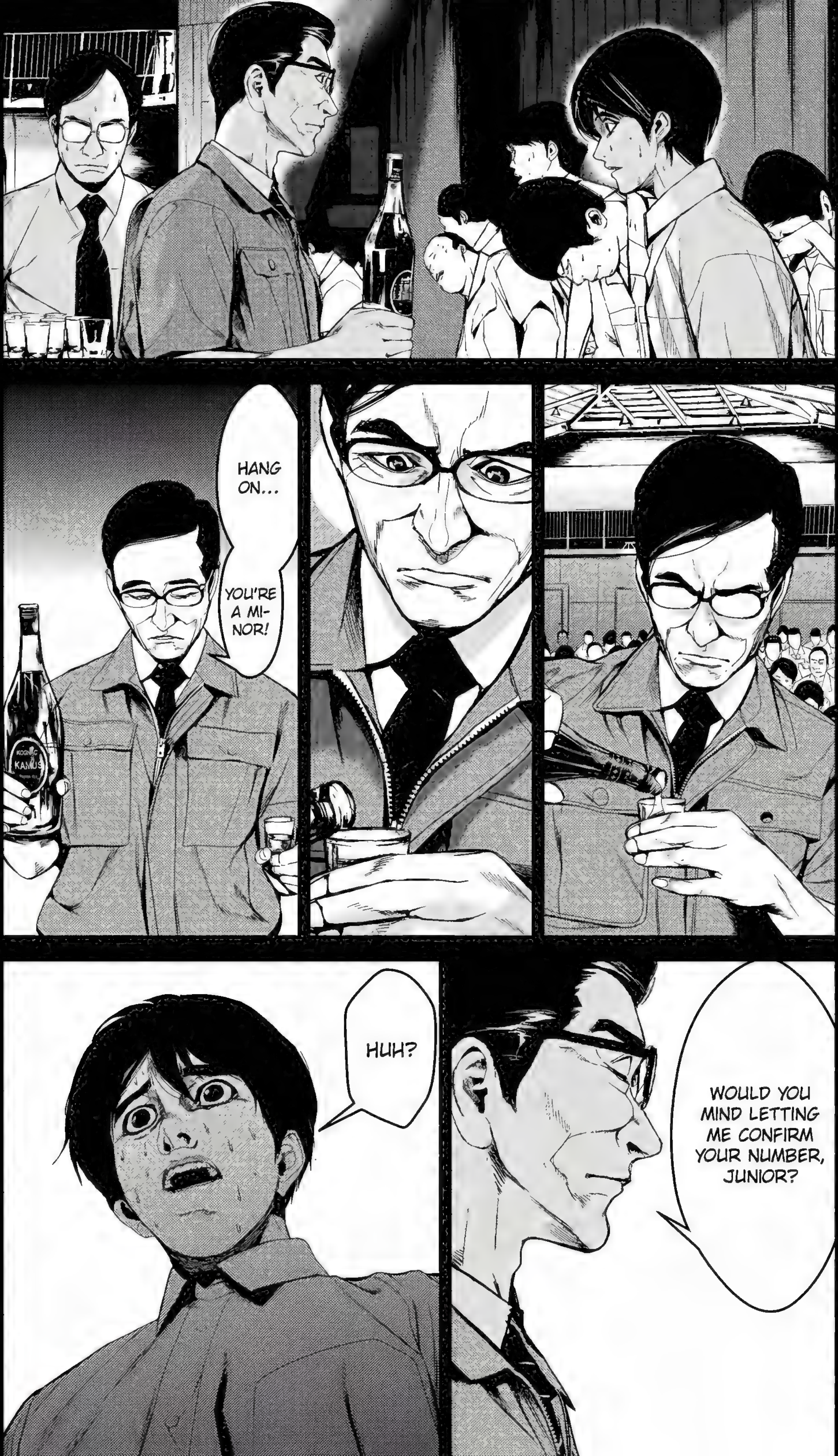

THREE HUNDRED MEN? BAIT...?
BAIT ?!
IS IT ME?
IS THIS ALL MY FAULT?
BUT I DIDN'T LET HER GO...
SHE RAN OFF ON HER OWN!
ANYWAY...
...WHAT'S THIS SHEET OF PAPER THEY HANDED ME...
...WHEN I WALKED THROUGH THE DOOR?
86
ヒィッ
GASP
AAAAH!
ウワアアアア
RRAAHH

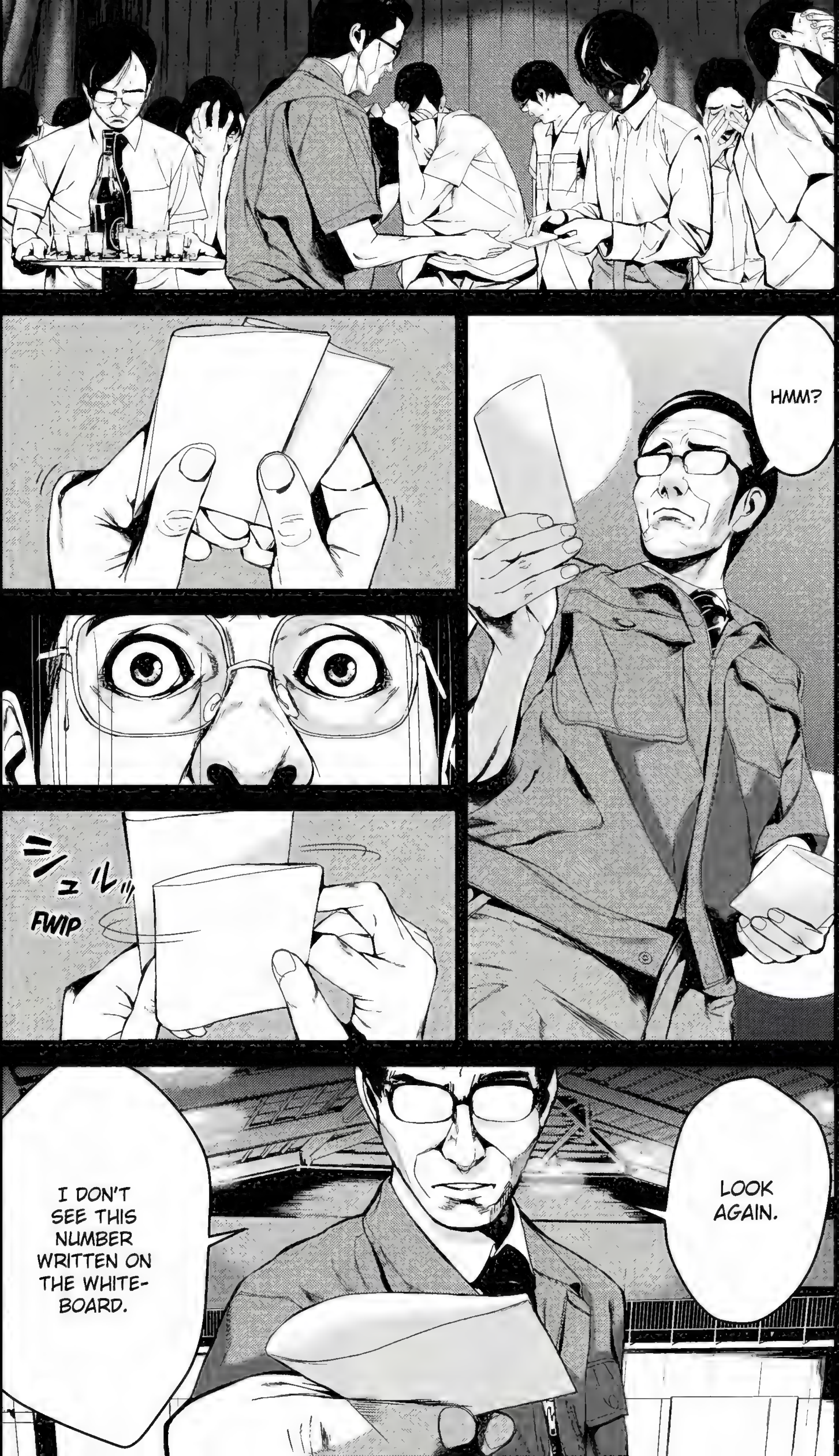

AAAAHH...
263
ポタ
PLIP
Those of you who hear your number called...
263
47
SQUEAK
キュッ
SQUEAK
キュッ
...please proceed to the stage at once.
WHAT ON EARTH...
...IS THIS?

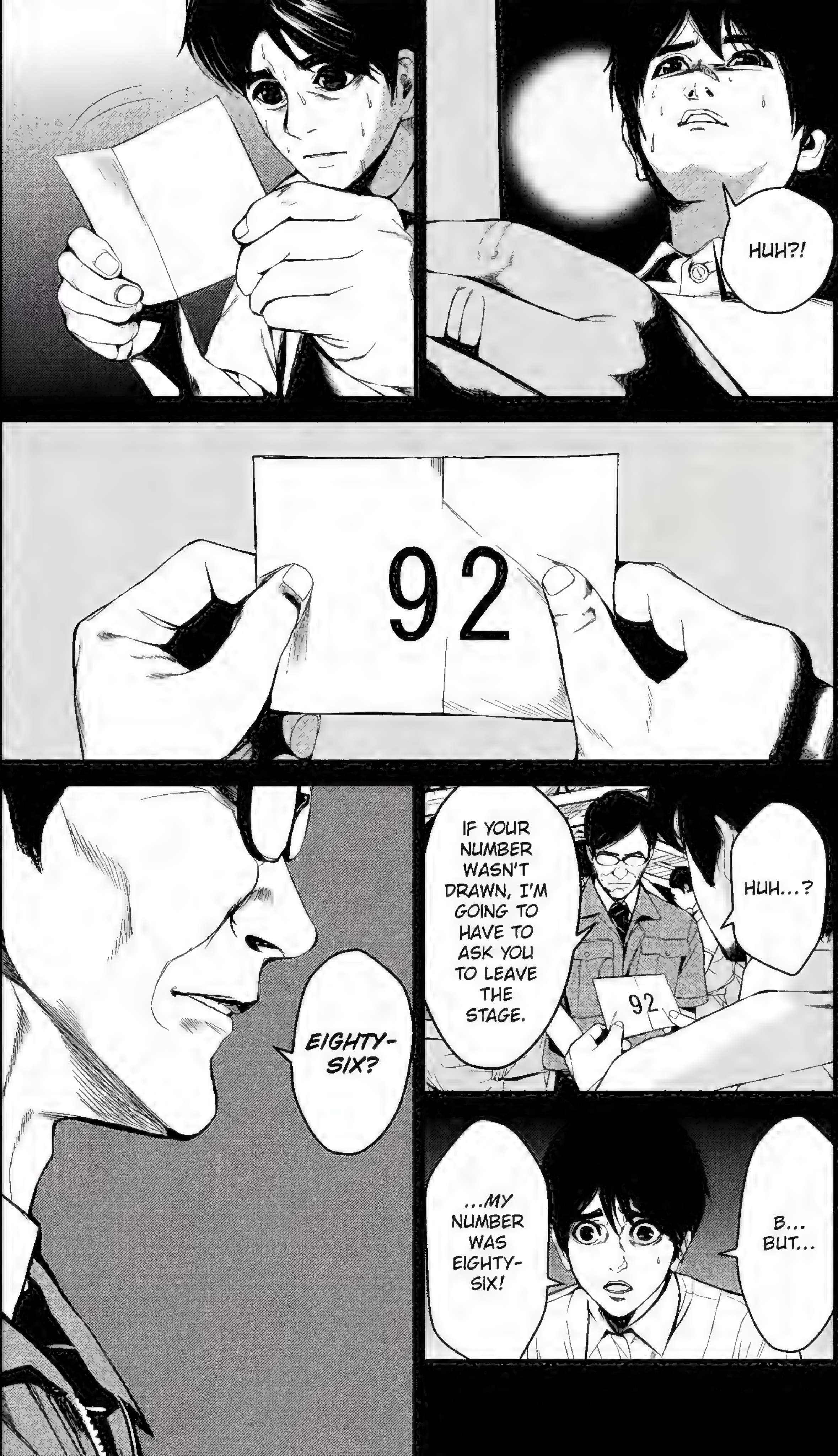

ワアアアアアア
RAHH
196
AAH!
RAHH
NOOO!
RAHH
284
RAHH
298
RAHH
428

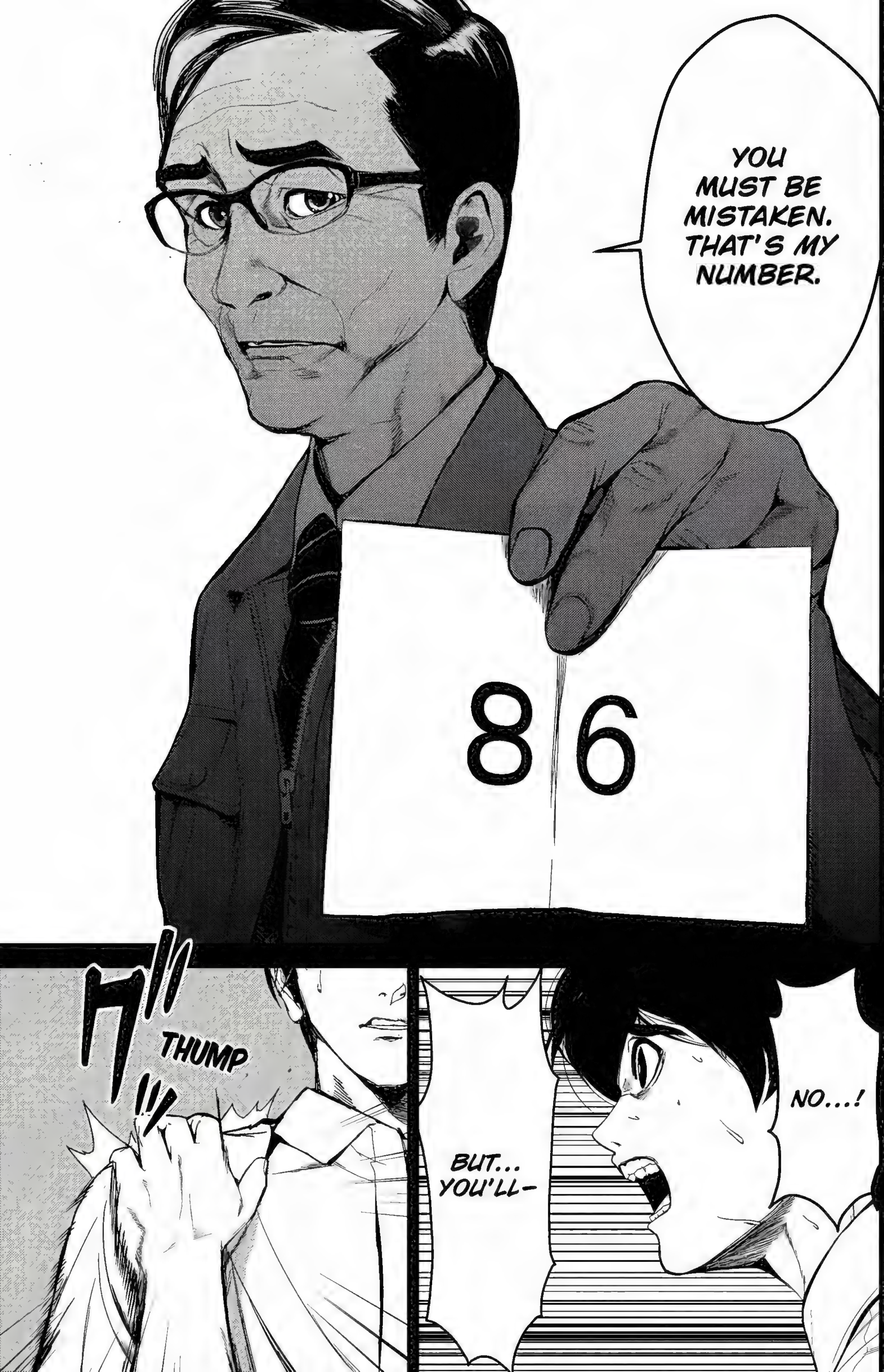

337
261。

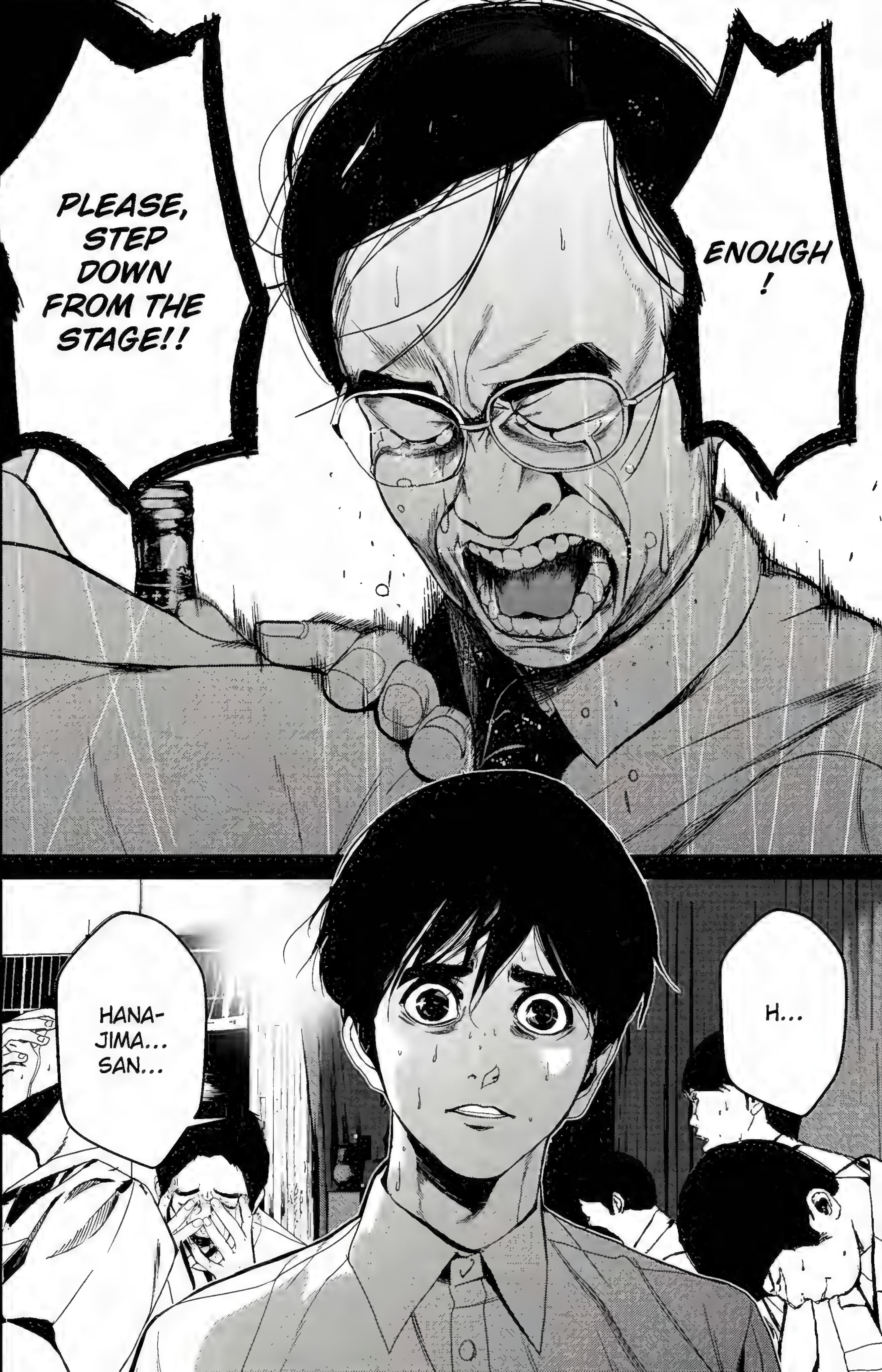

トク
GLUG
トク
GLUG


HANG ON... YOU'RE A MINOR!
KAMUS
WOULD YOU MIND LETTING ME CONFIRM YOUR NUMBER, JUNIOR?
HUH?

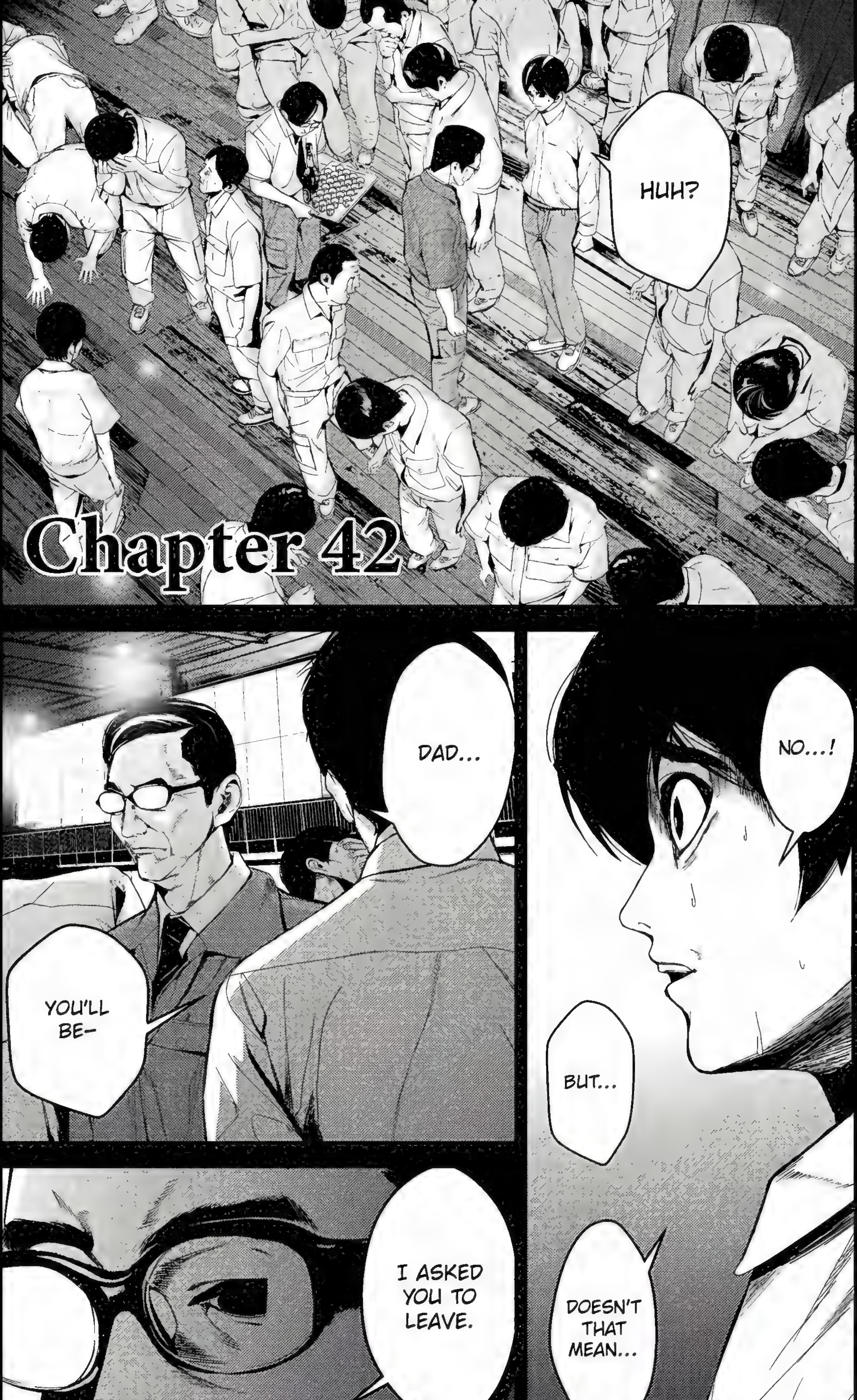

HMM?
シュルッ
FWIP
LOOK AGAIN.
I DON'T SEE THIS NUMBER WRITTEN ON THE WHITEBOARD.

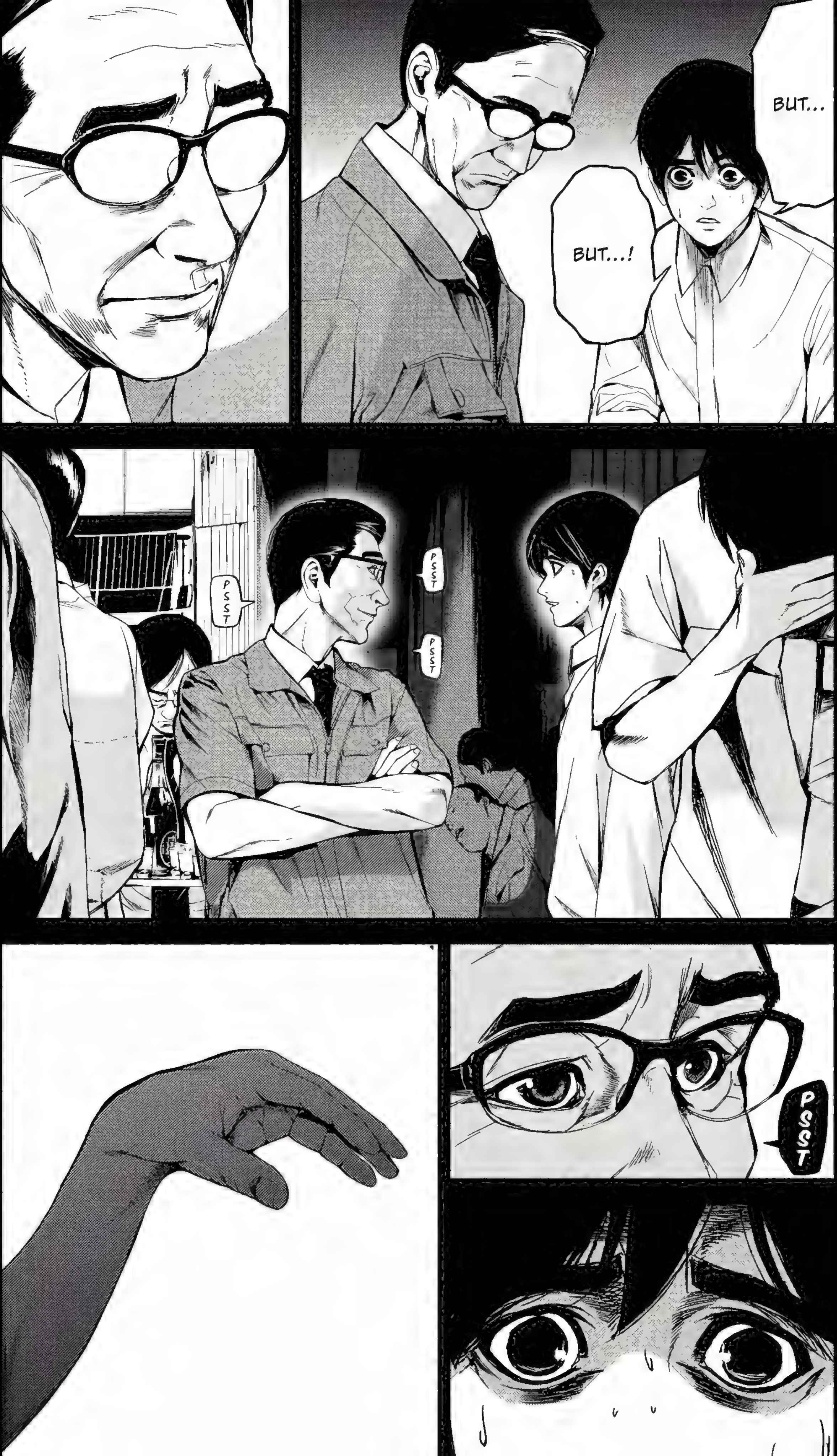

HUH?!
92
HUH...?
IF YOUR NUMBER WASN'T DRAWN, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO ASK YOU TO LEAVE THE STAGE.
92
B... BUT...
...MY NUMBER WAS EIGHTY-SIX!
EIGHTY-SIX?

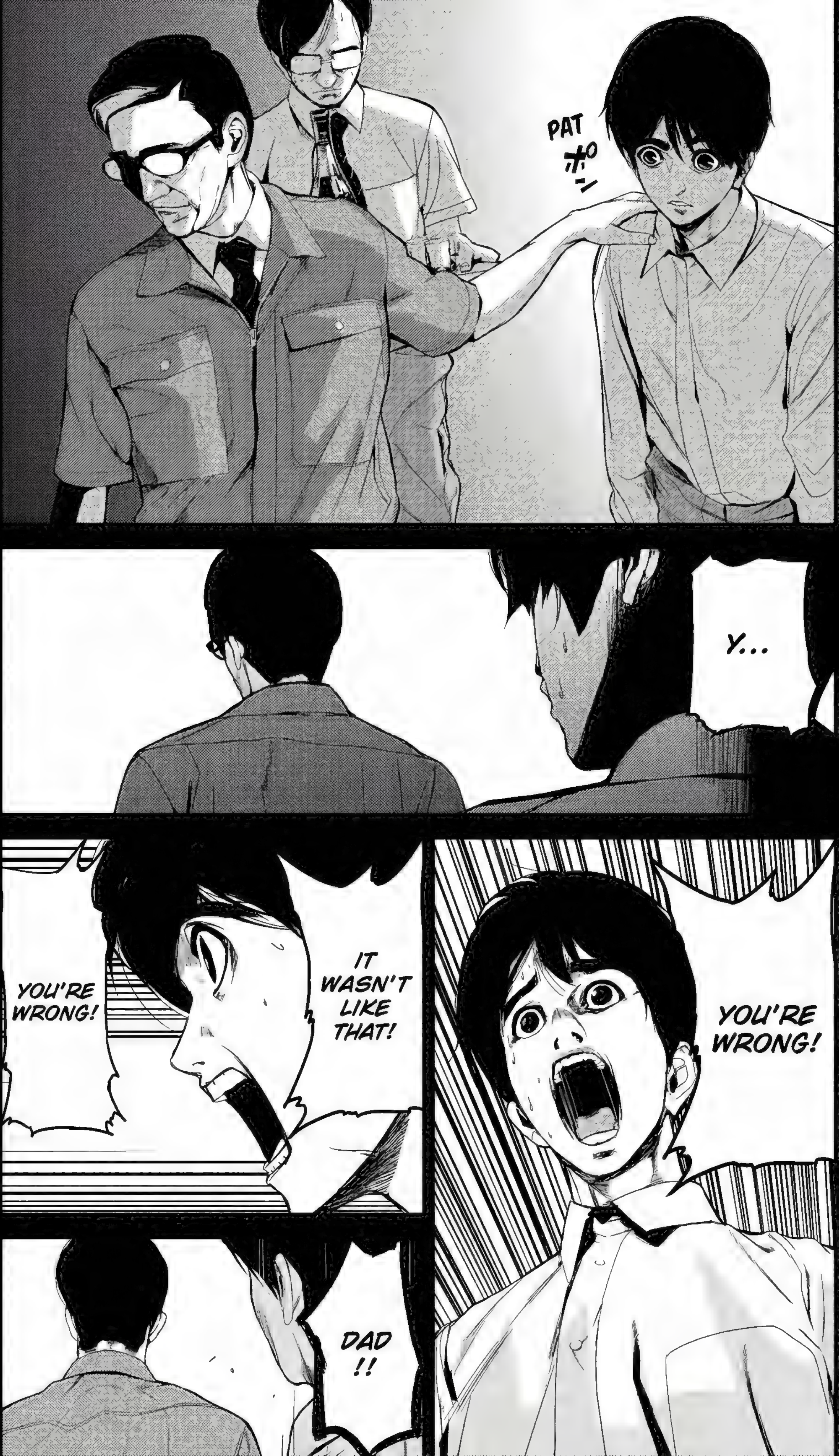

YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN. THAT'S MY NUMBER.
86
ガッ
THUMP
NO...!
BUT... YOU'LL-

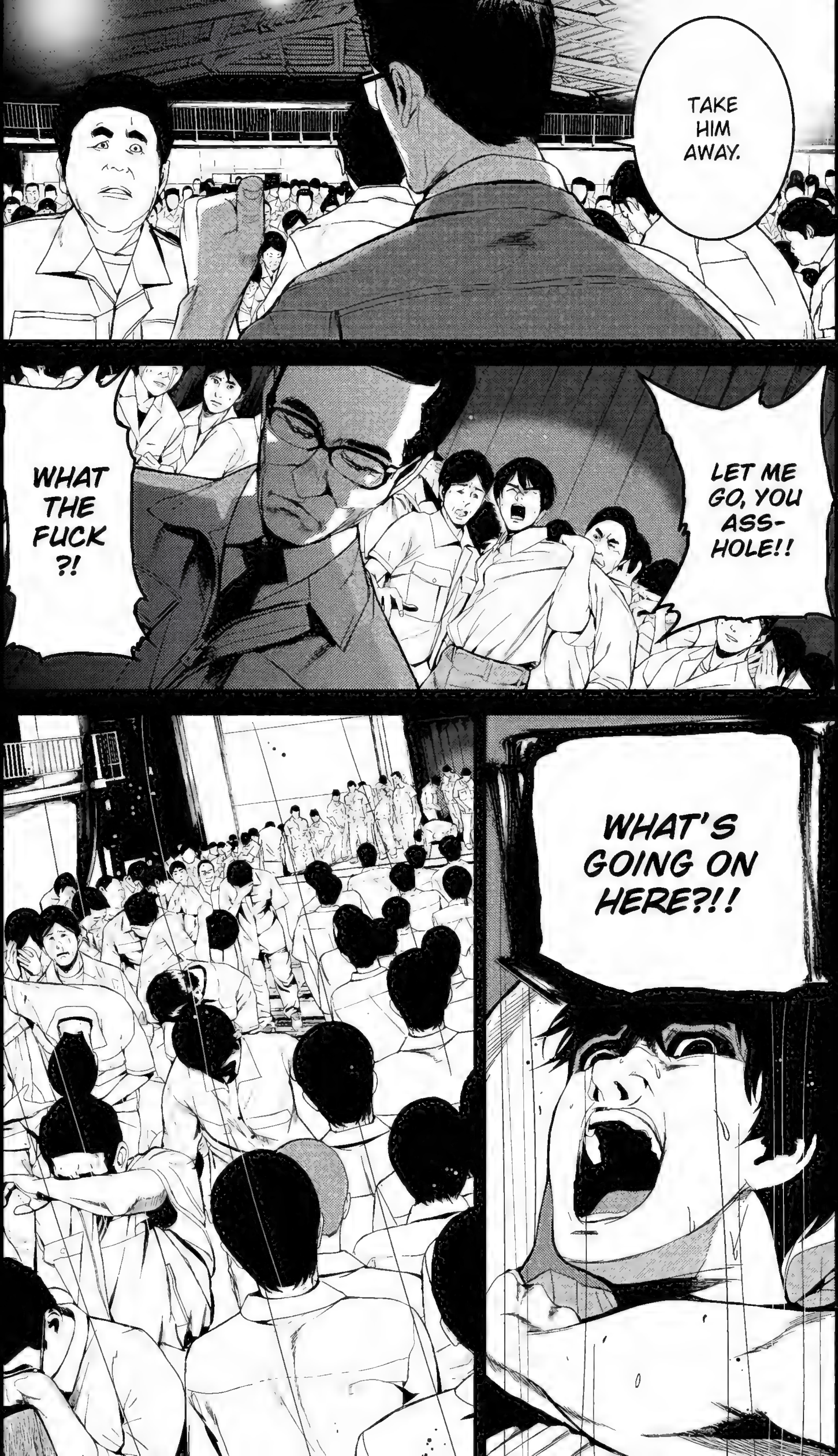

ENOUGH!
PLEASE, STEP DOWN FROM THE STAGE!!
H...
HANA-JIMA... SAN...

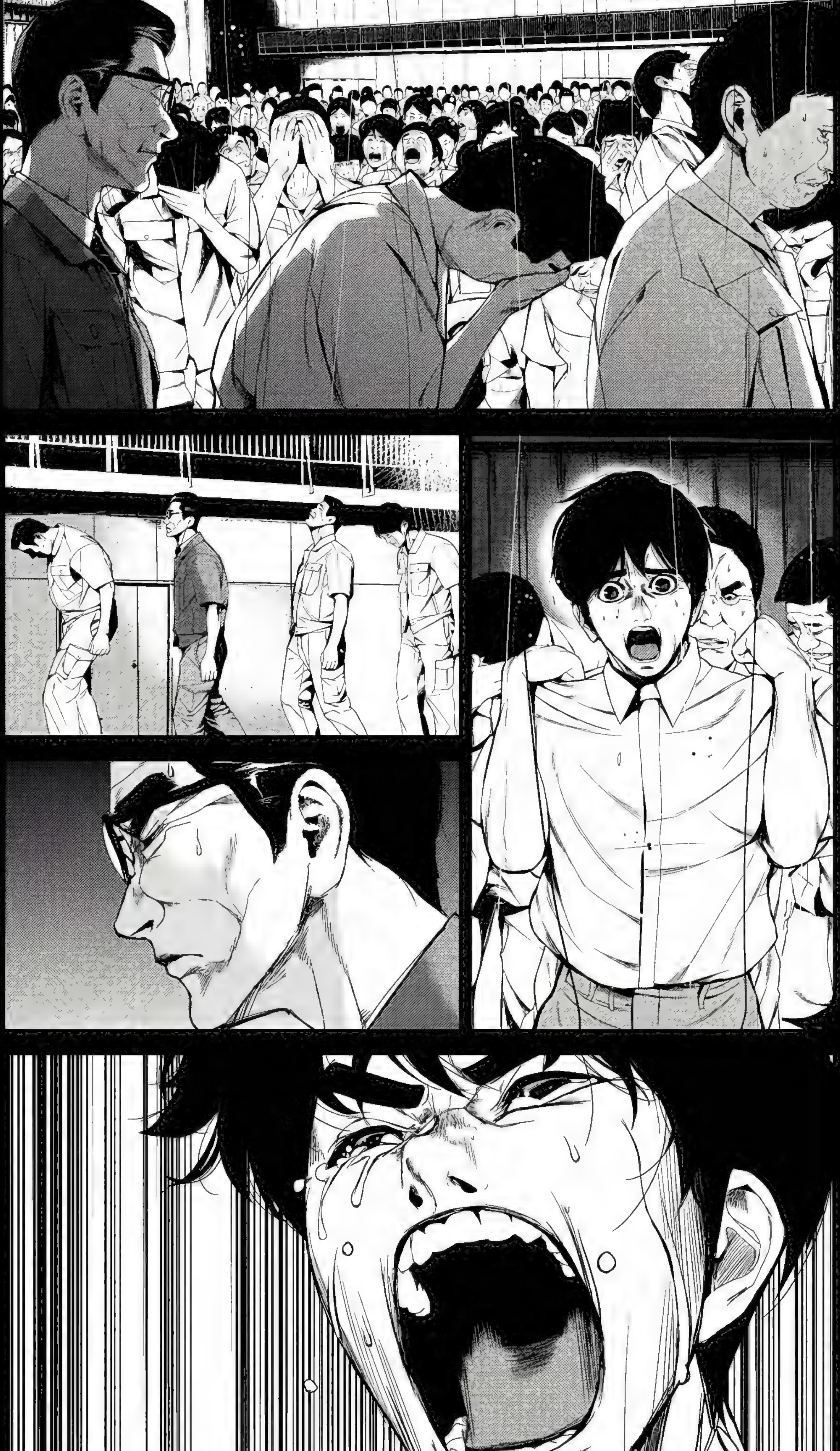
Chapter 42

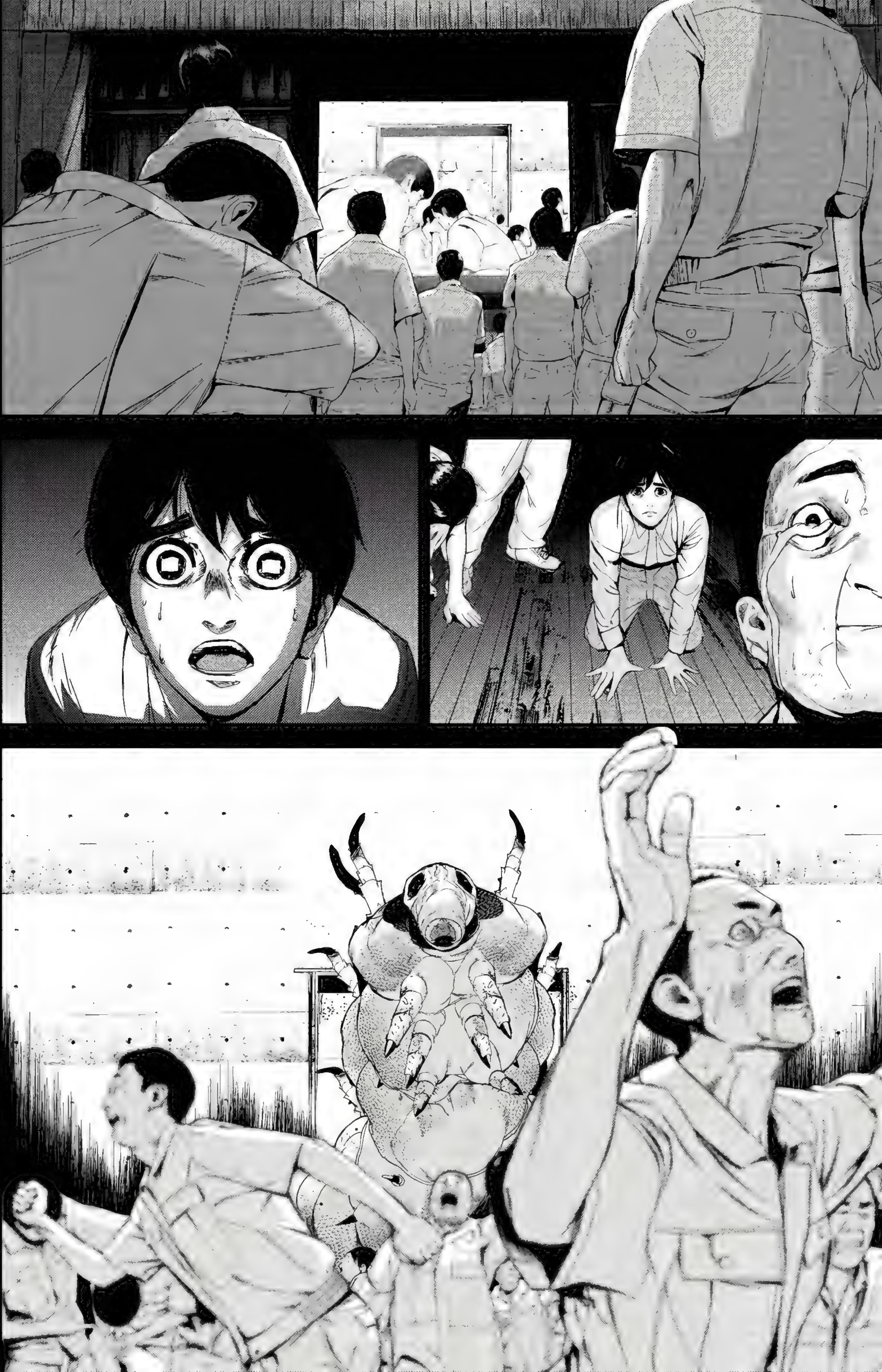

HUH?
NO...!
BUT...
DOESN'T THAT MEAN...
DAD...
YOU'LL BE-
I ASKED YOU TO LEAVE.

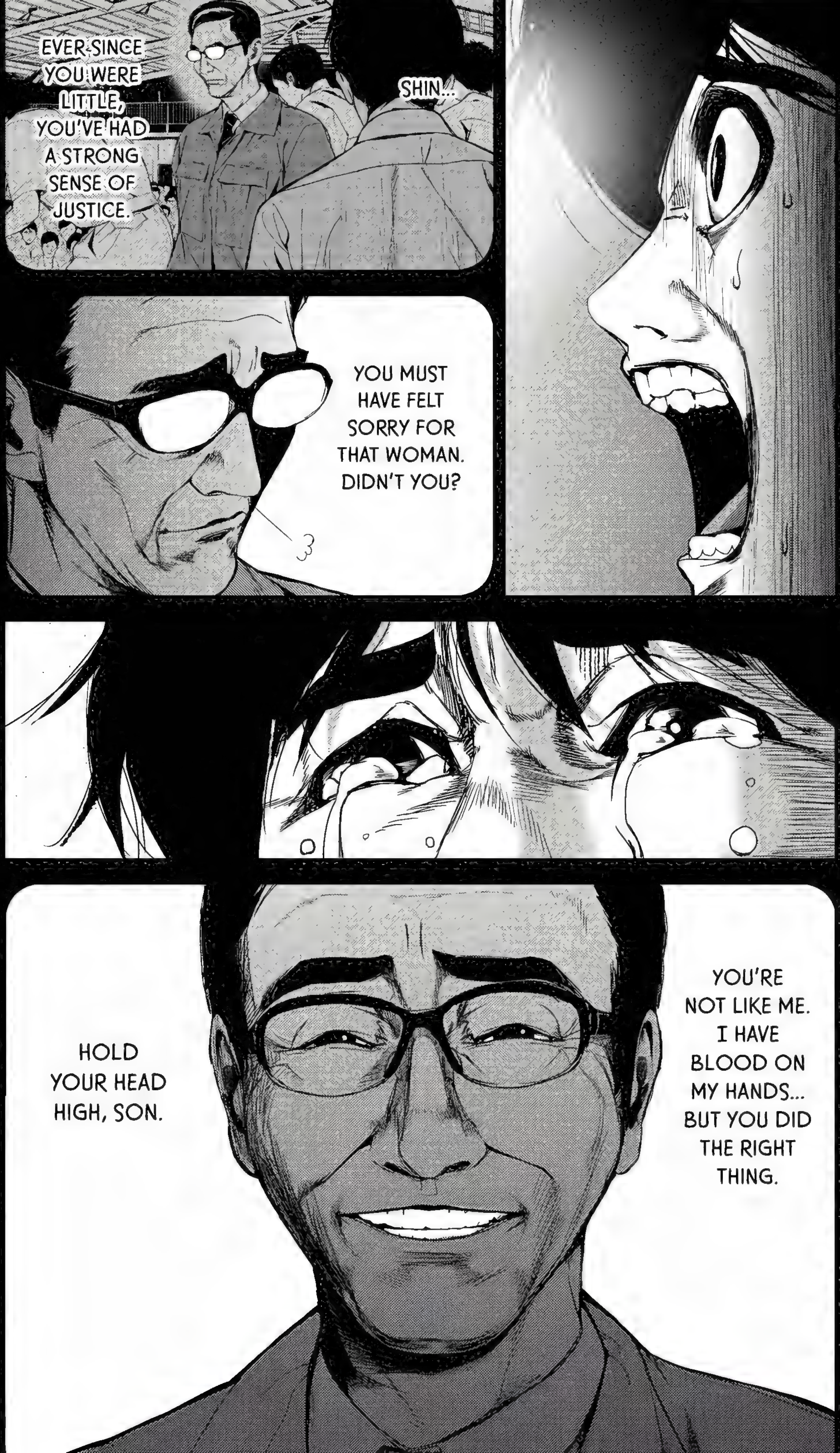

BUT...
BUT...!
PSST
PSST
PSST
PSST


PAT
ポン
Y...
YOU'RE WRONG!
IT WASN'T LIKE THAT!
YOU'RE WRONG!
DAD!!

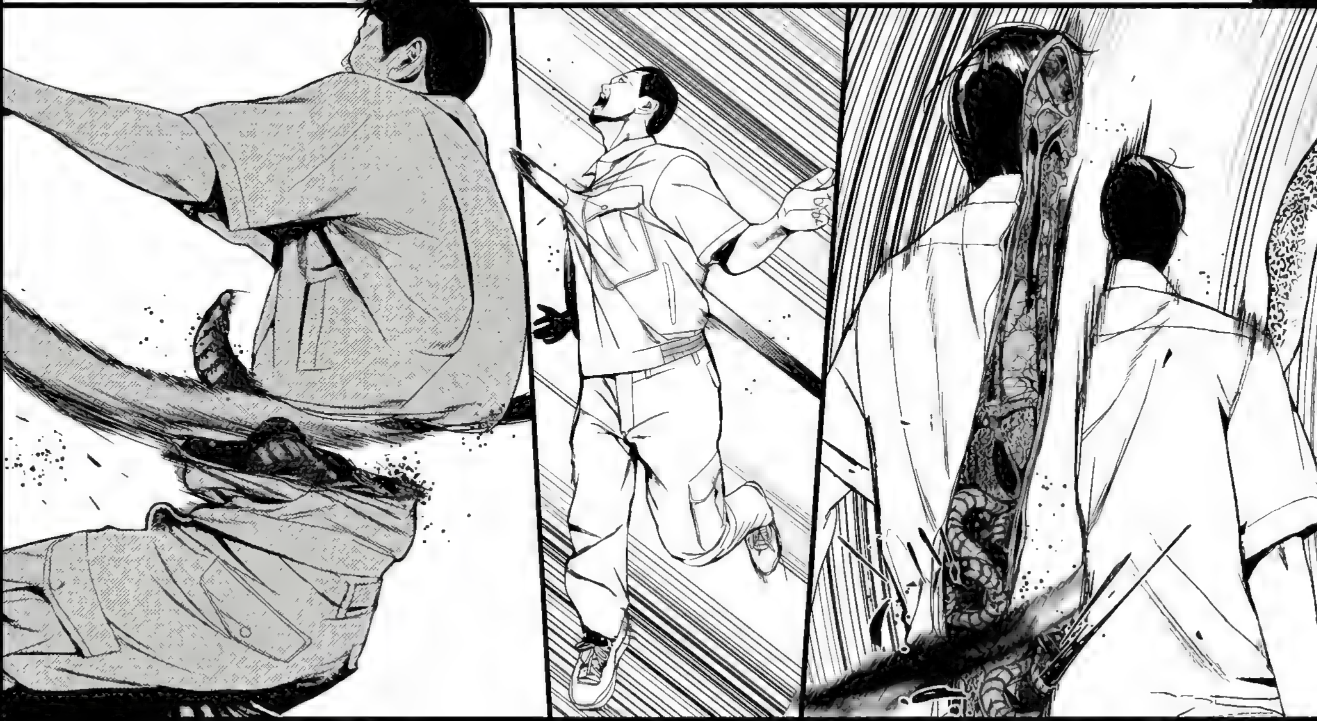

TAKE HIM AWAY.
LET ME GO, YOU ASSHOLE!!
WHAT THE FUCK ?!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!!



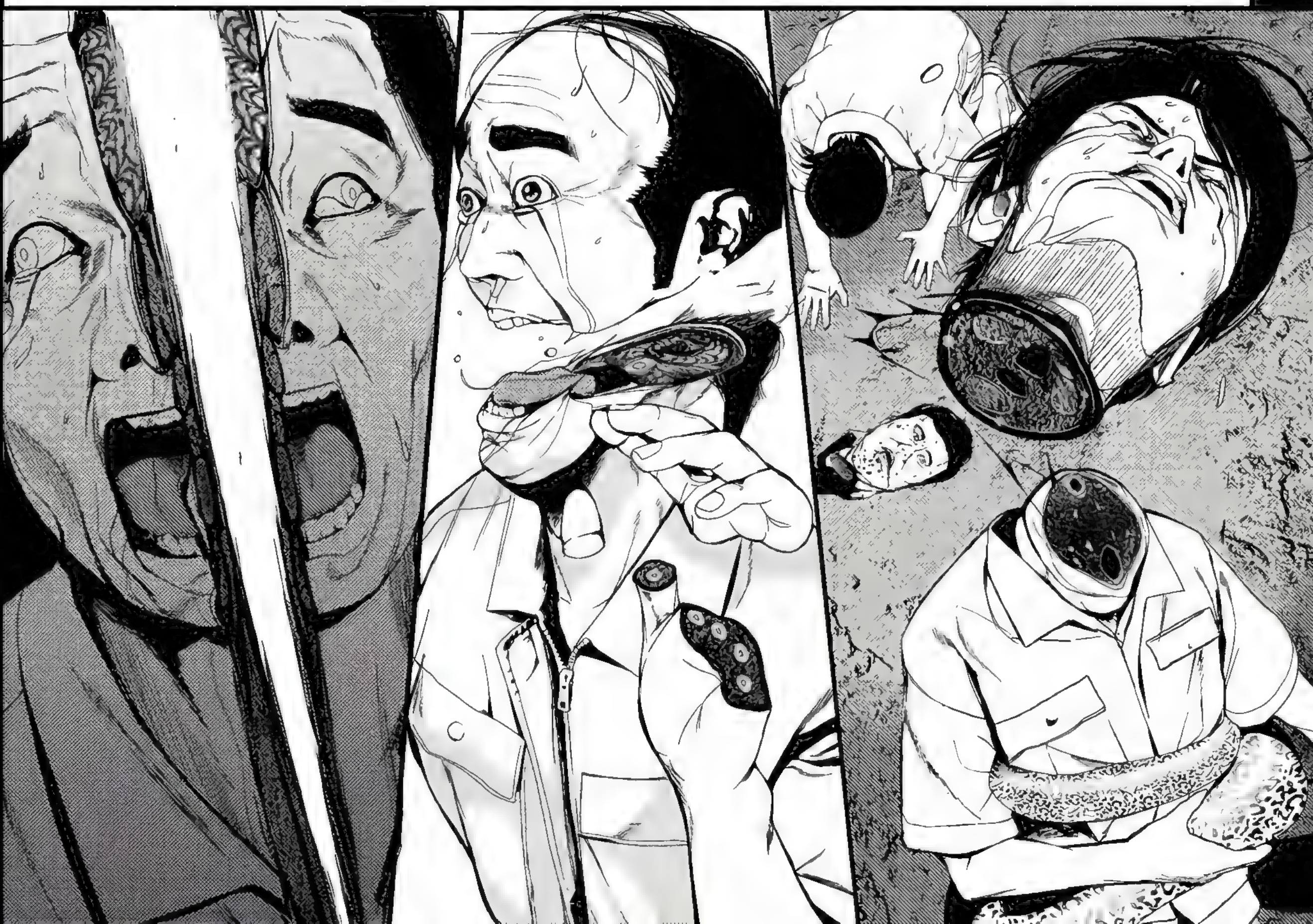


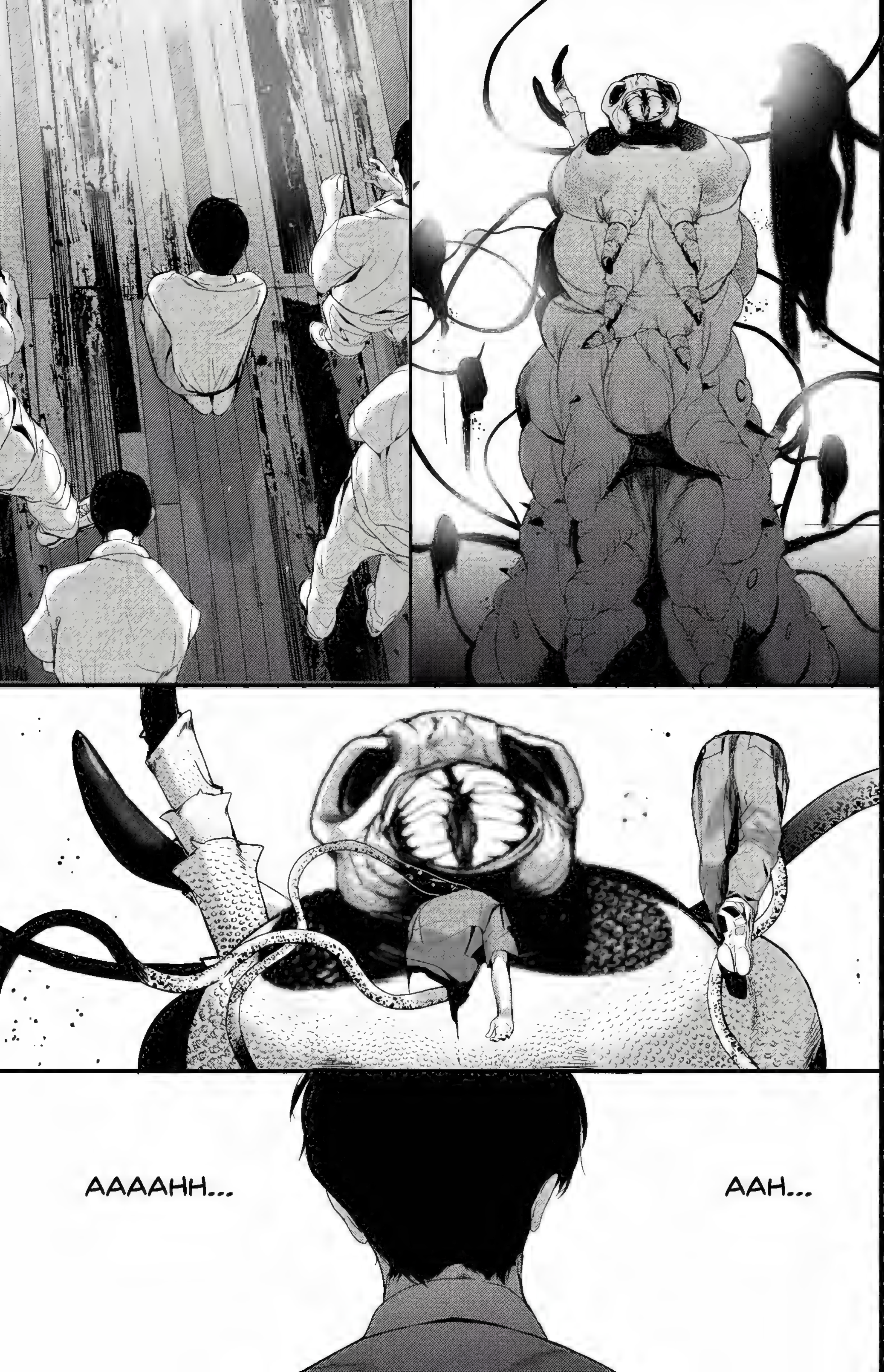

SHIN...
EVER SINCE YOU WERE LITTLE, YOU'VE HAD A STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE.
YOU MUST HAVE FELT SORRY FOR THAT WOMAN. DIDN'T YOU?
YOU'RE NOT LIKE ME. I HAVE BLOOD ON MY HANDS... BUT YOU DID THE RIGHT THING.
HOLD YOUR HEAD HIGH, SON.

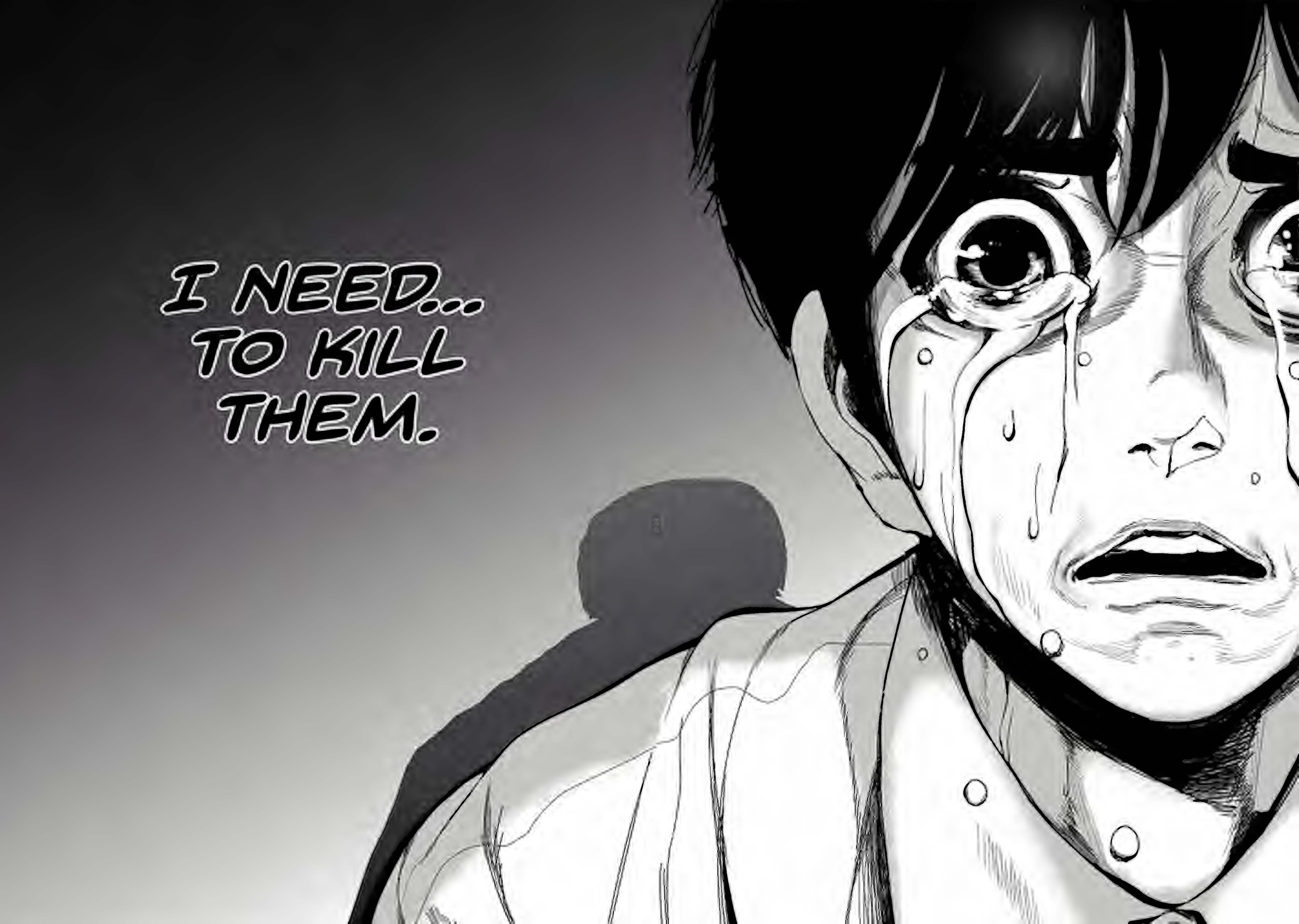
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO DIE.

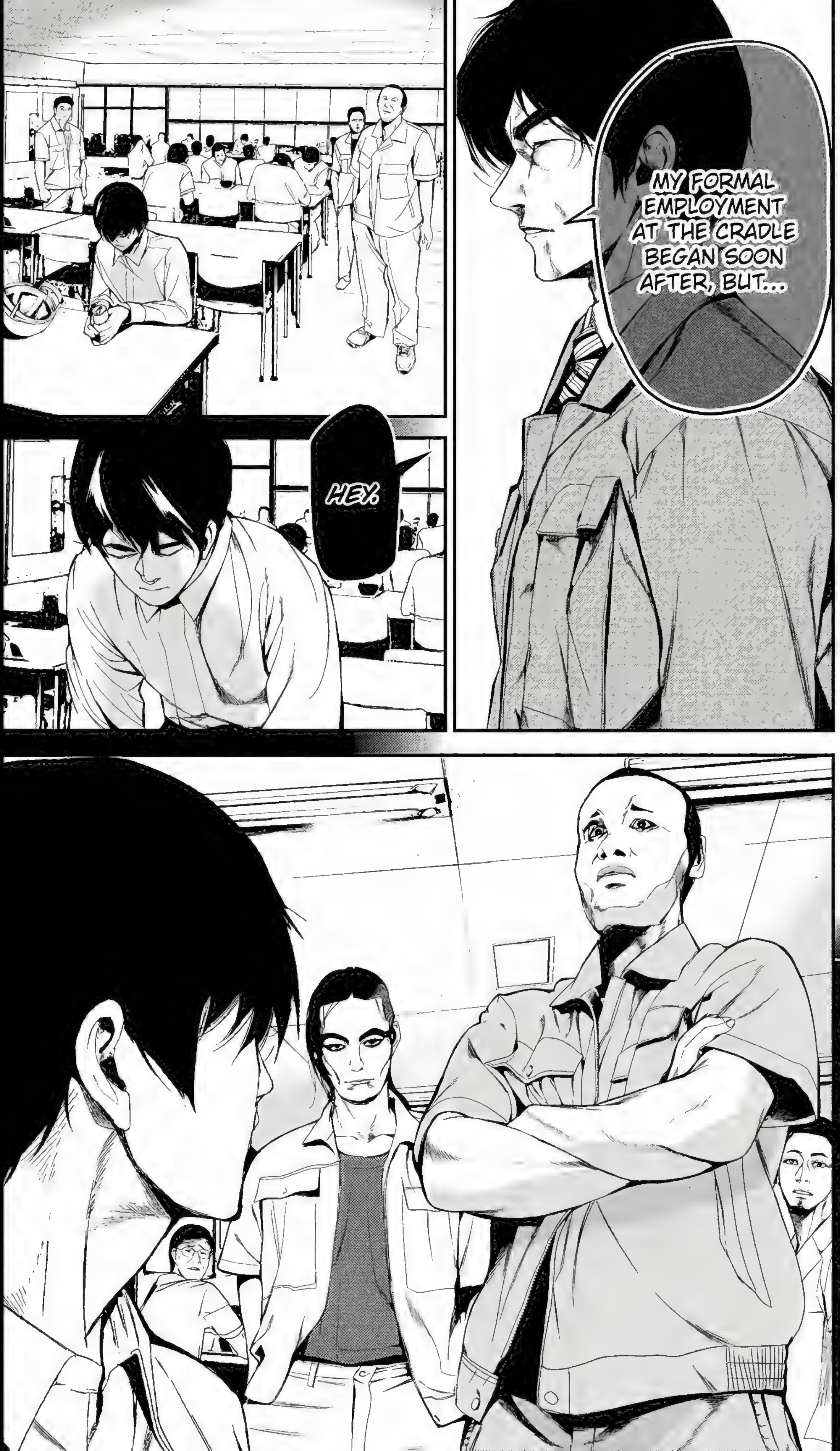


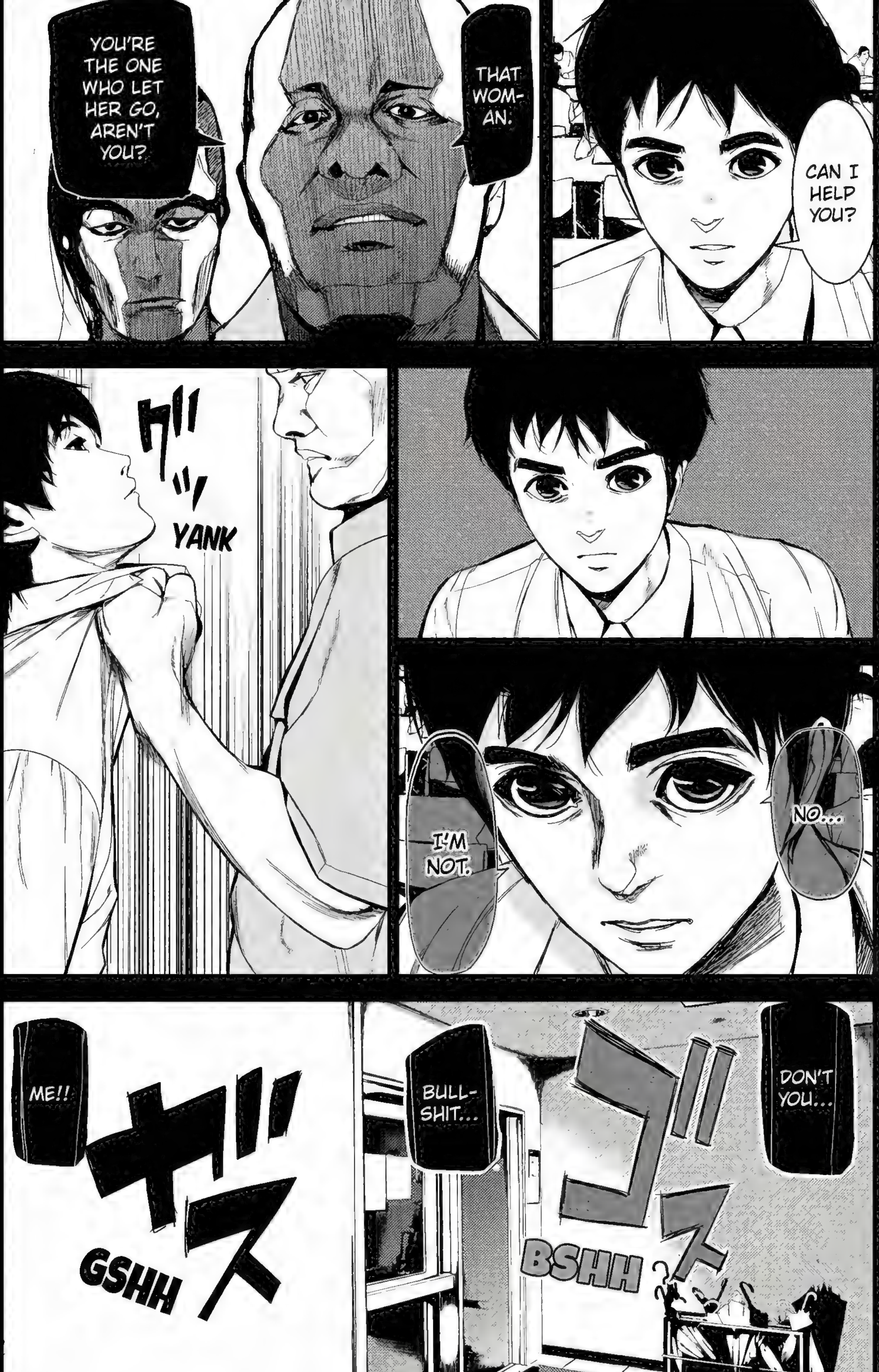
TAKE CARE.

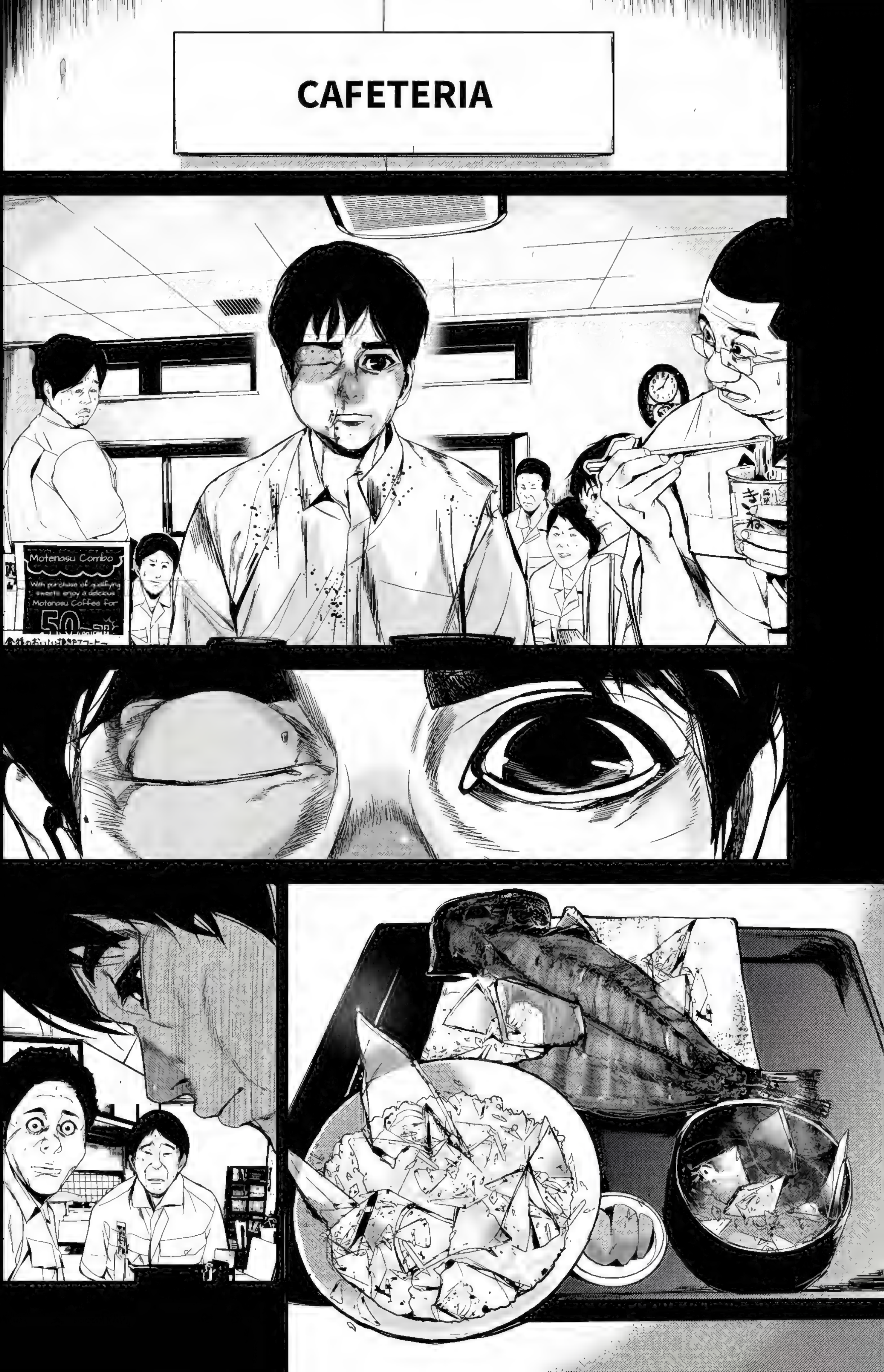


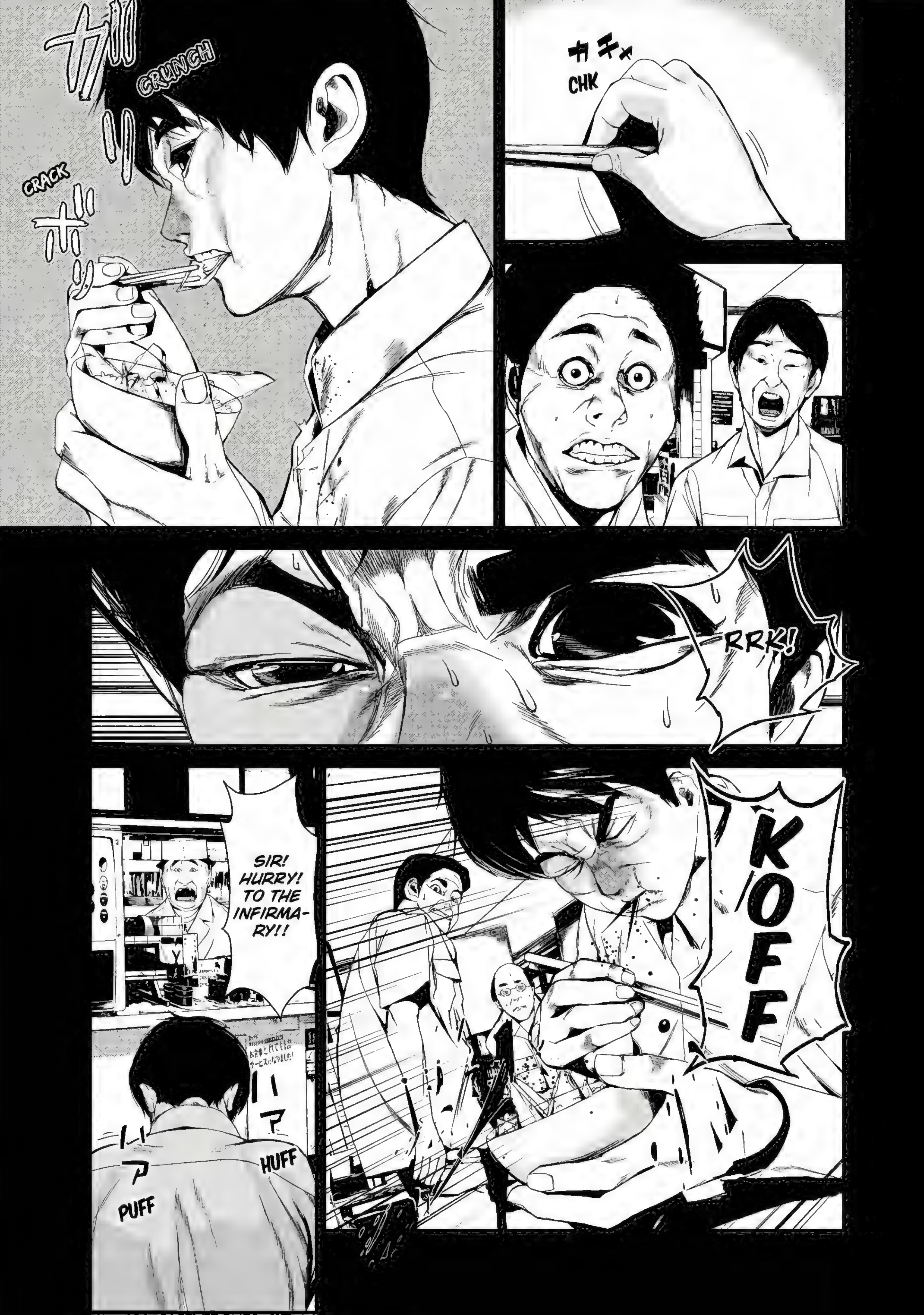

AAH...
AAAAHH...

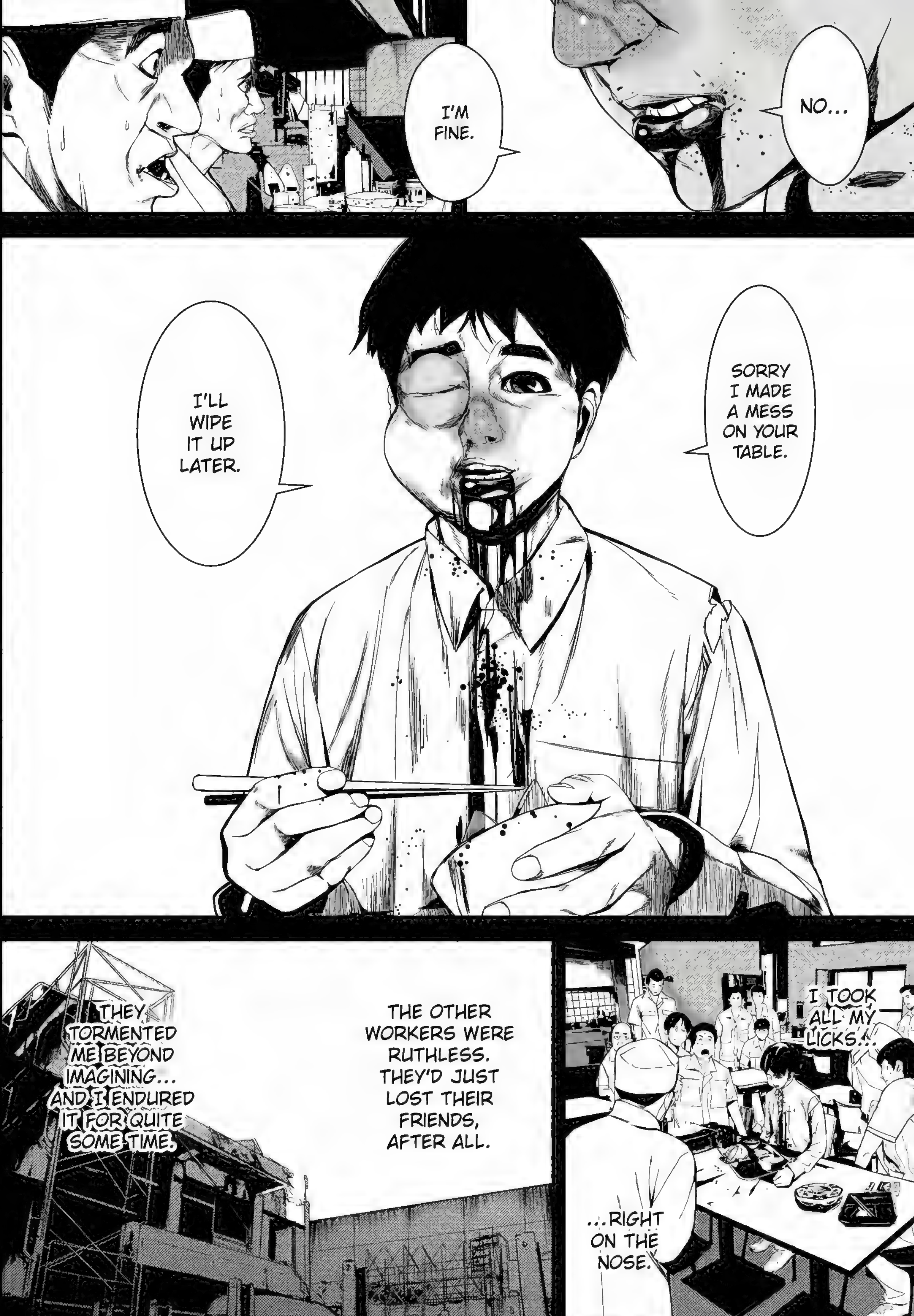

I NEED... TO KILL THEM.

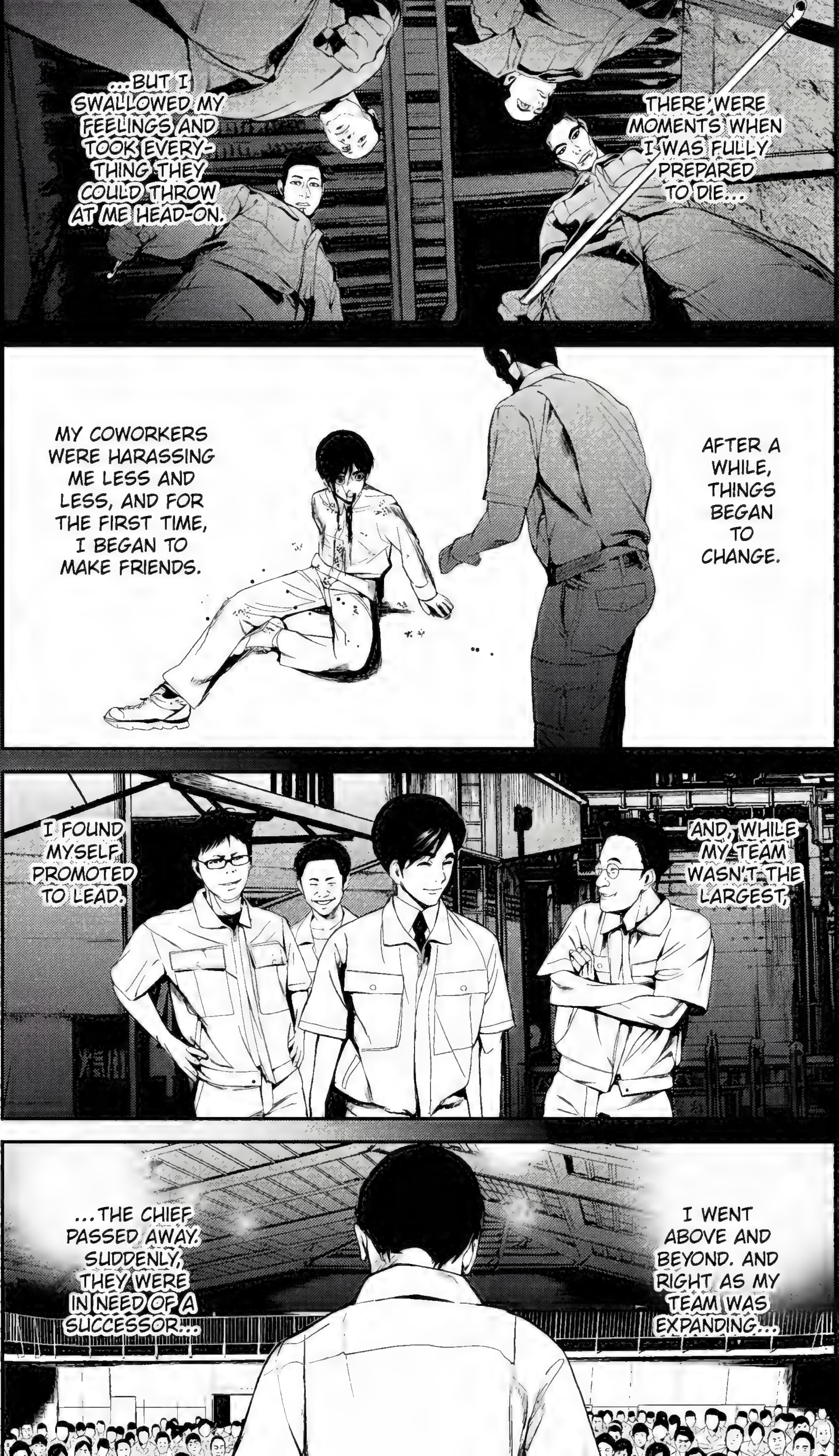

MY FORMAL EMPLOYMENT AT THE CRADLE BEGAN SOON AFTER, BUT...
HEY.

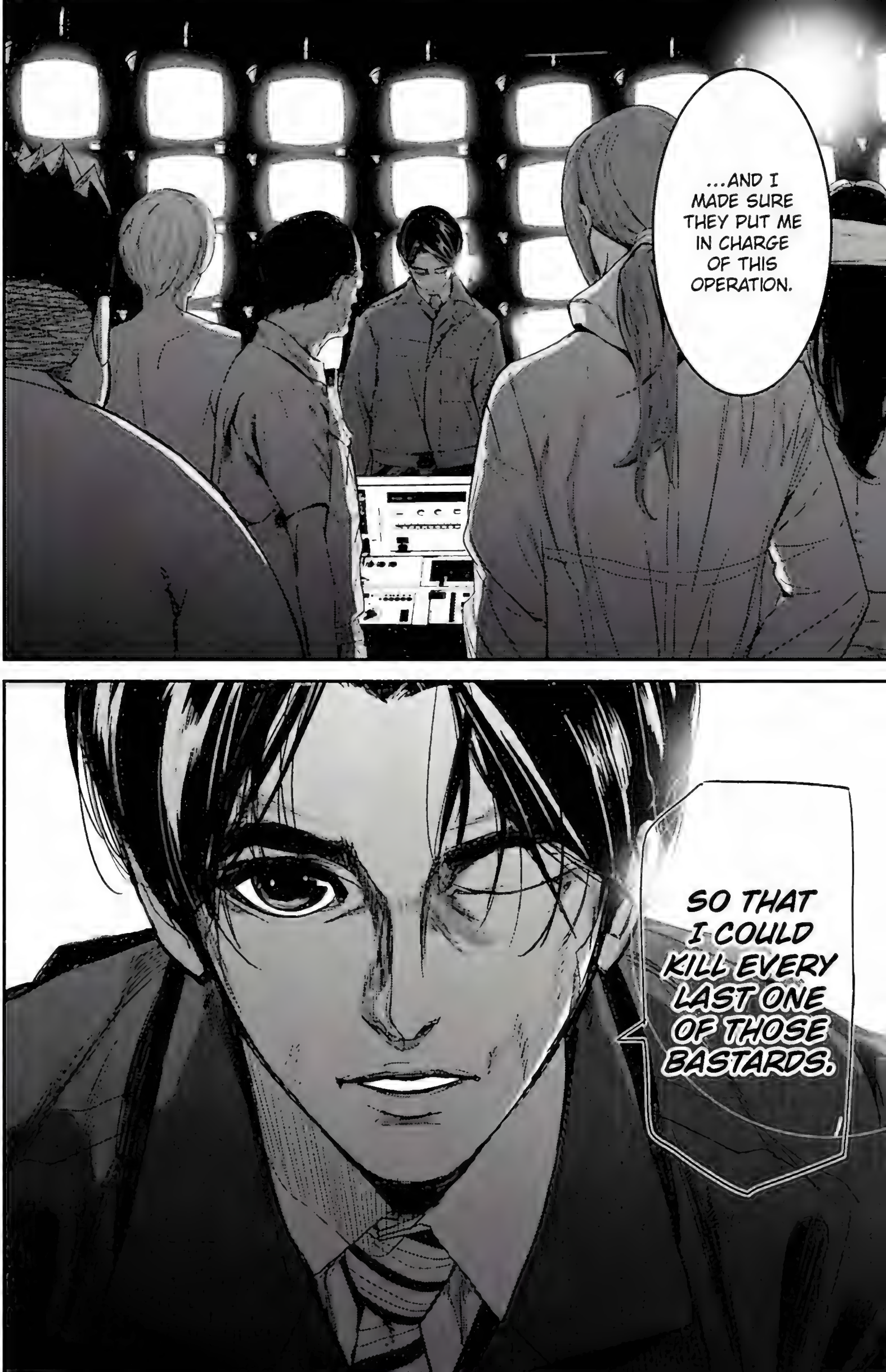

CAN I HELP YOU?
THAT WOMAN.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO LET HER GO, AREN'T YOU?
NO...
I'M NOT.
YANK
DON'T YOU...
BULLSHIT...
BSHH
ME!!
GSHH


CAFETERIA
Motenasu Combo
With purchase of qualifying sweets enjoy a delicious Motenasu Coffee for
50
きつね

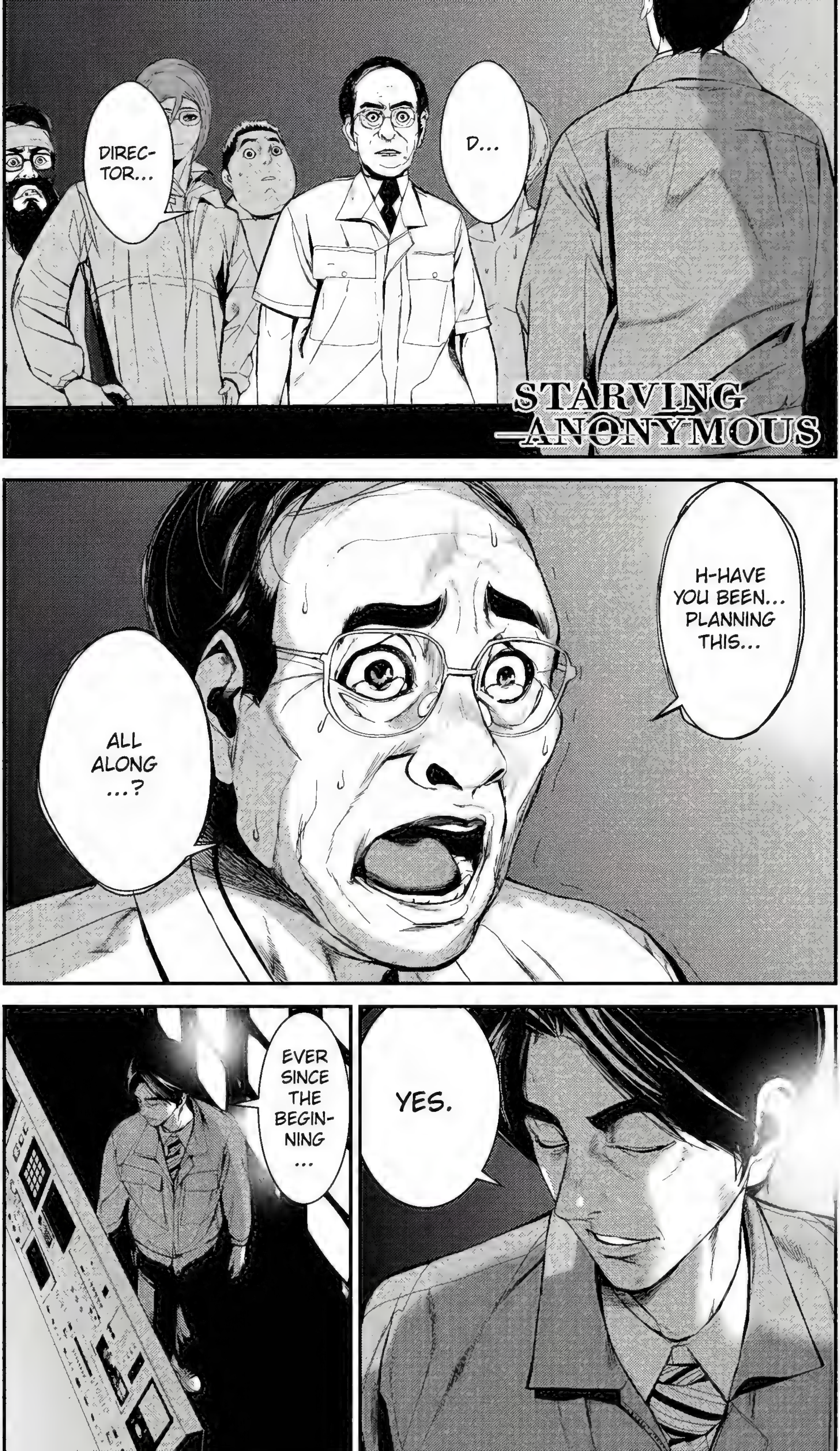

カチャ
CHK
ガリ
CRUNCH
ボリ
CRACK
RRK!
KOFF
SIR! HURRY! TO THE INFIRMARY!!
ハァ
HUFF
ハァ
PUFF


NO...
I'M FINE.
SORRY I MADE A MESS ON YOUR TABLE.
I'LL WIPE IT UP LATER.
I TOOK ALL MY LICKS...
...RIGHT ON THE NOSE.
THE OTHER WORKERS WERE RUTHLESS. THEY'D JUST LOST THEIR FRIENDS, AFTER ALL.
THEY TORMENTED ME BEYOND IMAGINING... AND I ENDURED IT FOR QUITE SOME TIME.

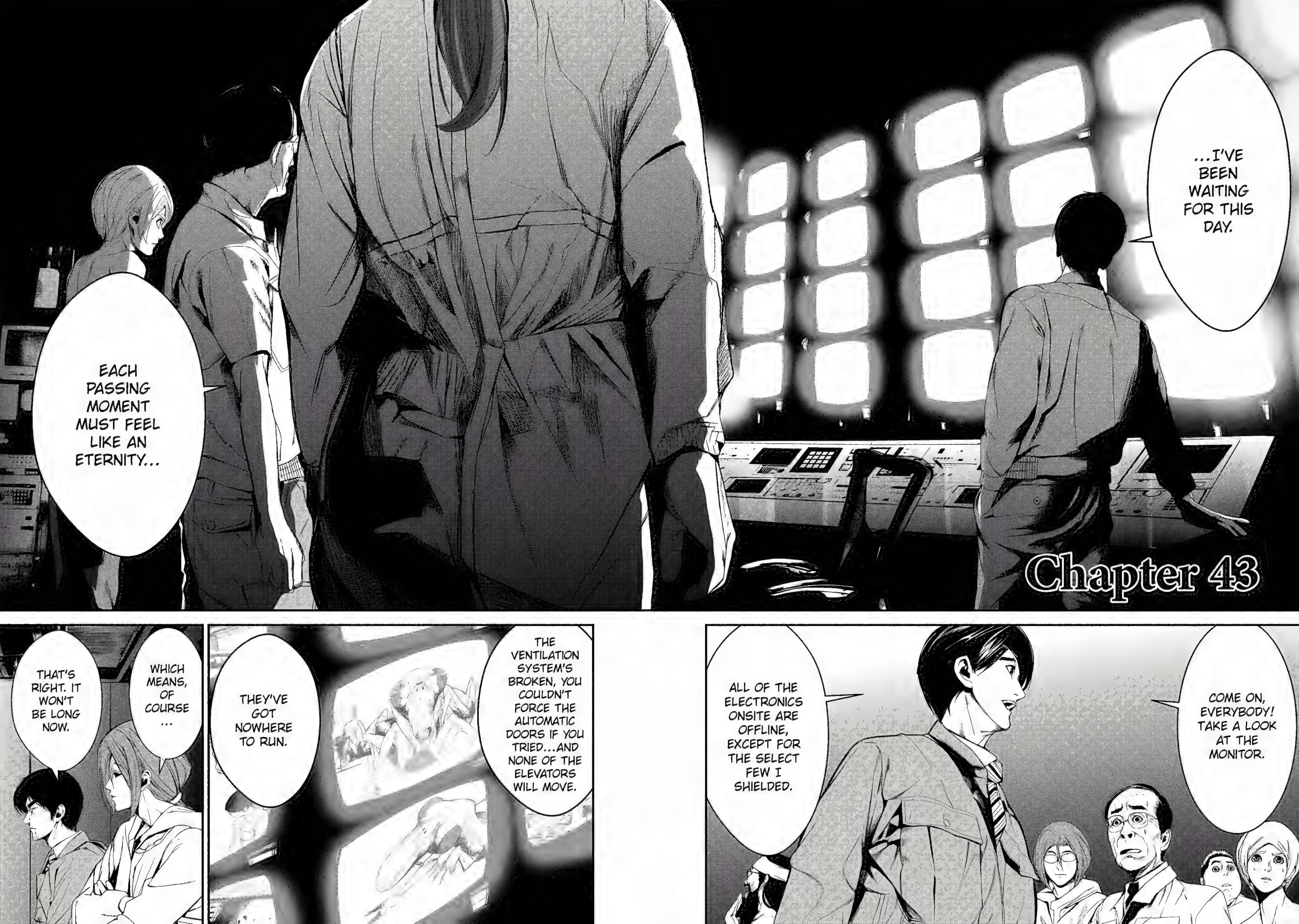

THERE WERE MOMENTS WHEN I WAS FULLY PREPARED TO DIE...
...BUT I SWALLOWED MY FEELINGS AND TOOK EVERYTHING THEY COULD THROW AT ME HEAD-ON.
AFTER A WHILE, THINGS BEGAN TO CHANGE.
MY COWORKERS WERE HARASSING ME LESS AND LESS, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, I BEGAN TO MAKE FRIENDS.
AND, WHILE MY TEAM WASN'T THE LARGEST,
I FOUND MYSELF PROMOTED TO LEAD.
I WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND. AND RIGHT AS MY TEAM WAS EXPANDING...
...THE CHIEF PASSED AWAY. SUDDENLY, THEY WERE IN NEED OF A SUCCESSOR...

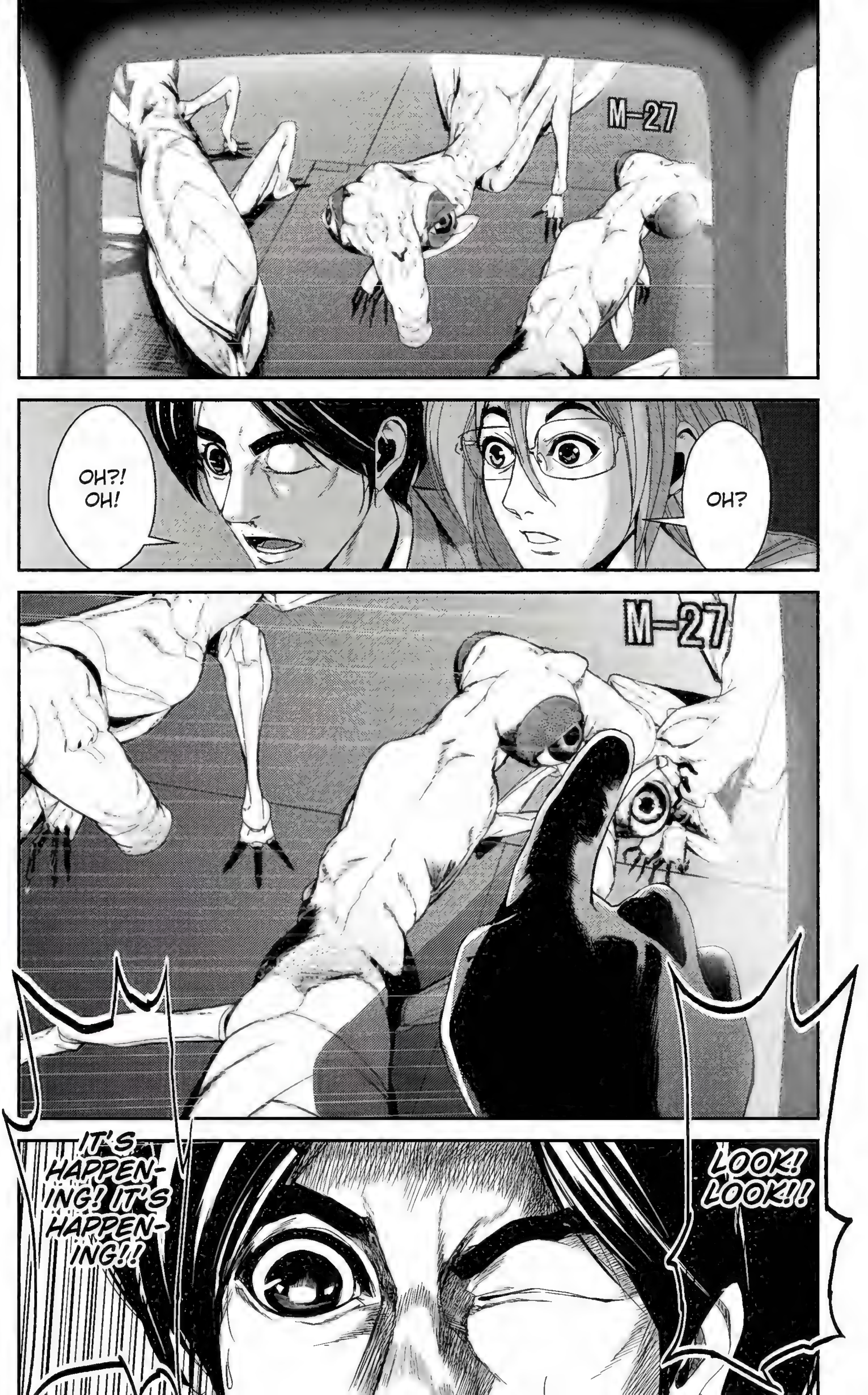

...AND I MADE SURE THEY PUT ME IN CHARGE OF THIS OPERATION.
SO THAT I COULD KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF THOSE BASTARDS.

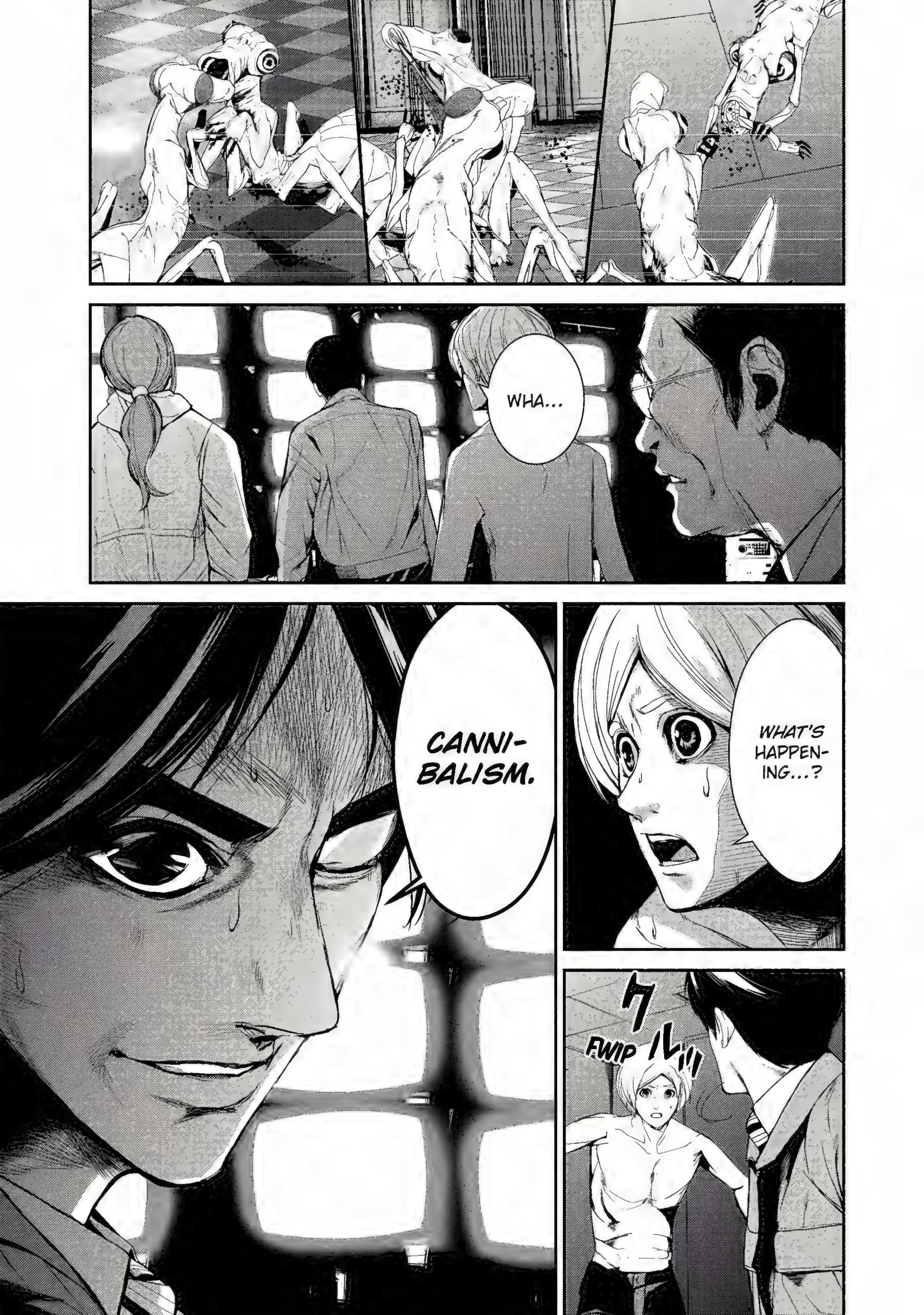
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

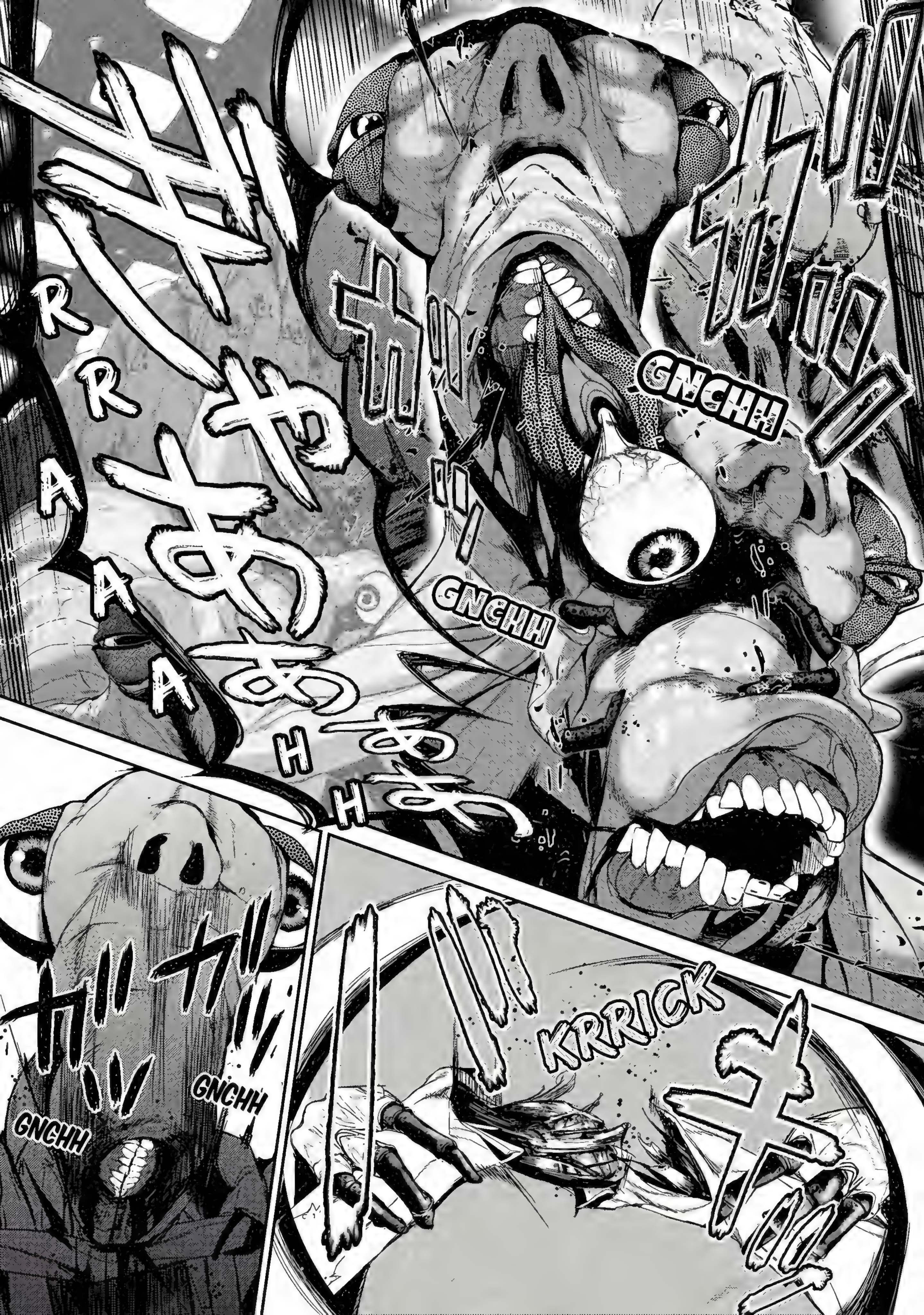

D...
DIRECTOR...
STARVING ANONYMOUS
H-HAVE YOU BEEN... PLANNING THIS...
ALL ALONG...?
YES.
EVER SINCE THE BEGINNING...

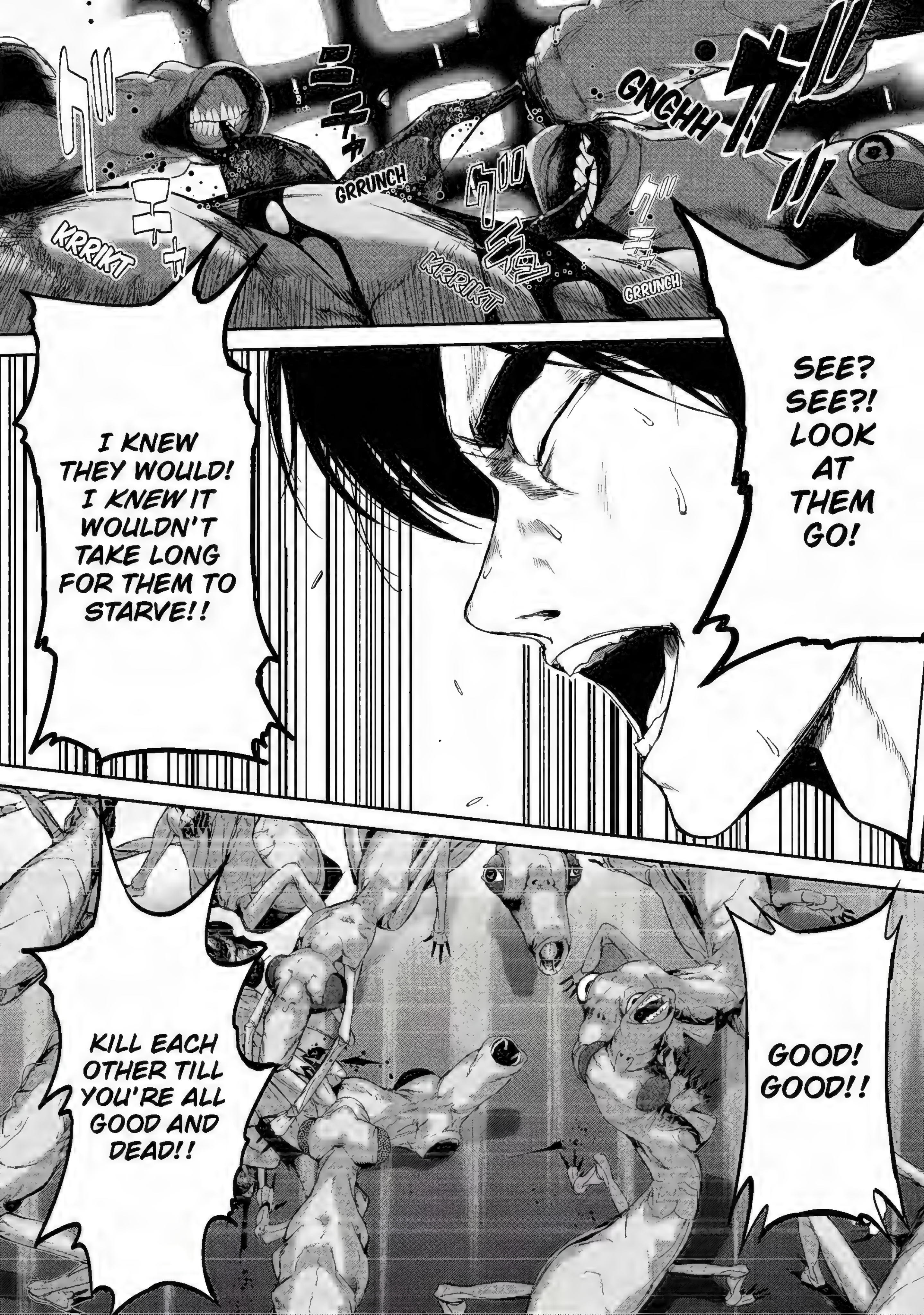
Chapter 43

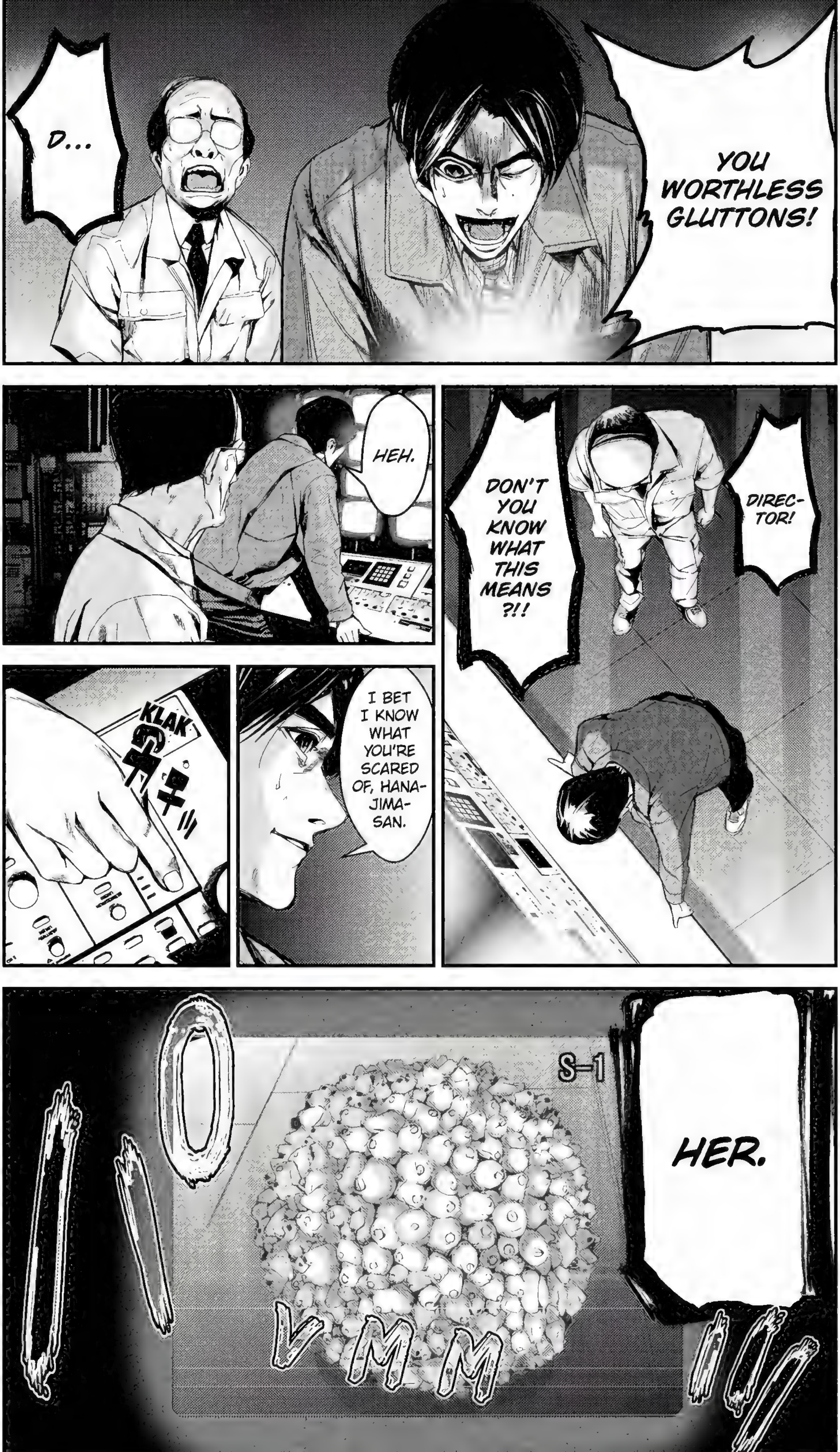

…I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS DAY.
EACH PASSING MOMENT MUST FEEL LIKE AN ETERNITY…
COME ON, EVERYBODY! TAKE A LOOK AT THE MONITOR.
ALL OF THE ELECTRONICS ONSITE ARE OFFLINE, EXCEPT FOR THE SELECT FEW I SHIELDED.
THE VENTILATION SYSTEM'S BROKEN, YOU COULDN'T FORCE THE AUTOMATIC DOORS IF YOU TRIED…AND NONE OF THE ELEVATORS WILL MOVE.
THEY'VE GOT NOWHERE TO RUN.
WHICH MEANS, OF COURSE …
THAT'S RIGHT. IT WON'T BE LONG NOW.

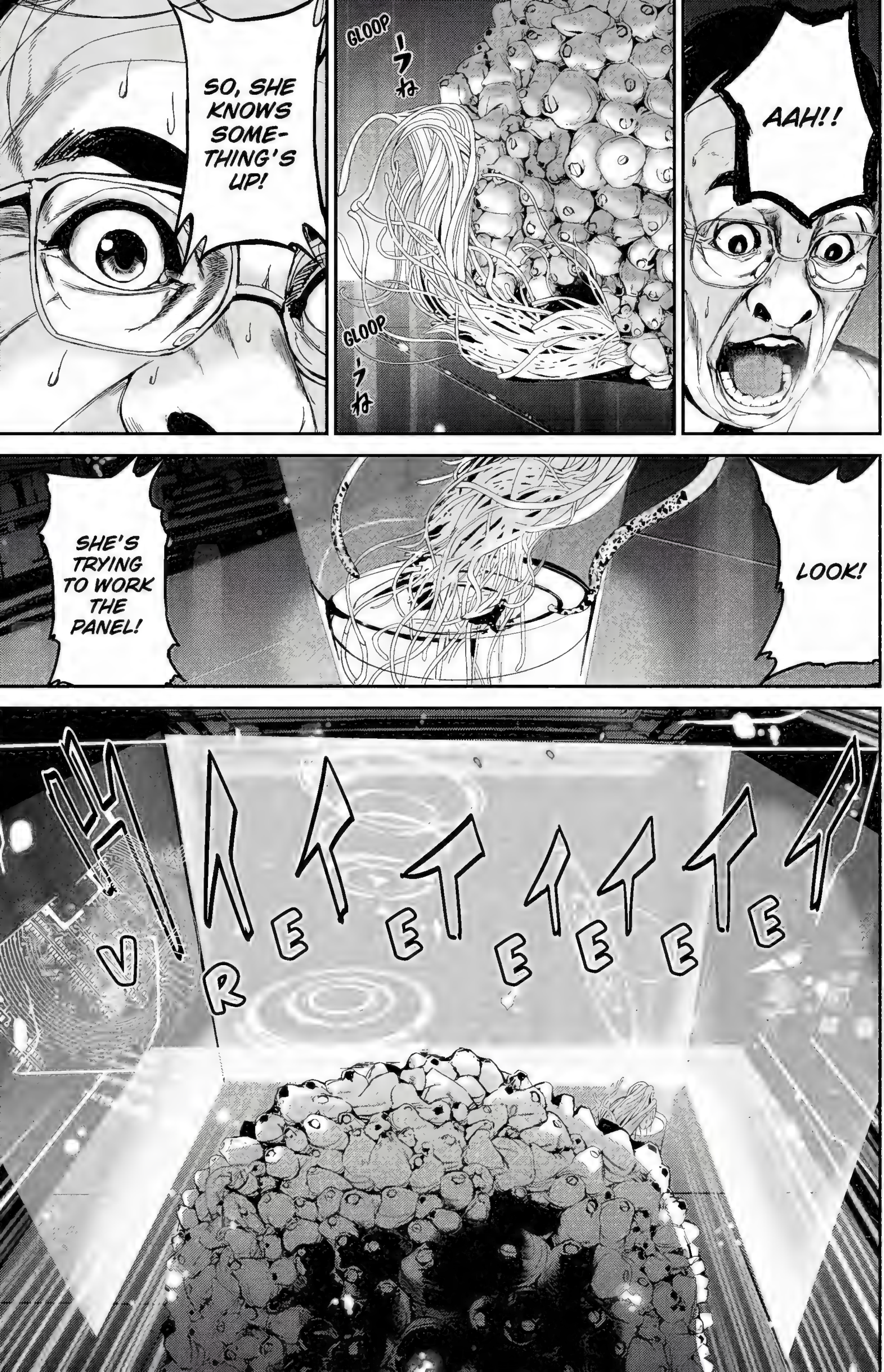

M-27
OH?
OH?! OH!
M-27
LOOK! LOOK!!
IT'S HAPPENING! IT'S HAPPENING!!

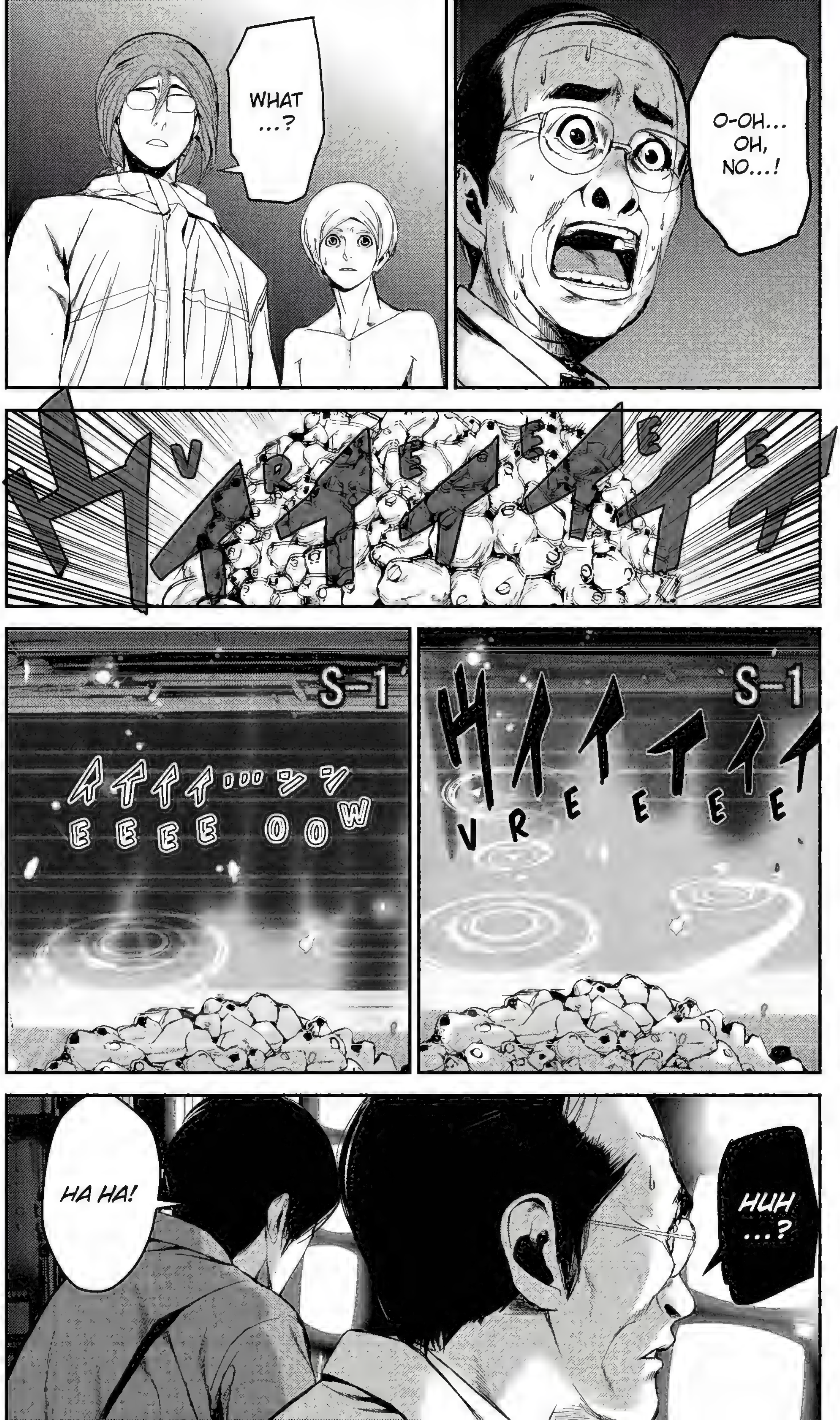

WHA...
WHAT'S HAPPENING...?
CANNIBALISM.
FWIP

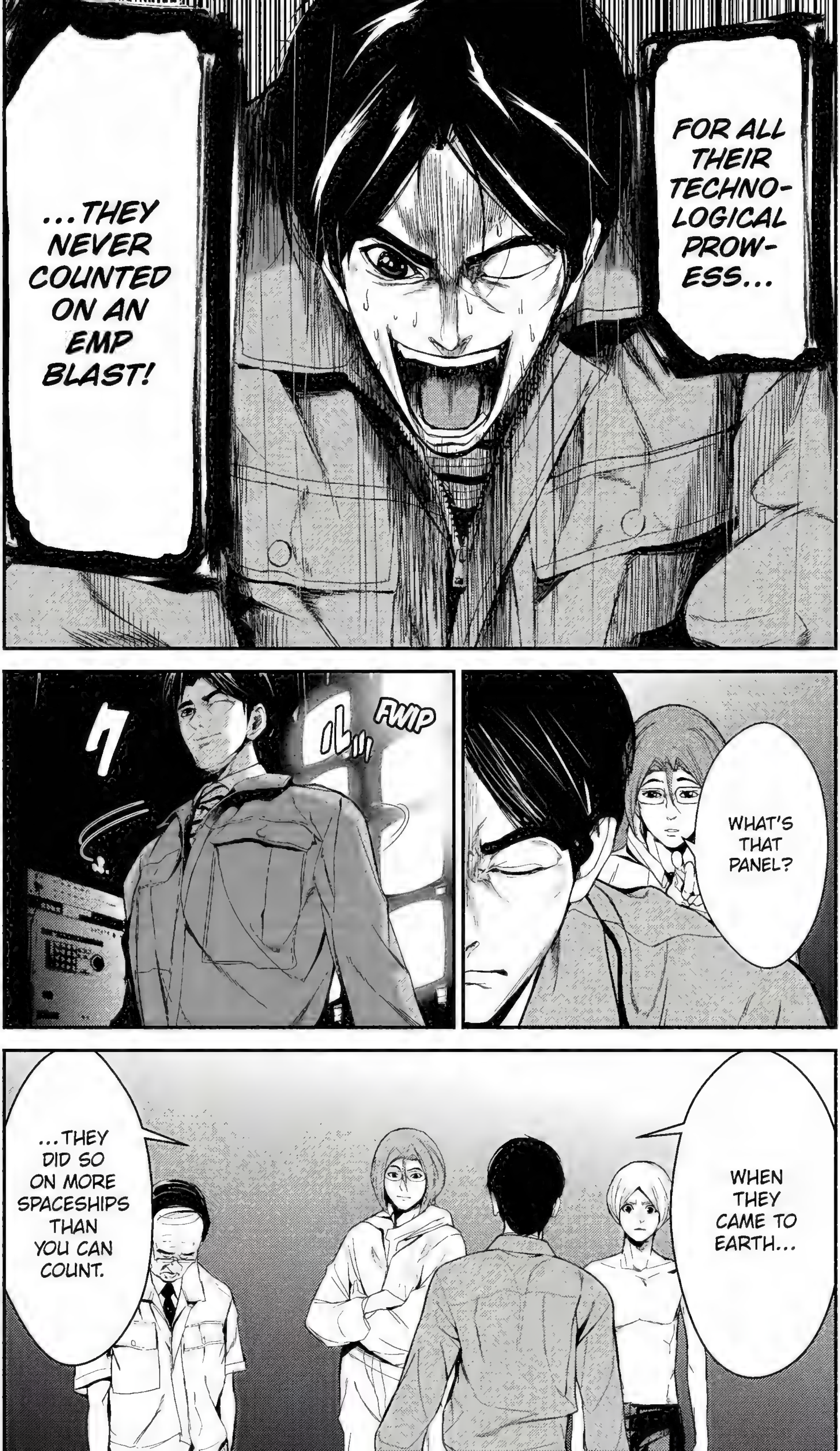

GNCHH
GNCHH
ギャあああああ
RRAAAHH
KRRICK
ガリ ガリ
GNCHH
GNCHH

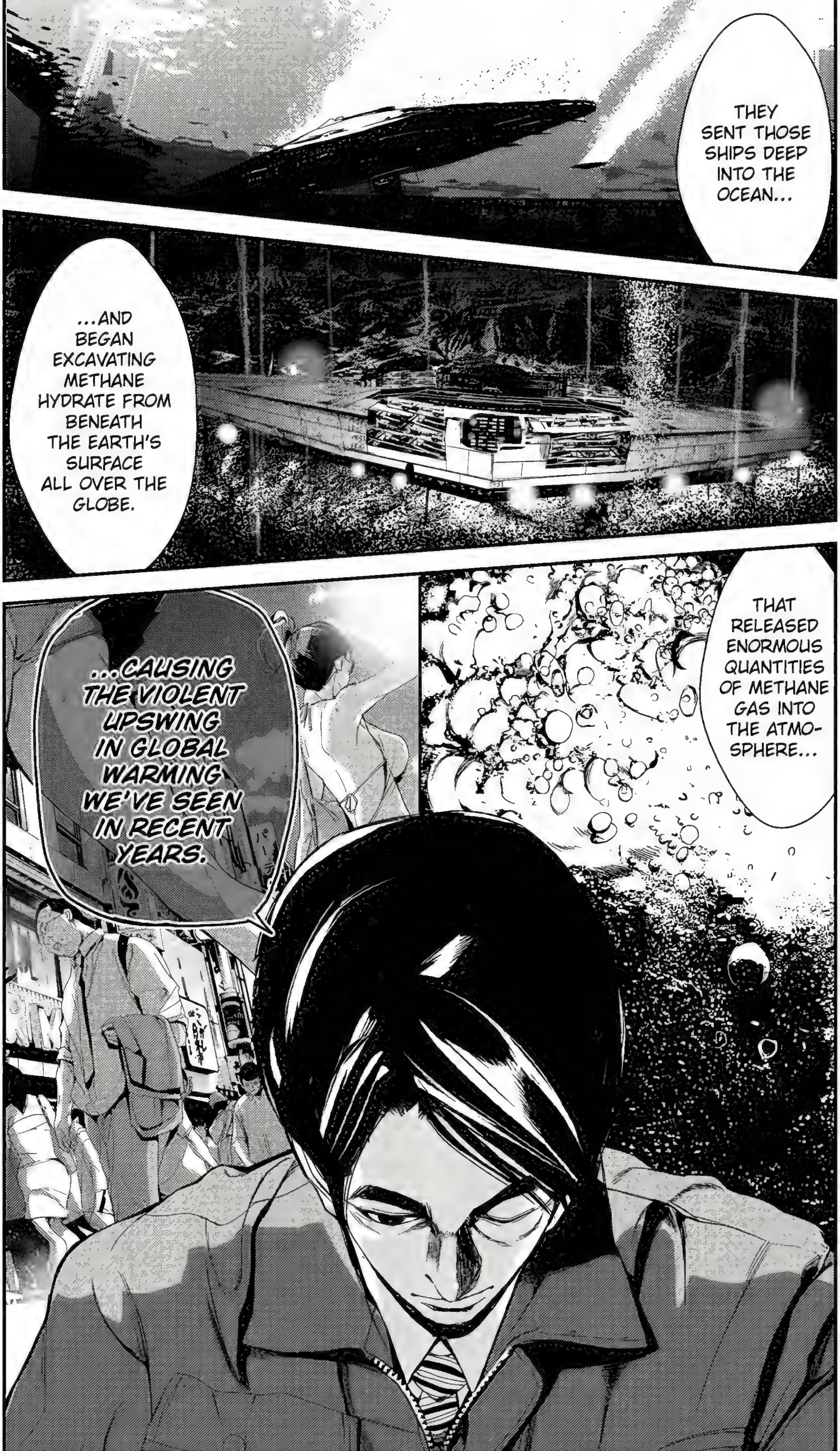

GNCHH
GRRUNCH
KRRIKT
GRRUNCH
KRRIKT
SEE? SEE?! LOOK AT THEM GO!
I KNEW THEY WOULD! I KNEW IT WOULDN'T TAKE LONG FOR THEM TO STARVE!!
GOOD! GOOD!!
KILL EACH OTHER TILL YOU'RE ALL GOOD AND DEAD!!

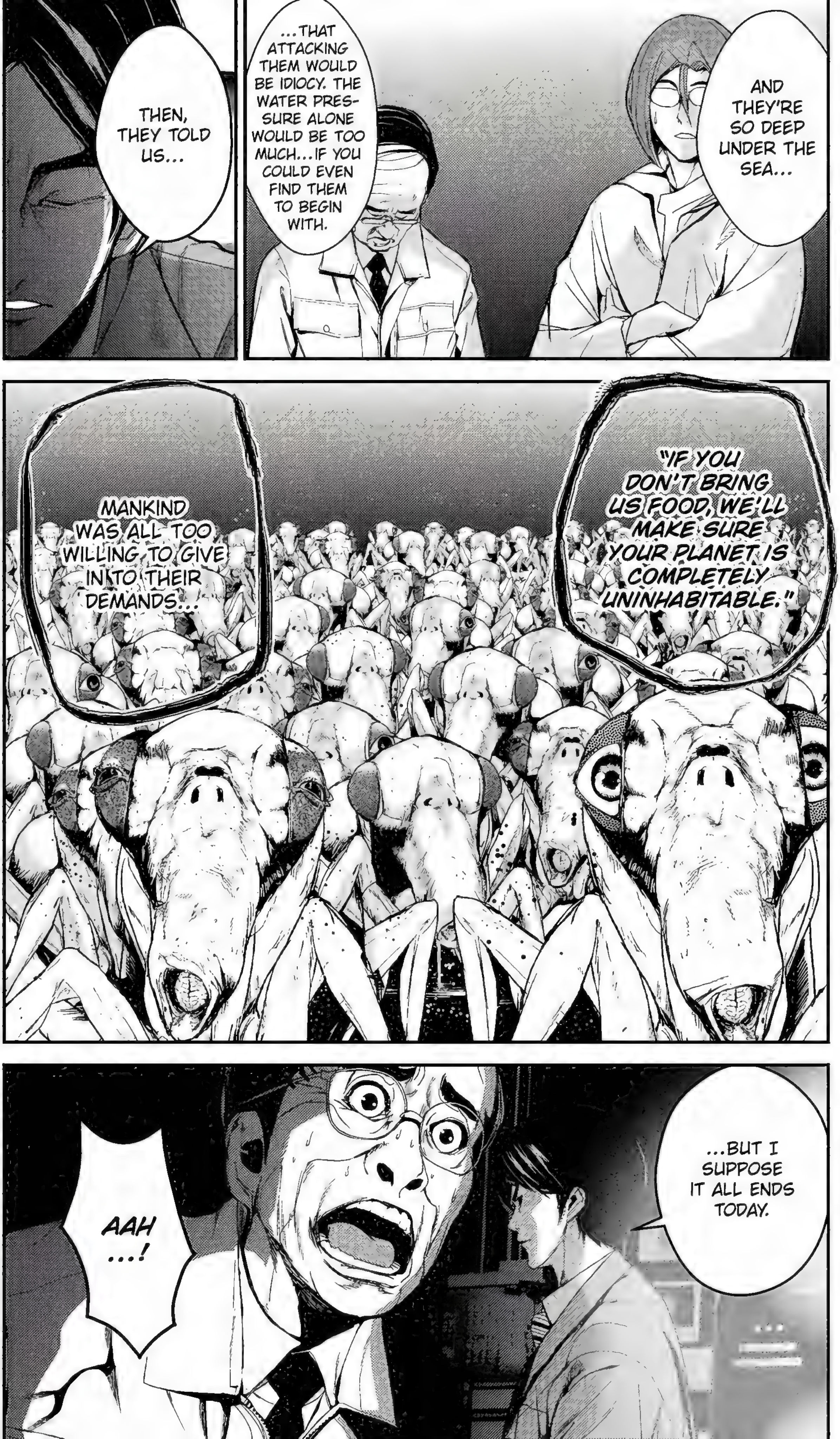

YOU WORTHLESS GLUTTONS!
D...
DIREC-TOR!
DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS?!!
HEH.
I BET I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SCARED OF, HANAJIMA-SAN.
KLAK
HER.
S-1
VMM

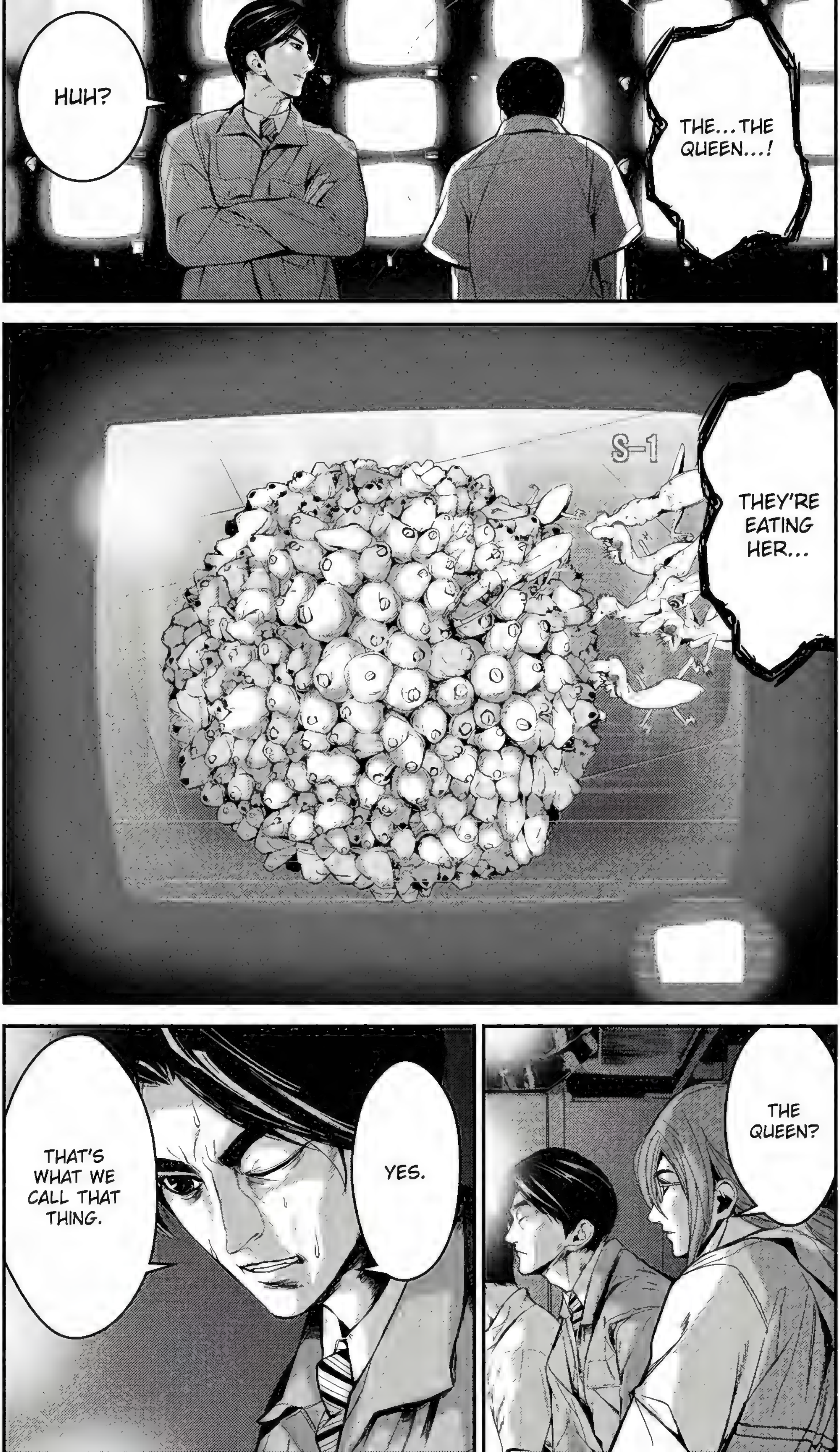

AAH!!
GLOOP
GLOOP
SO, SHE KNOWS SOMETHING'S UP!
LOOK!
SHE'S TRYING TO WORK THE PANEL!
VREEEEEEE

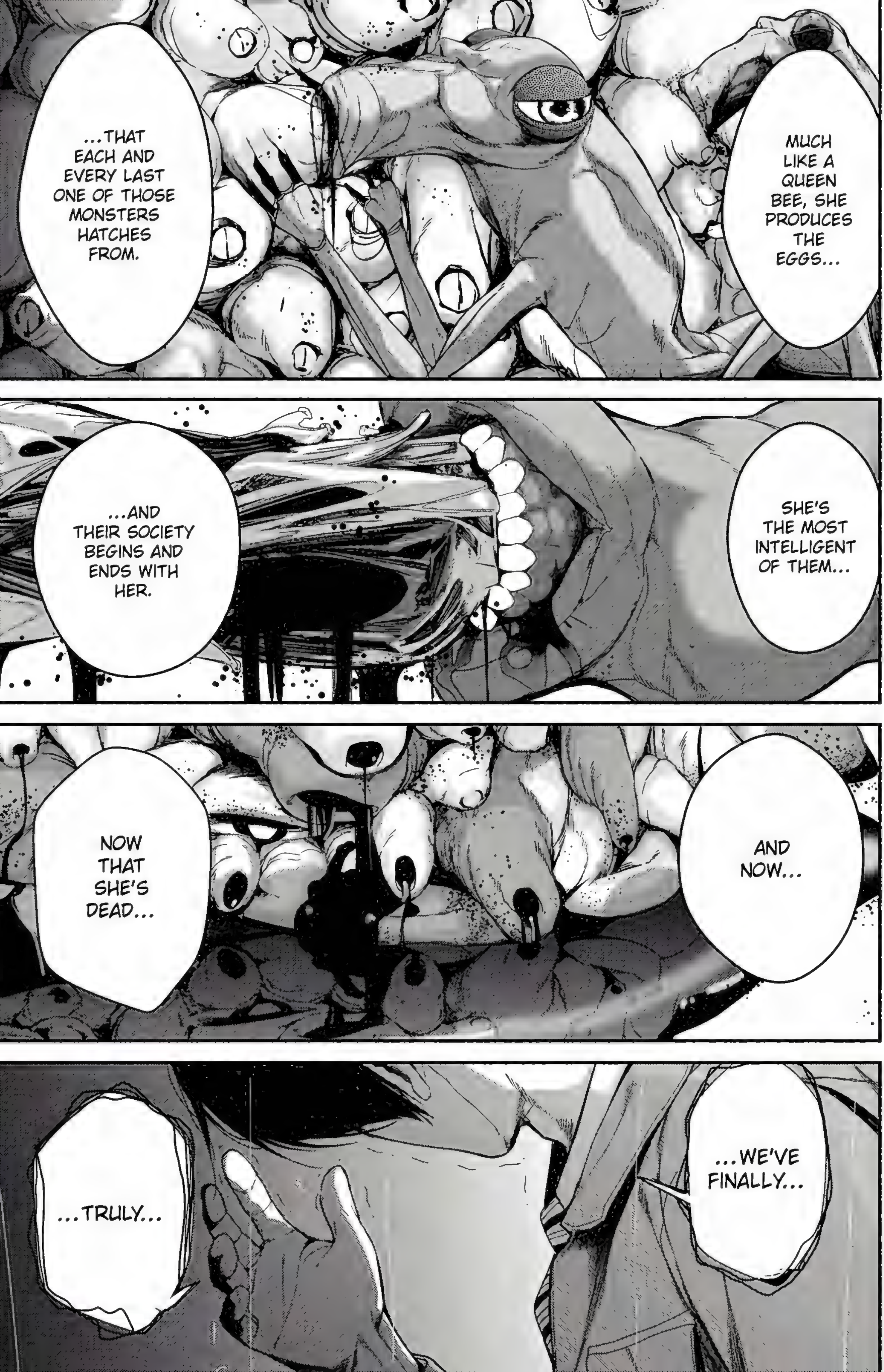

O-OH... OH, NO...!
WHAT ...?
VREEEEE
S-1
VREEEEE
S-1
EEEE OOW
HUH ...?
HA HA!

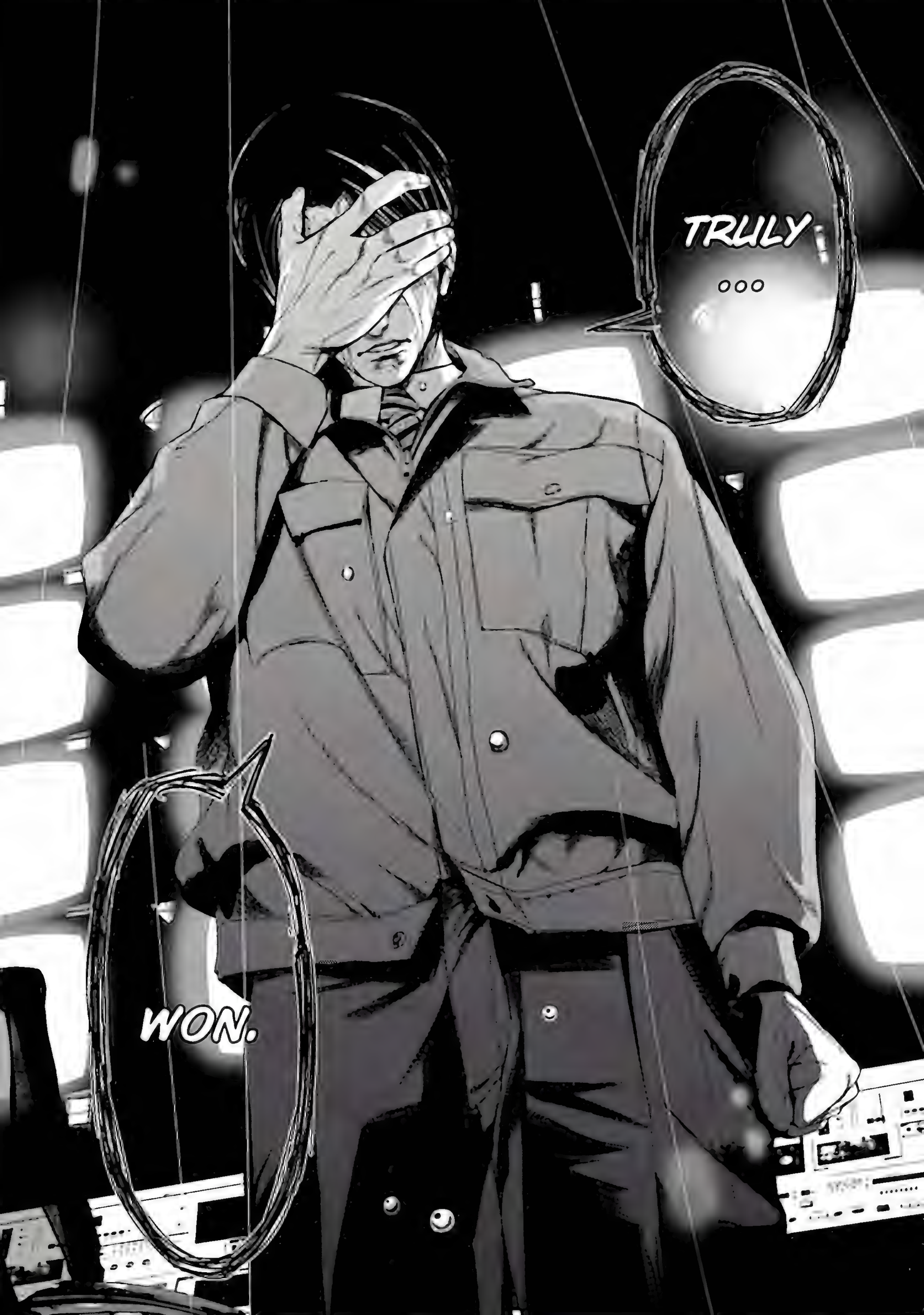

FOR ALL THEIR TECHNOLOGICAL PROWESS…
…THEY NEVER COUNTED ON AN EMP BLAST!
WHAT'S THAT PANEL?
FWIP
WHEN THEY CAME TO EARTH…
…THEY DID SO ON MORE SPACESHIPS THAN YOU CAN COUNT.

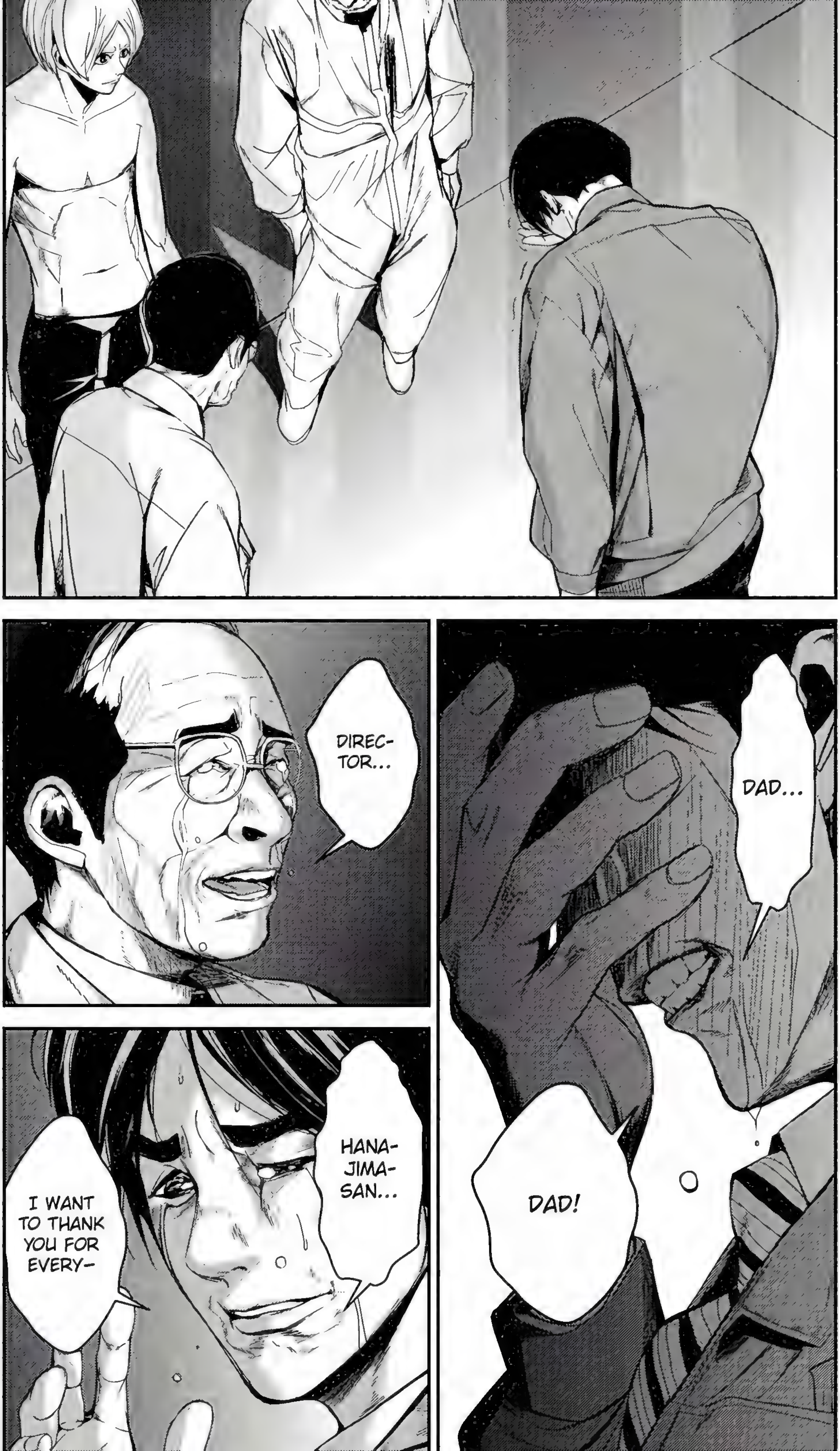

THEY SENT THOSE SHIPS DEEP INTO THE OCEAN...
...AND BEGAN EXCAVATING METHANE HYDRATE FROM BENEATH THE EARTH'S SURFACE ALL OVER THE GLOBE.
THAT RELEASED ENORMOUS QUANTITIES OF METHANE GAS INTO THE ATMOSPHERE...
...CAUSING THE VIOLENT UPSWING IN GLOBAL WARMING WE'VE SEEN IN RECENT YEARS.

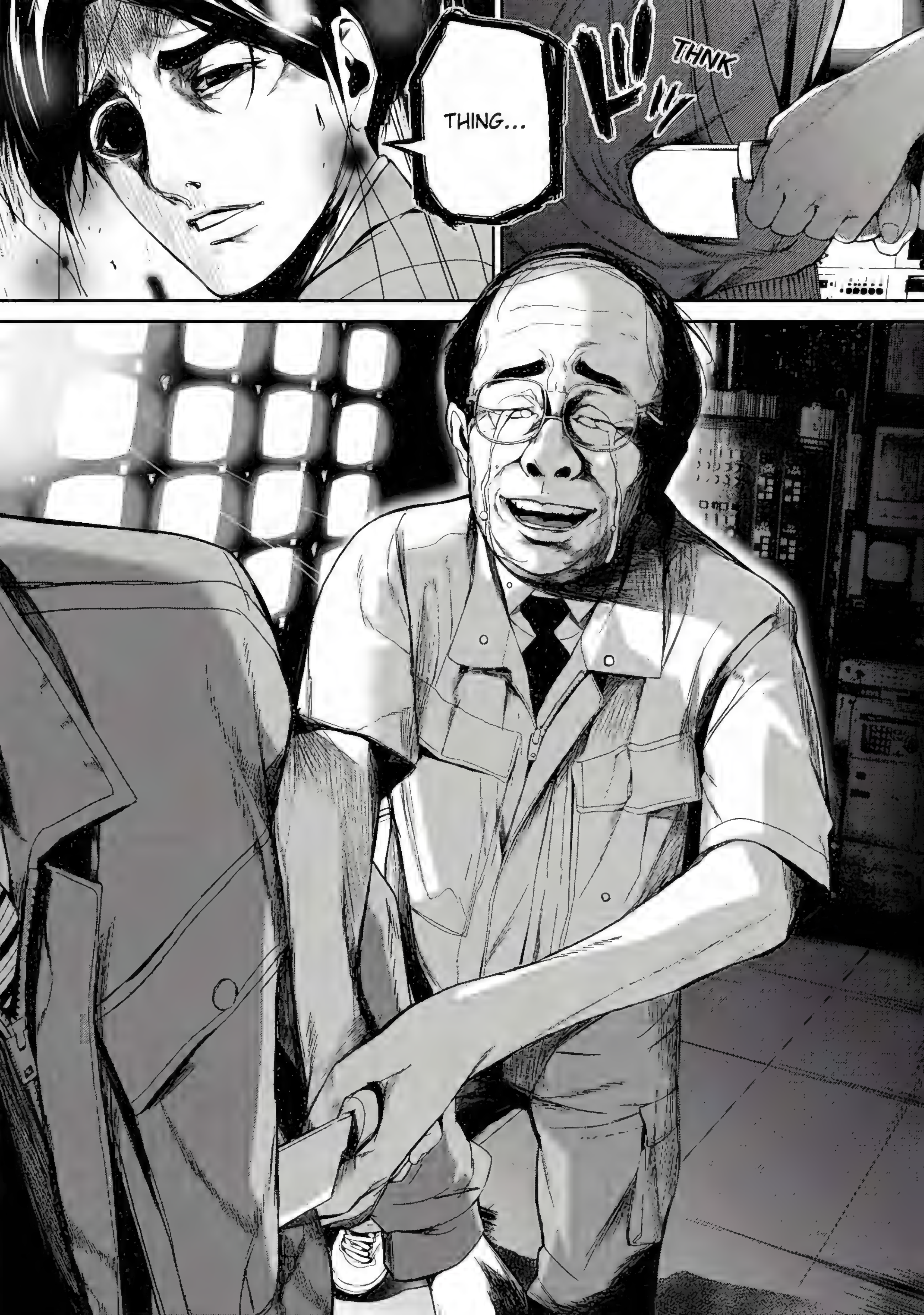

AND THEY'RE SO DEEP UNDER THE SEA...
...THAT ATTACKING THEM WOULD BE IDIOCY. THE WATER PRESSURE ALONE WOULD BE TOO MUCH...IF YOU COULD EVEN FIND THEM TO BEGIN WITH.
THEN, THEY TOLD US...
"IF YOU DON'T BRING US FOOD, WE'LL MAKE SURE YOUR PLANET IS COMPLETELY UNINHABITABLE."
MANKIND WAS ALL TOO WILLING TO GIVE IN TO THEIR DEMANDS...
...BUT I SUPPOSE IT ALL ENDS TODAY.
AAH ...!


THE…THE QUEEN…!
HUH?
S-1
THEY'RE EATING HER…
THE QUEEN?
YES.
THAT'S WHAT WE CALL THAT THING.


MUCH LIKE A QUEEN BEE, SHE PRODUCES THE EGGS...
...THAT EACH AND EVERY LAST ONE OF THOSE MONSTERS HATCHES FROM.
SHE'S THE MOST INTELLIGENT OF THEM...
...AND THEIR SOCIETY BEGINS AND ENDS WITH HER.
AND NOW...
NOW THAT SHE'S DEAD...
...WE'VE FINALLY...
...TRULY...

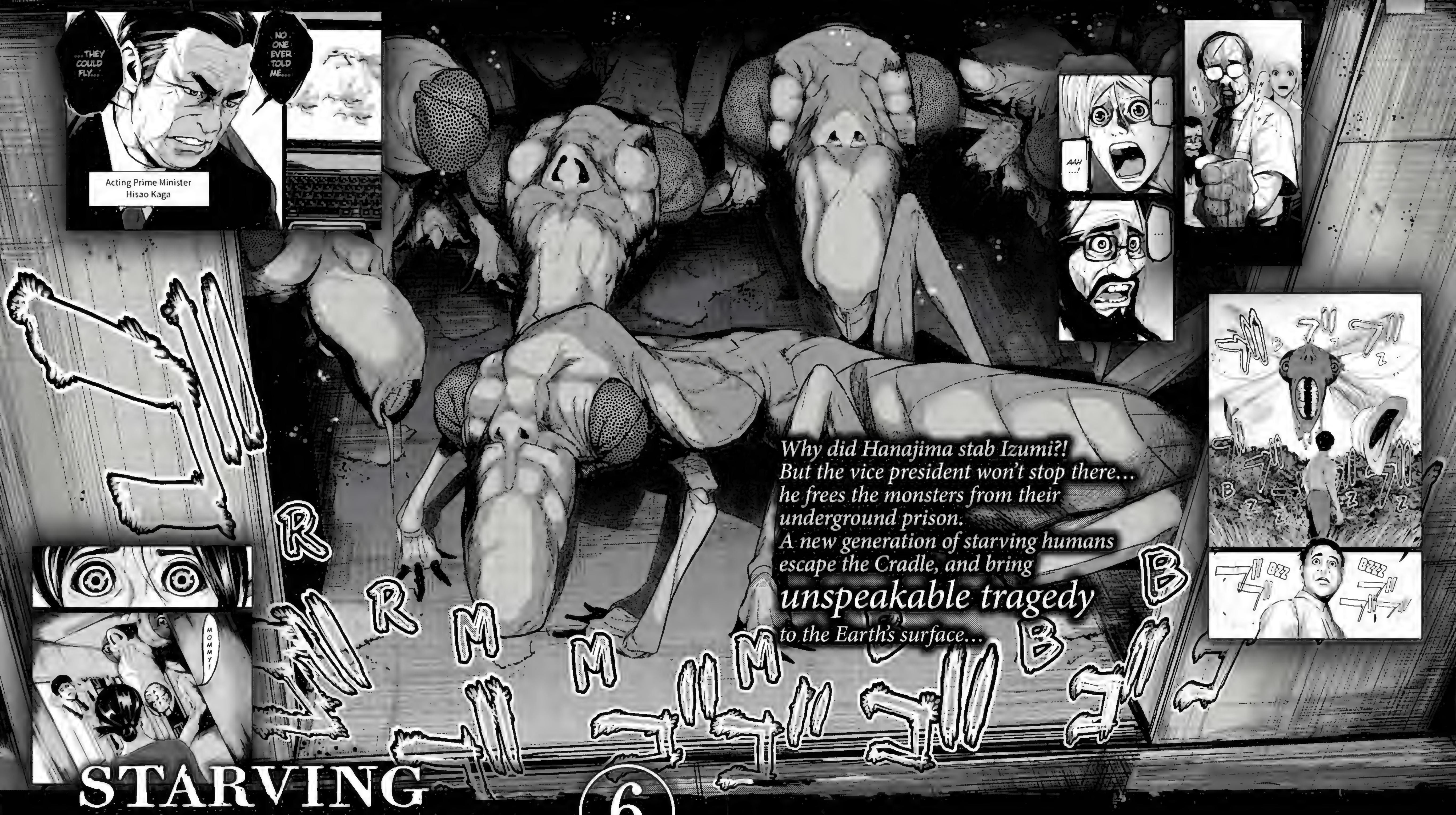

TRULY
...
WON.


DAD...
DAD!
DIRECTOR...
HANAJIMA-SAN...
I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR EVERY-


THNK
THING…

WE'RE GOING TO EAT YOU ALL...

COMING IN VOLUME 6


NO ONE EVER TOLD ME...
...THEY COULD FLY...
Acting Prime Minister Hisao Kaga
MI
A...
AAH...!
...
BZZ
BZZZ
MOMMY!
RRMMMBBB

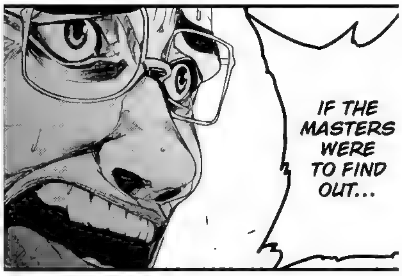
Why did Hanajima stab Izumi?! But the vice president won't stop there… he frees the monsters from their underground prison. A new generation of starving humans escape the Cradle, and bring **unspeakable tragedy** *to the Earth's surface…*

STARVING ~~ANONYMOUS~~ ⑥

Translation Notes

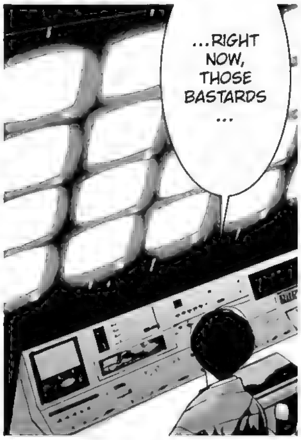
“The Masters”

[62.5]
The personnel of the Cradle refer to the aliens as “the Masters” in a show of subservience. This is a bit of embellishment on the original Japanese, which was *ano kata tachi*, a deeply respectful phrase simply meaning “those people.”


IF THE MASTERS WERE TO FIND OUT...

We chose “the Masters” because other potential translations of this kind of respectful language—“the men upstairs,” “the brass,” “the bosses,” etc.—did not quite fit either with the tone of the story or the logic of the plot. “The men upstairs,” for example, might work, but raises the question of whether or not the facility’s human employees would refer to *aliens* as “men”...and they’re deep underground, so while the phrase might not be literal, it might come to seem a bit comical as the story progressed.

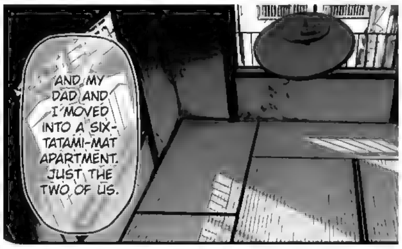
Unfortunately, we had to be slightly inconsistent in our translation of *ano kata tachi* in order not to spoil the reveal at the end of volume 1. The first time the term was used, way back on page 117 of volume 1, it was simply translated as “they.” Using “the Masters” would have made it a little too obvious that something strange was going on with the management of the Cradle.


...RIGHT NOW, THOSE BASTARDS ...

[68.1]
On a related note, when Izumi calls the aliens “those bastards,” he’s simply switching from *ano kata tachi* to *aitsura*, a decidedly disrespectful term which, again, simply means “those people.”

A six-tatami-mat apartment, page 79

[79.1]
Many Japanese rooms are measured in *jo*, or “tatami mats”, a unit of measurement equal to just over one-and-a-half square meters. For American readers, this means a six-tatami-mat apartment measures only about 99 square feet.


AND MY DAD AND I MOVED INTO A SIX-TATAMI-MAT APARTMENT. JUST THE TWO OF US.

Starving Anonymous 5

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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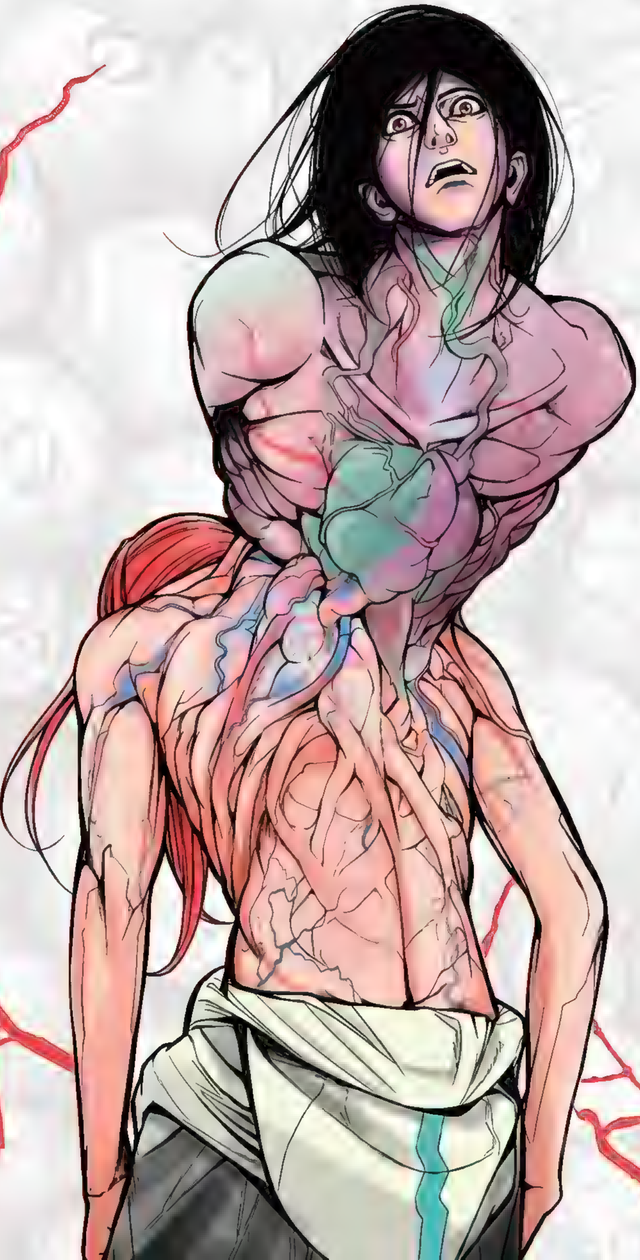
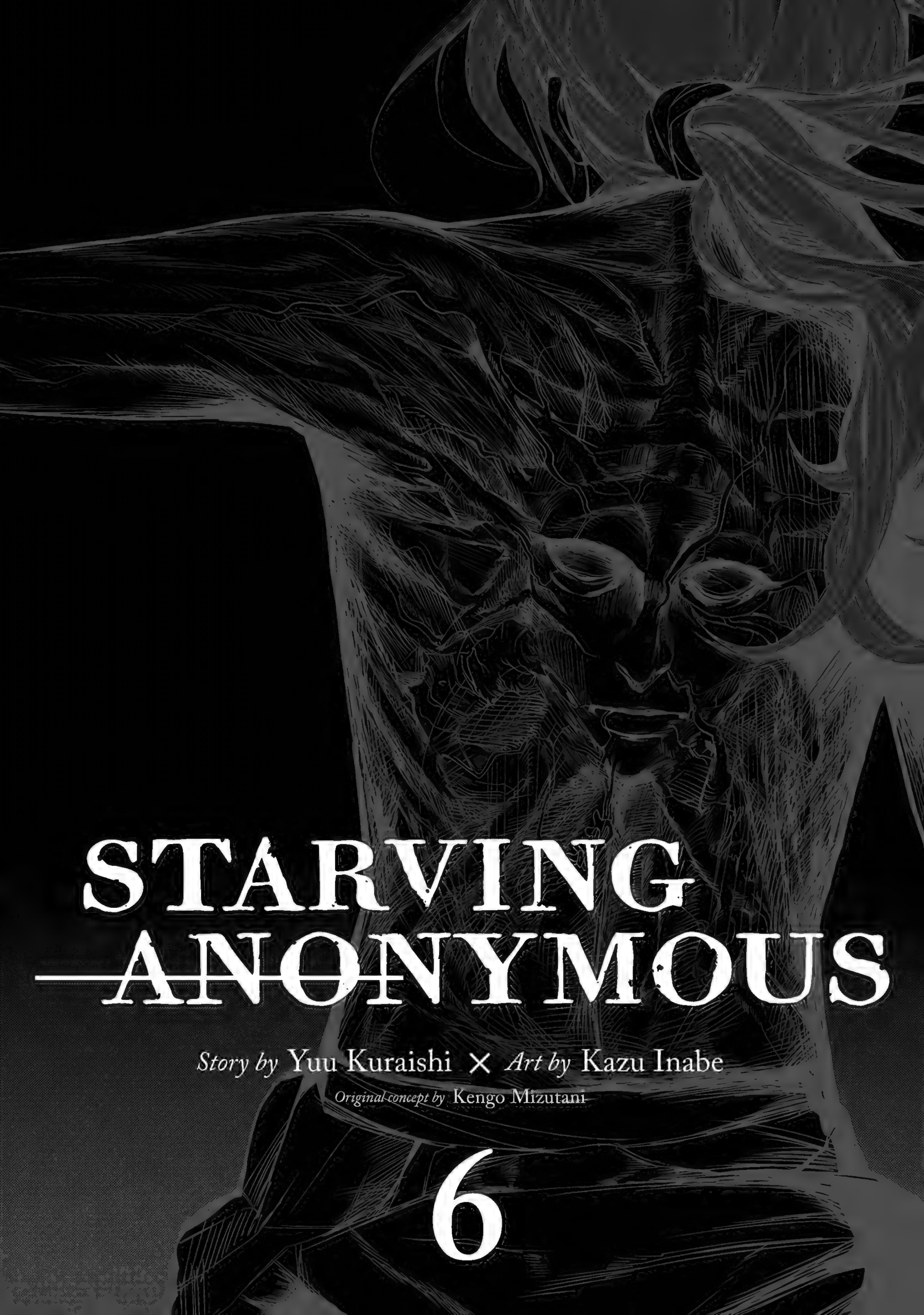
Original concept by Kengo Mizutani

6





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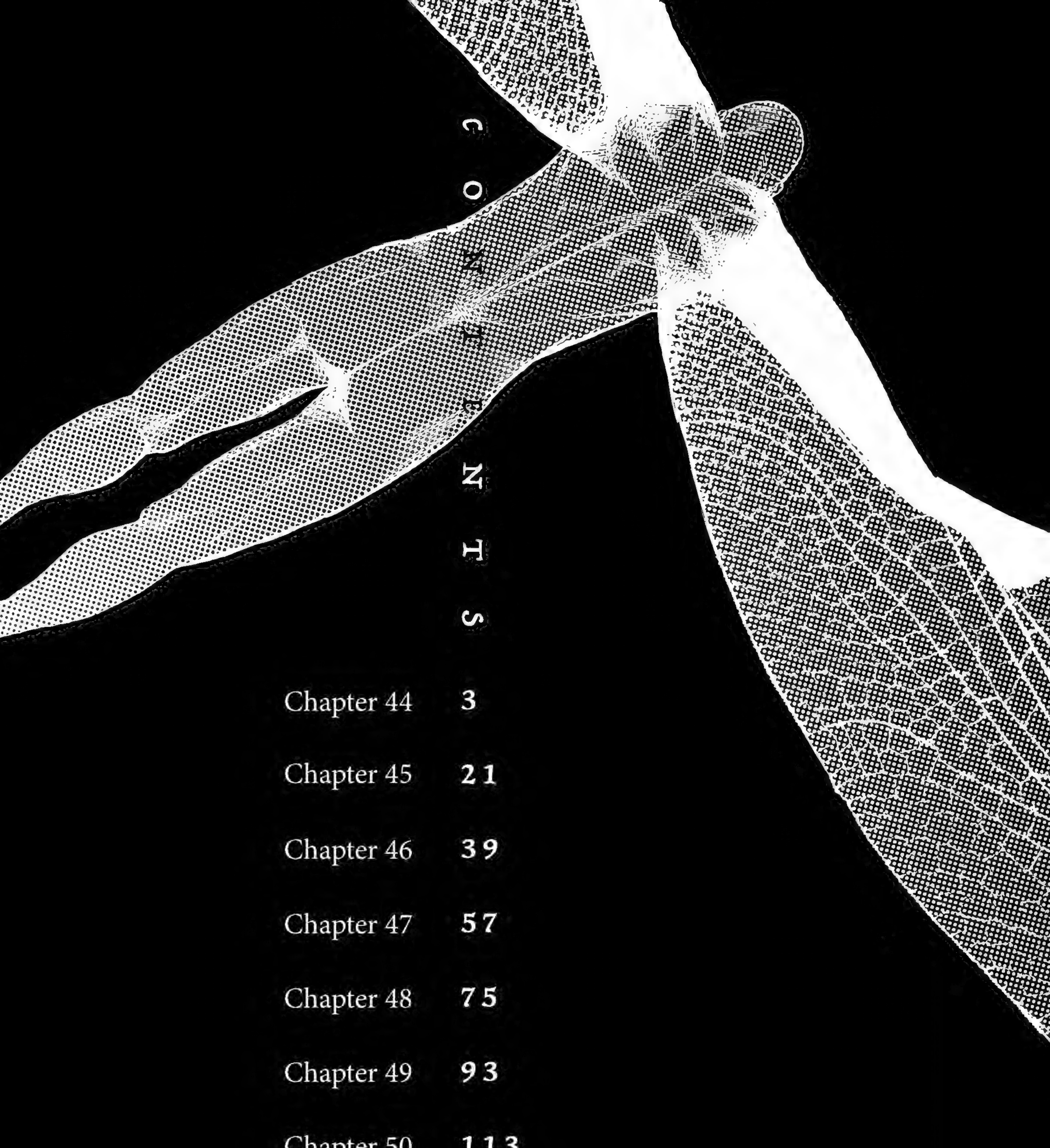
6



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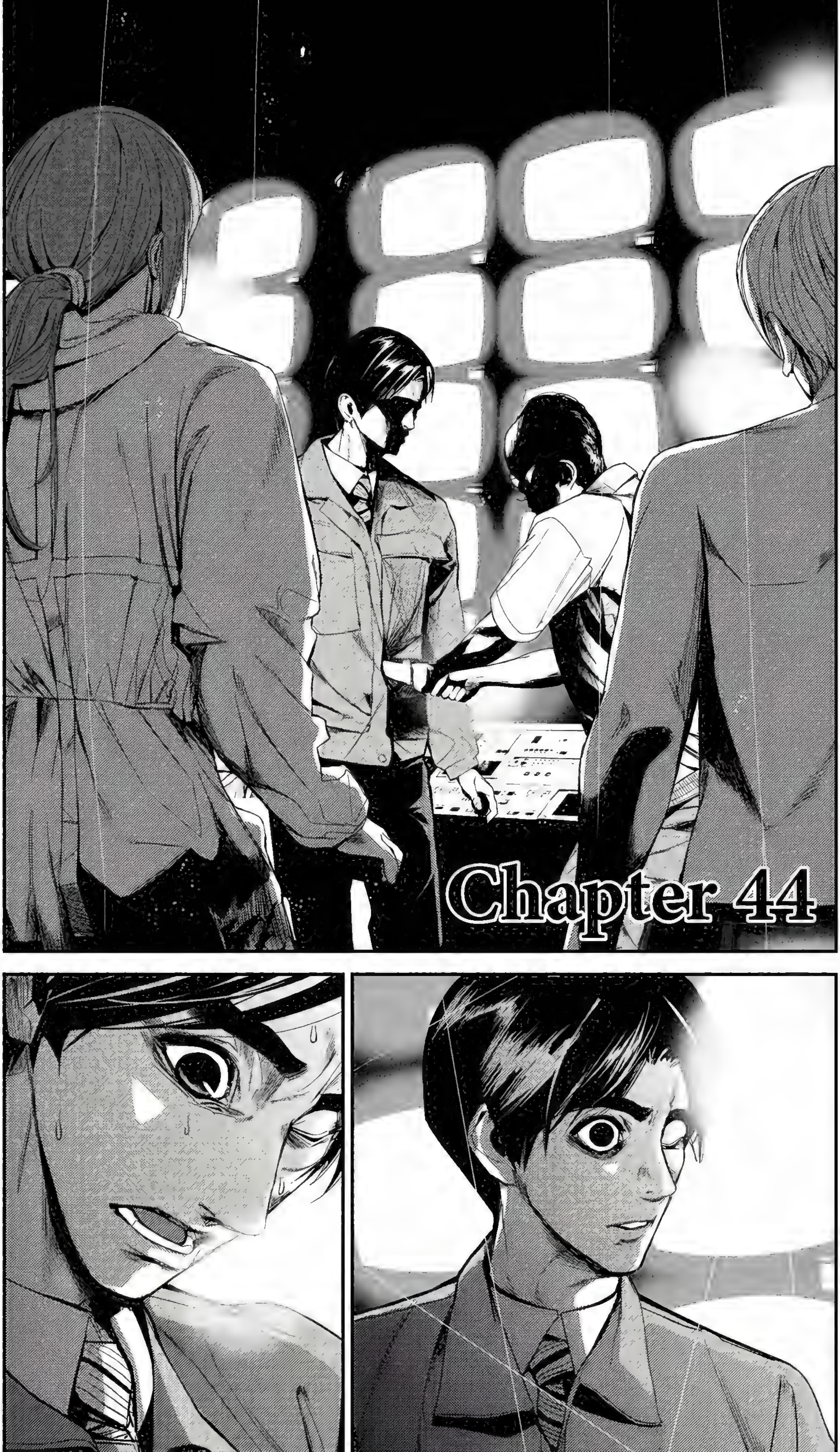
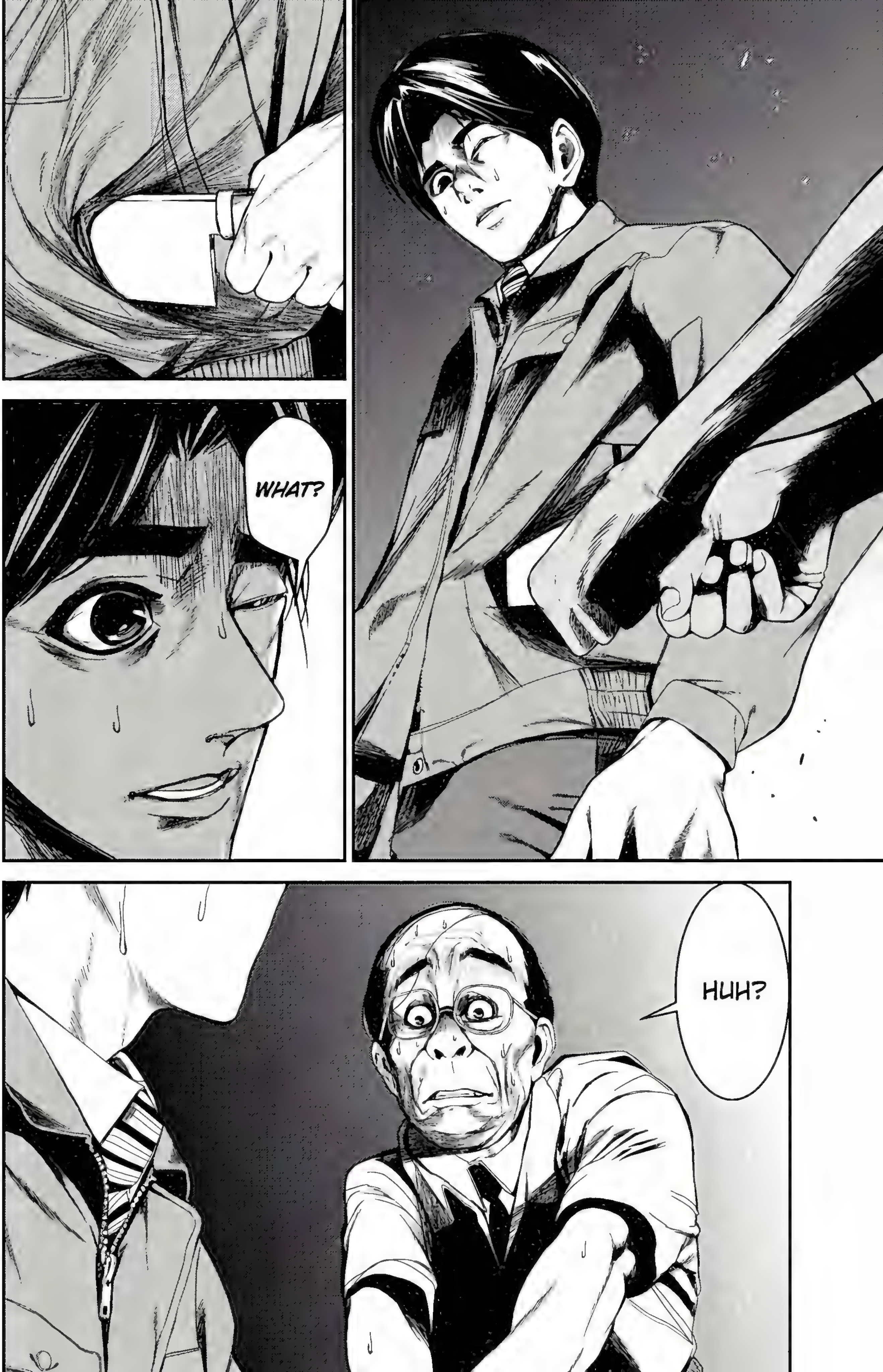
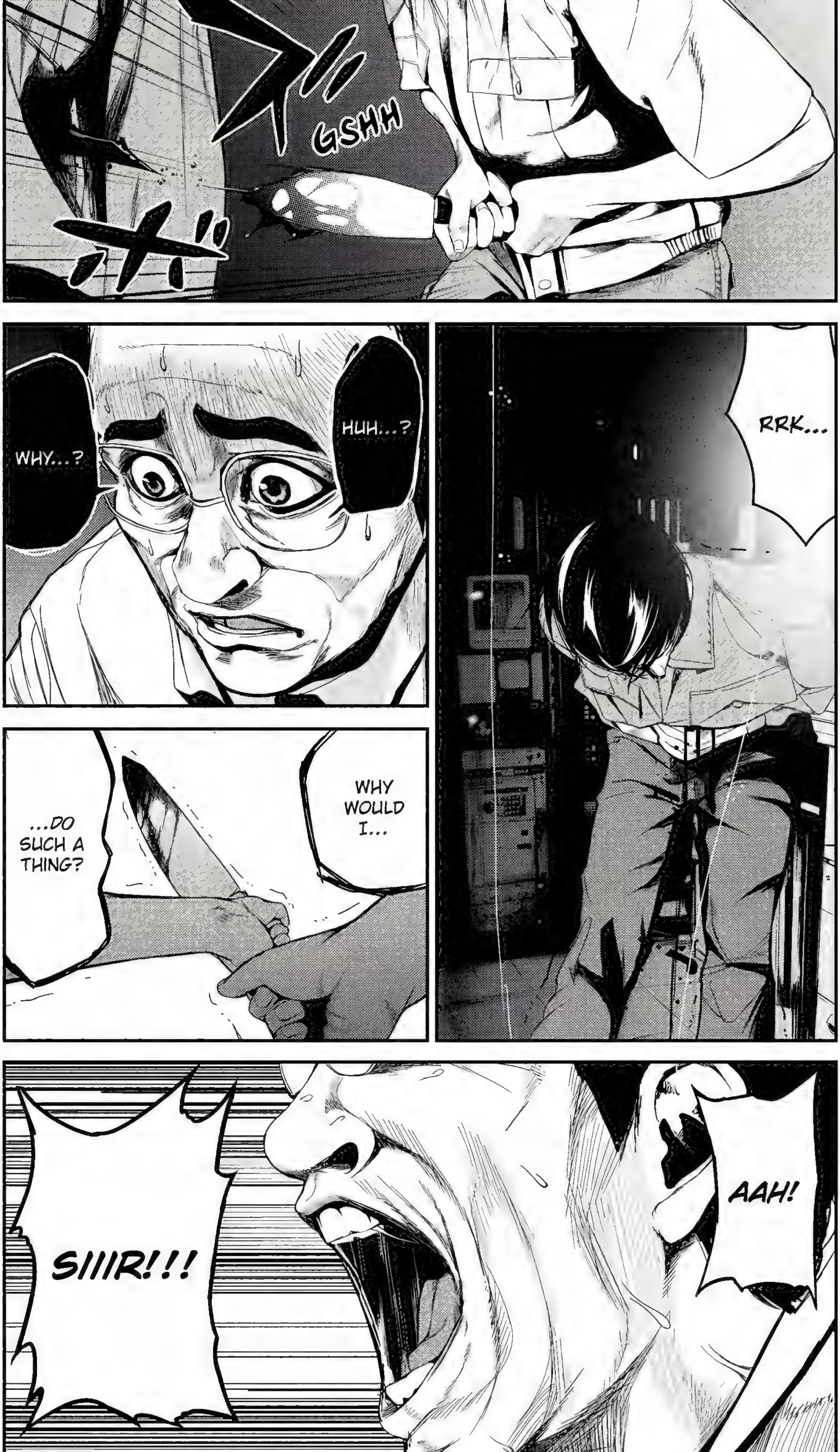
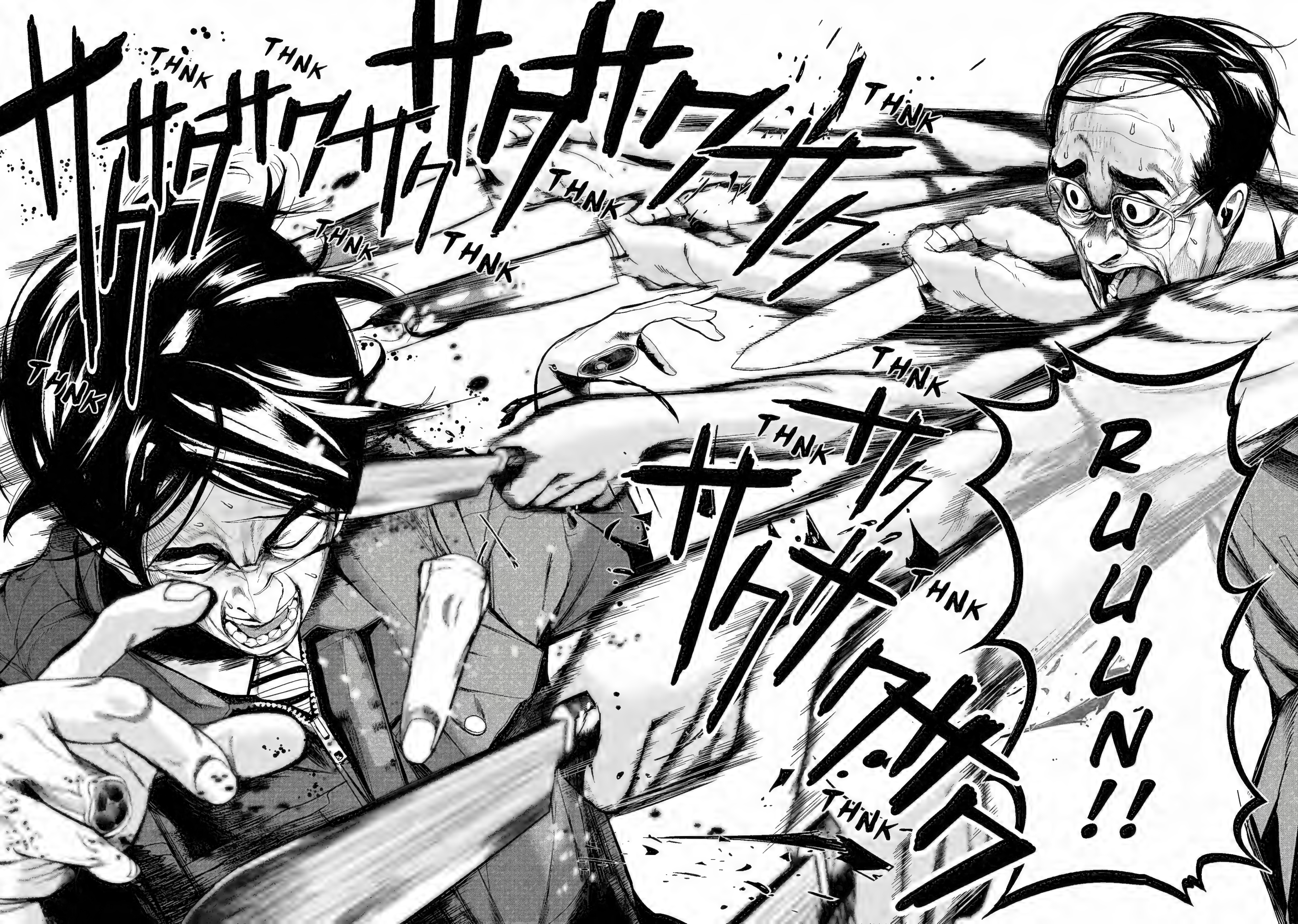
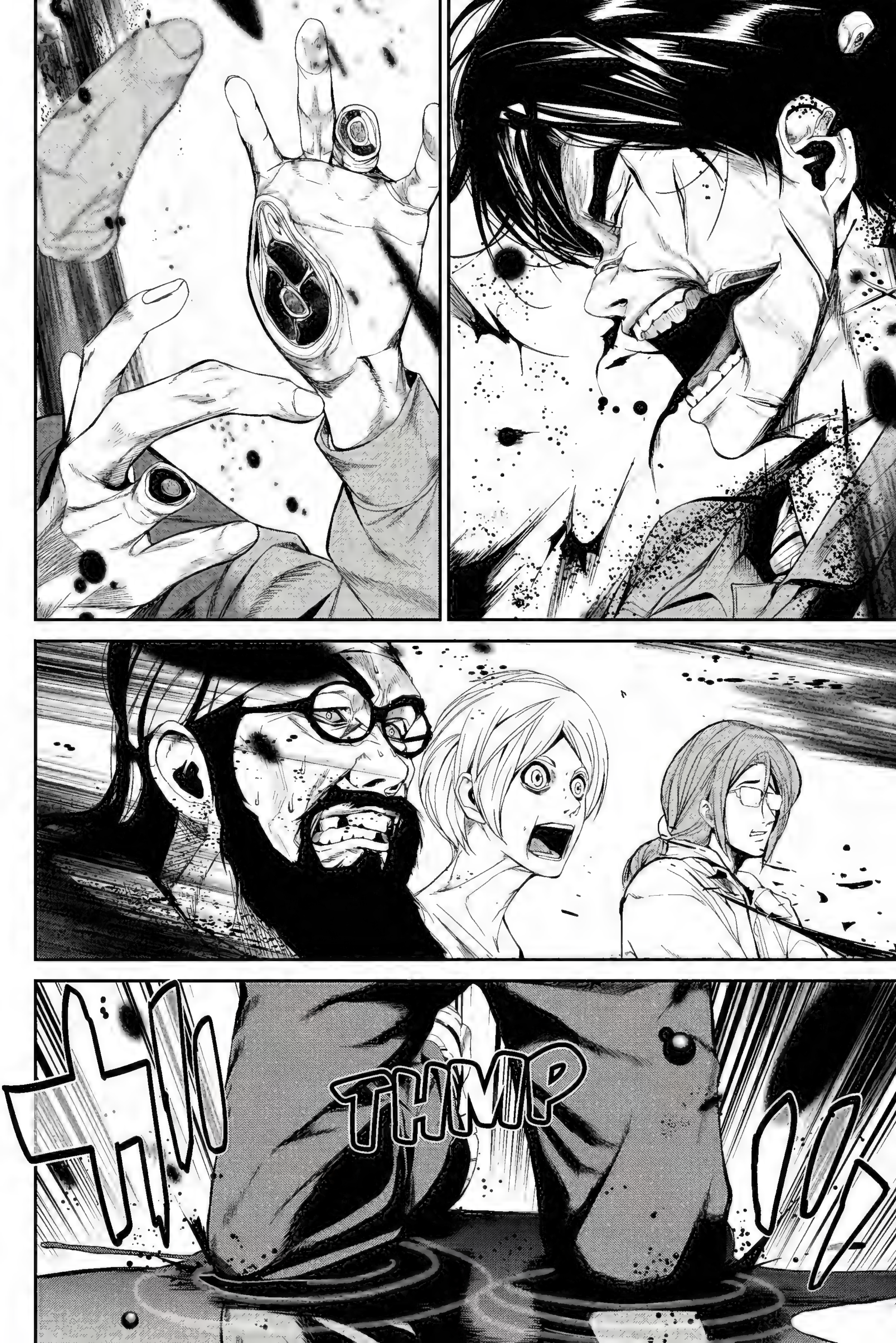
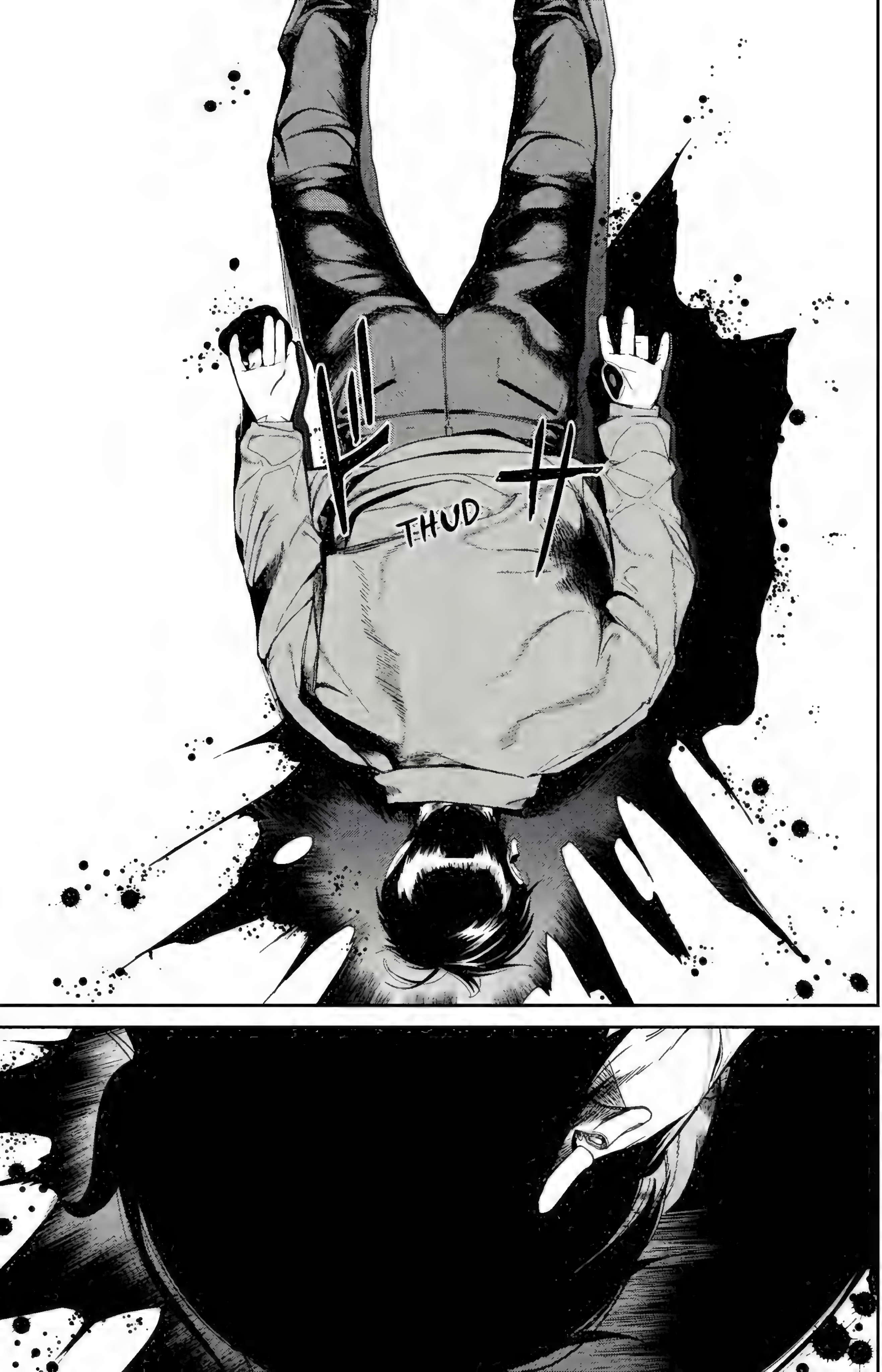

Chapter 44

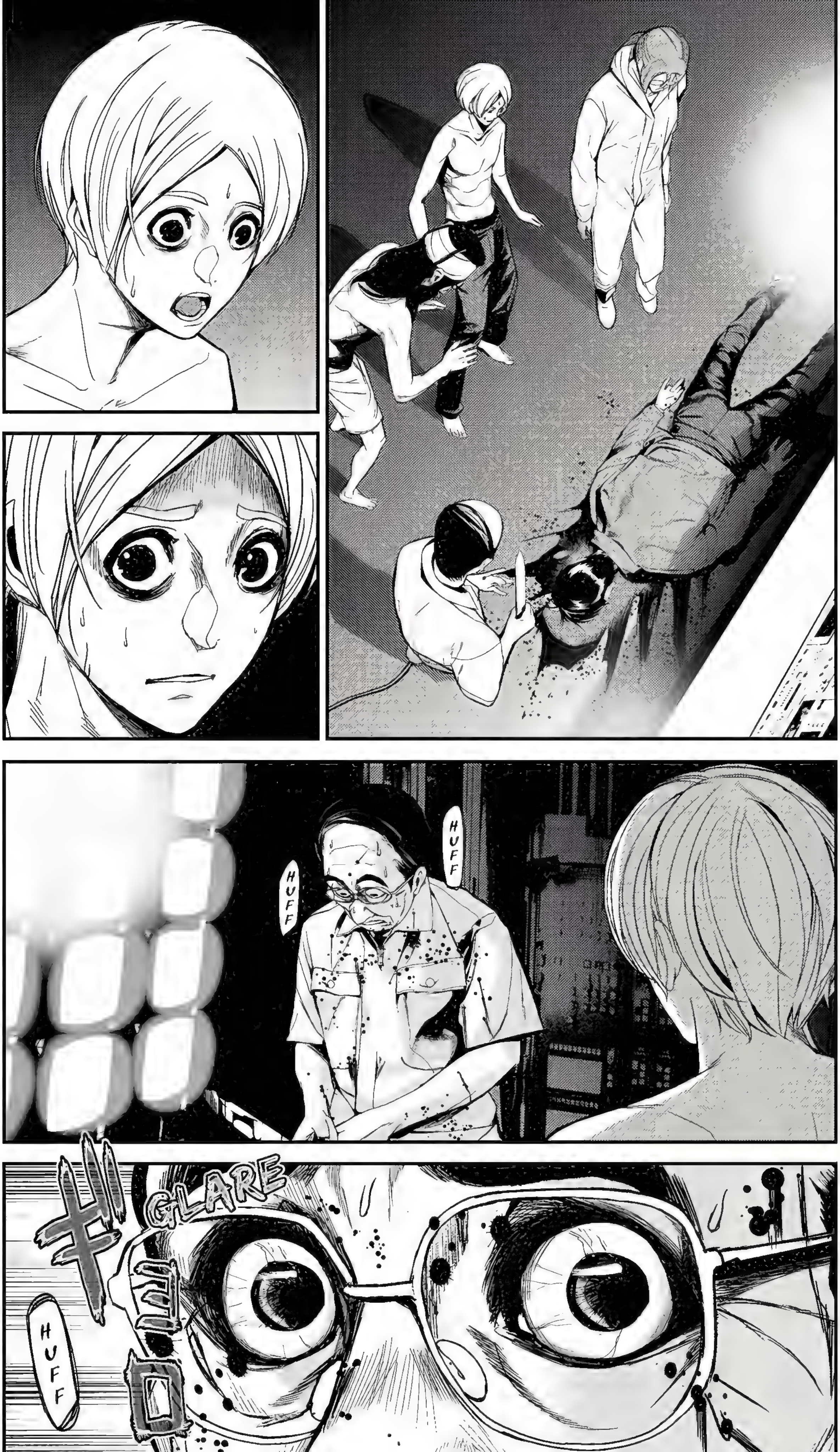

WHAT?
HUH?

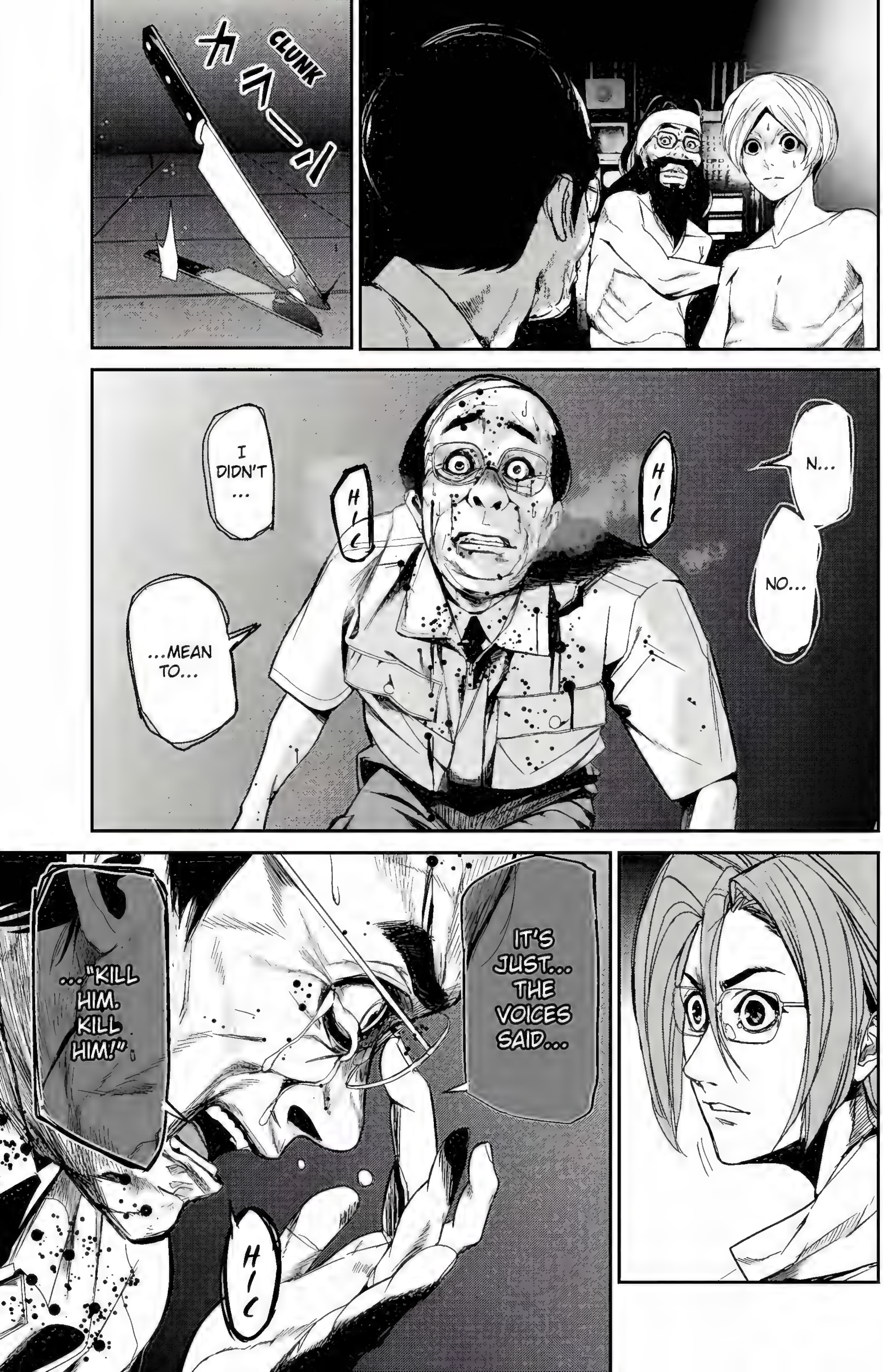

GSHH
RRK...
HUH...?
WHY...?
WHY WOULD I...
...DO SUCH A THING?
AAH!
SIIIR!!!

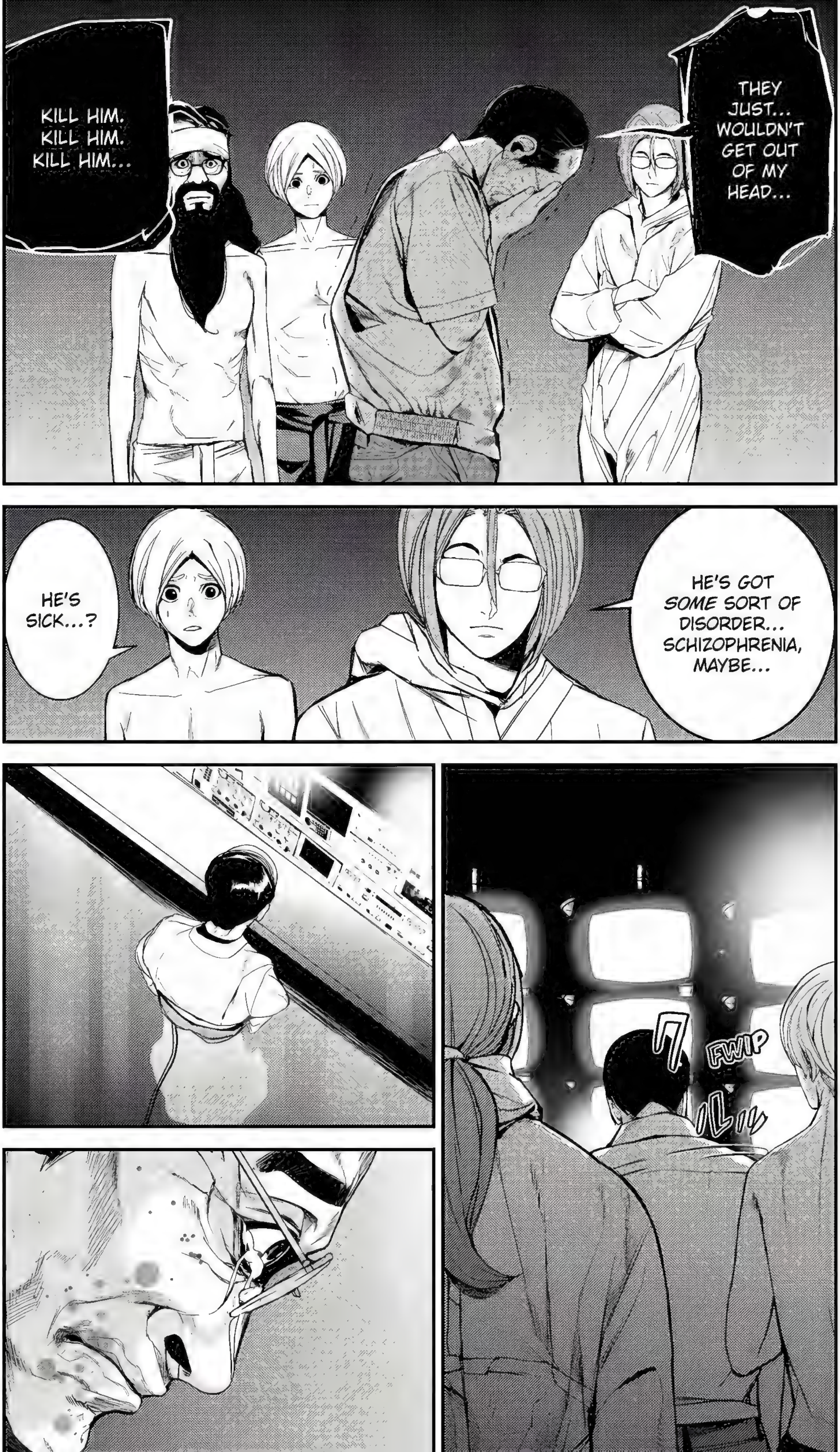

RUN!!
THNK
THNK
THNK
THNK
THNK
サクサクサク
THNK
THNK
THNK
THNK
THNK
THNK
サクサクサクサクサクサクサク

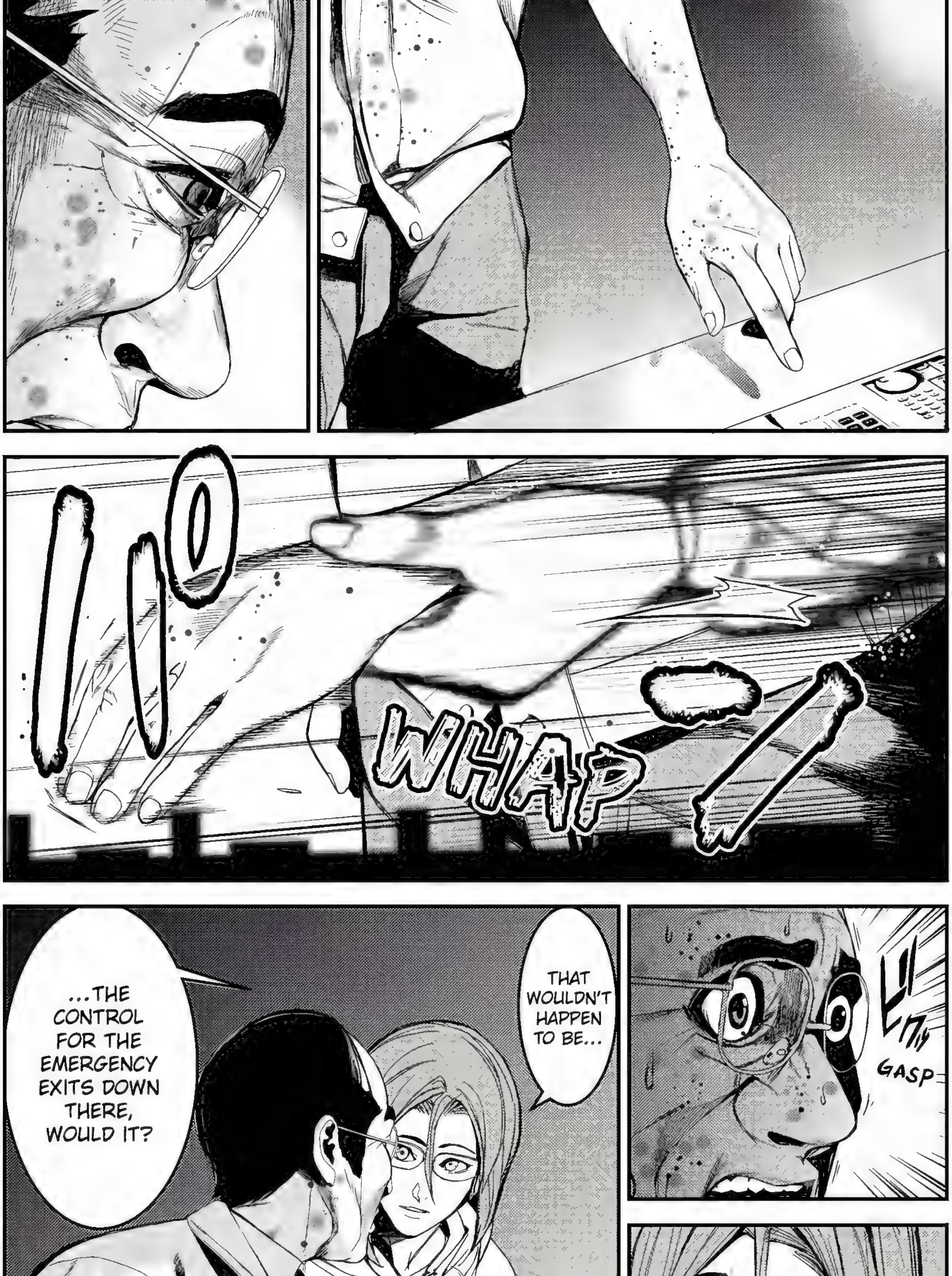

THMP

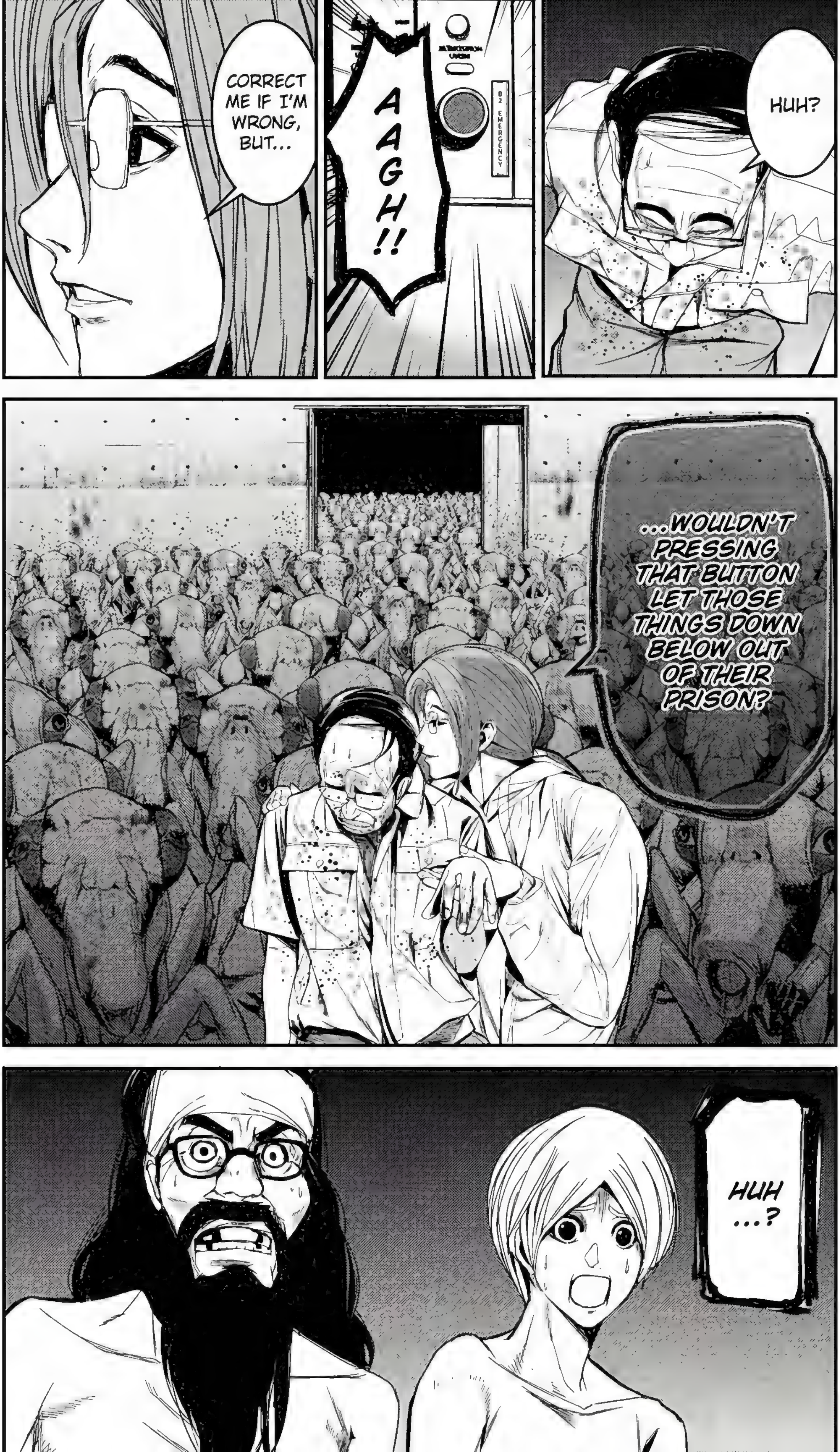

ドサ
THUD

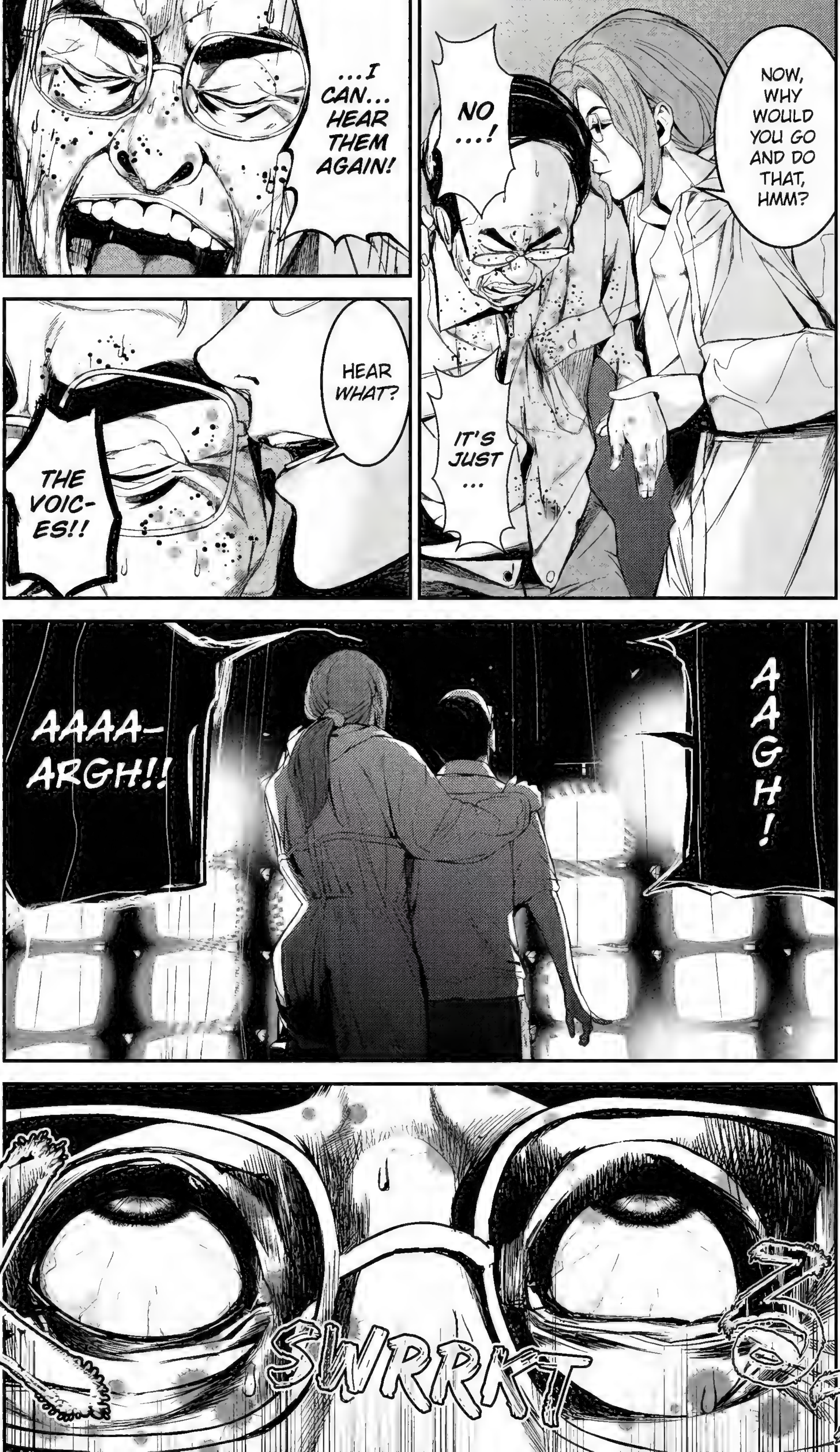

HUFF
HUFF
ギロ
GLARE
HUFF
HUFF

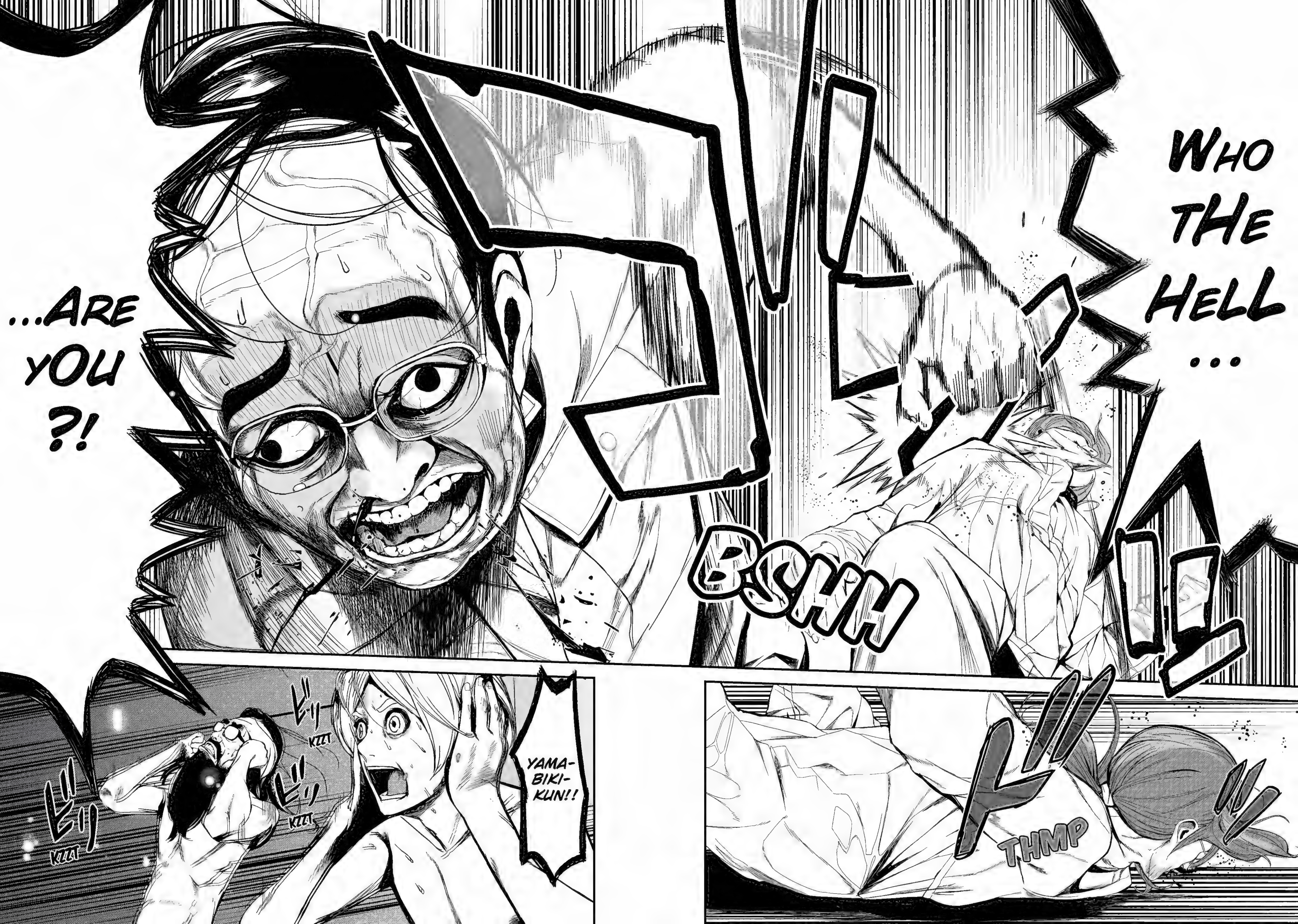

カラーン
CLUNK
N...
NO...
HIC
HIC
I DIDN'T ...
...MEAN TO...
IT'S JUST... THE VOICES SAID...
..."KILL HIM. KILL HIM!"
HIC

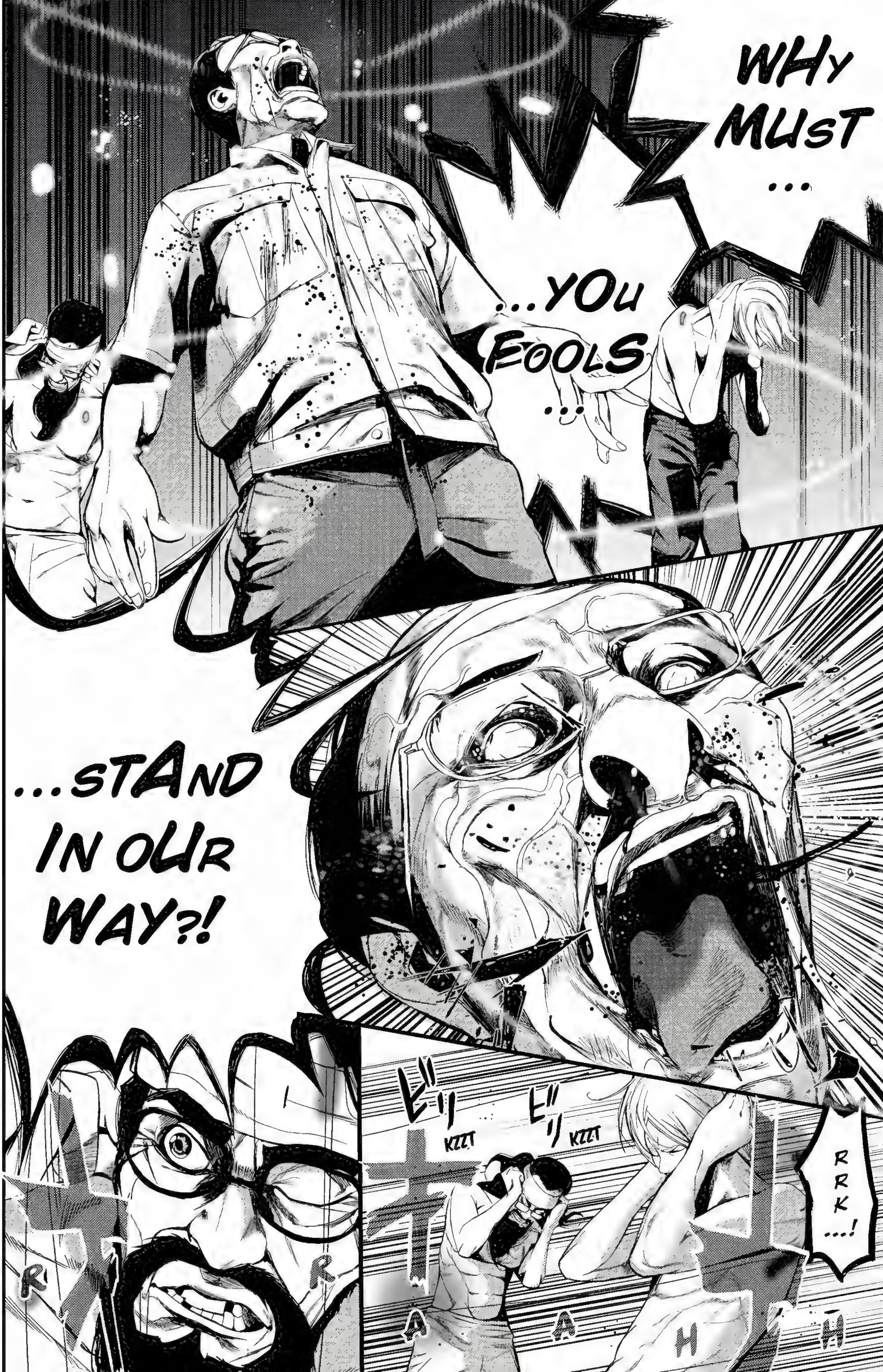

THEY JUST... WOULDN'T GET OUT OF MY HEAD...
KILL HIM. KILL HIM. KILL HIM...
HE'S GOT *SOME* SORT OF DISORDER... SCHIZOPHRENIA, MAYBE...
HE'S SICK...?
FWIP

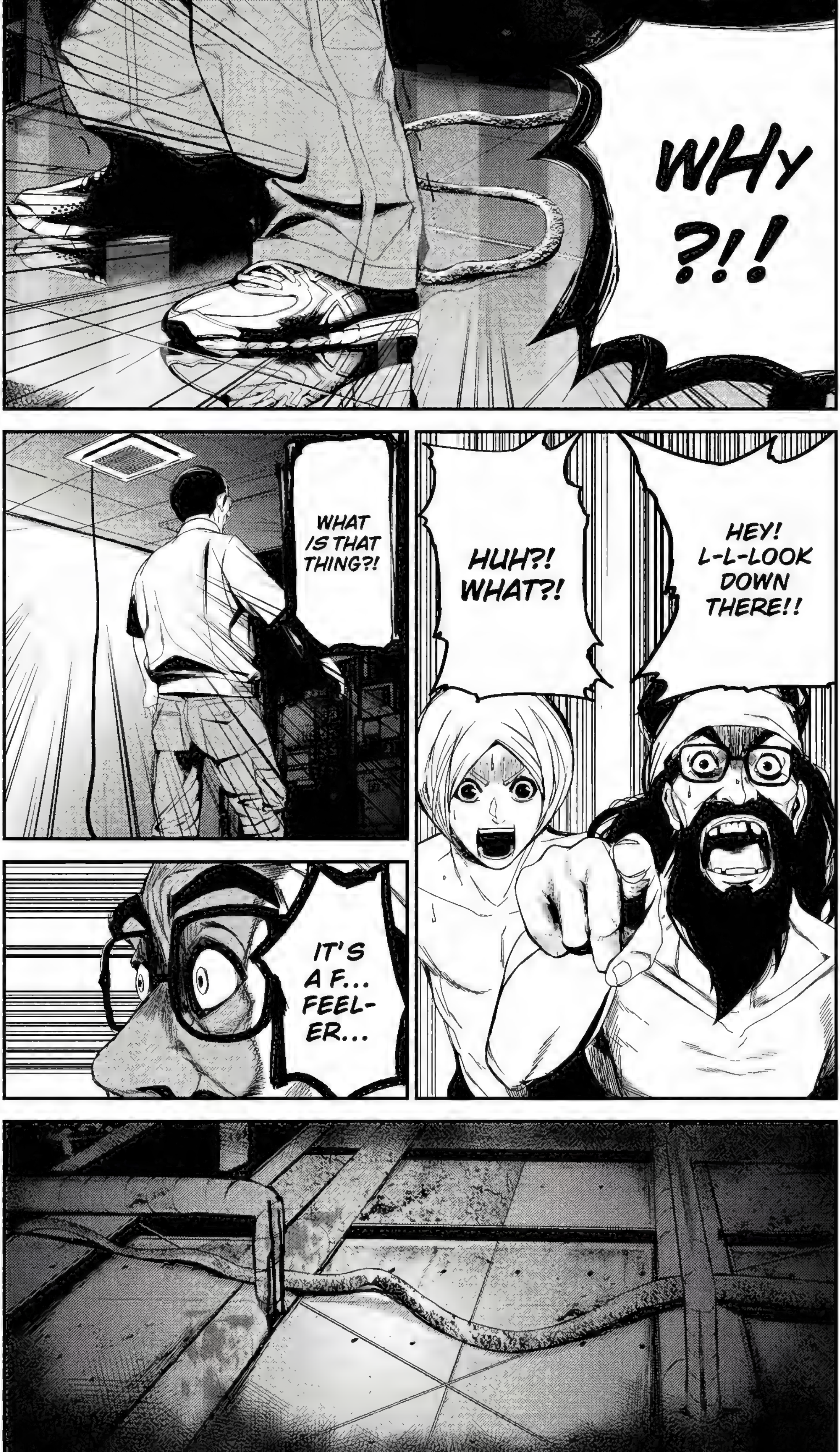

WHAP
THAT WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE...
...THE CONTROL FOR THE EMERGENCY EXITS DOWN THERE, WOULD IT?
ビクッ
GASP

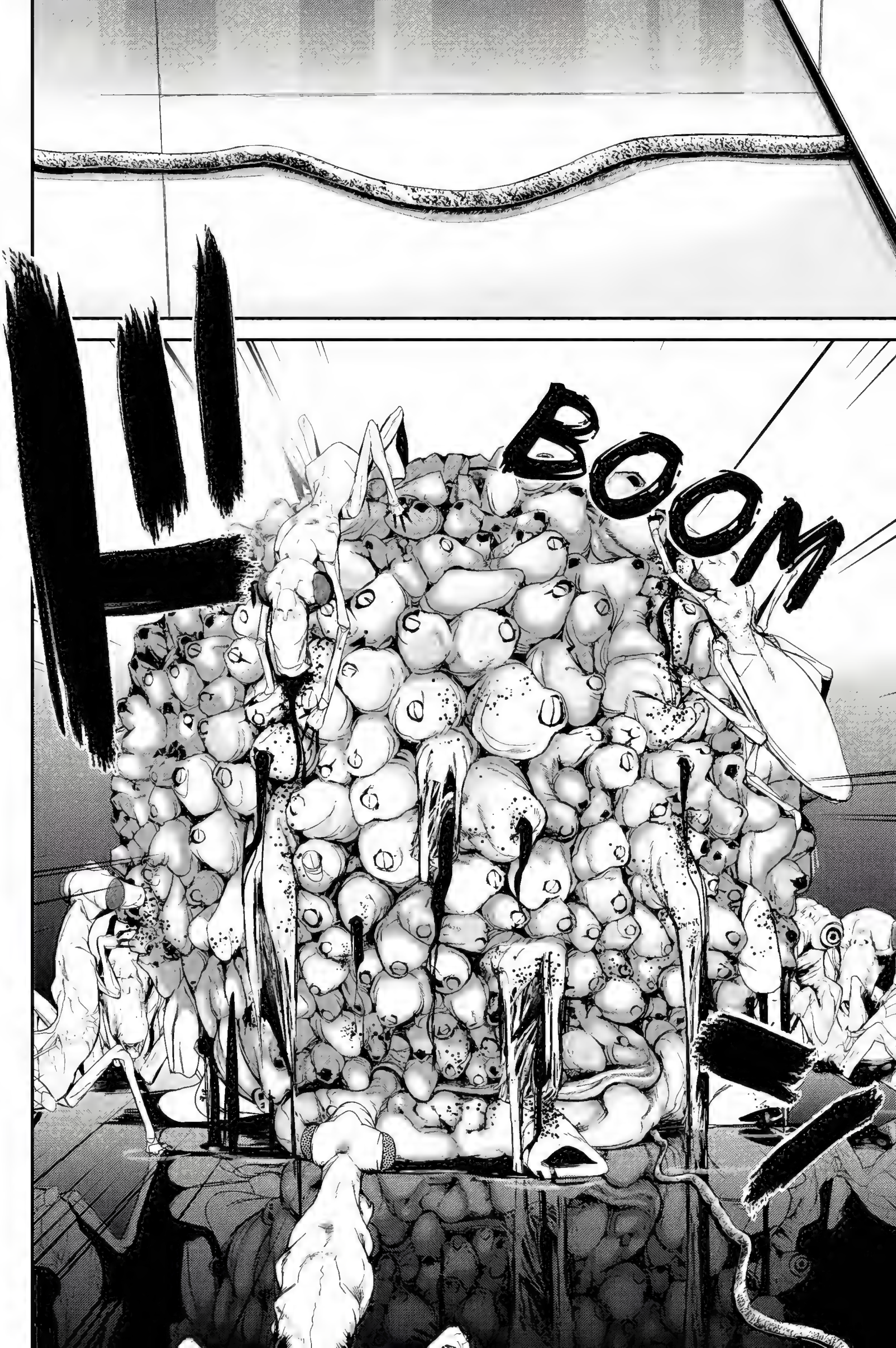

HUH?
B2 EMERGENCY
AAGH!!
CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG, BUT...
...WOULDN'T PRESSING THAT BUTTON LET THOSE THINGS DOWN BELOW OUT OF THEIR PRISON?
HUH ...?

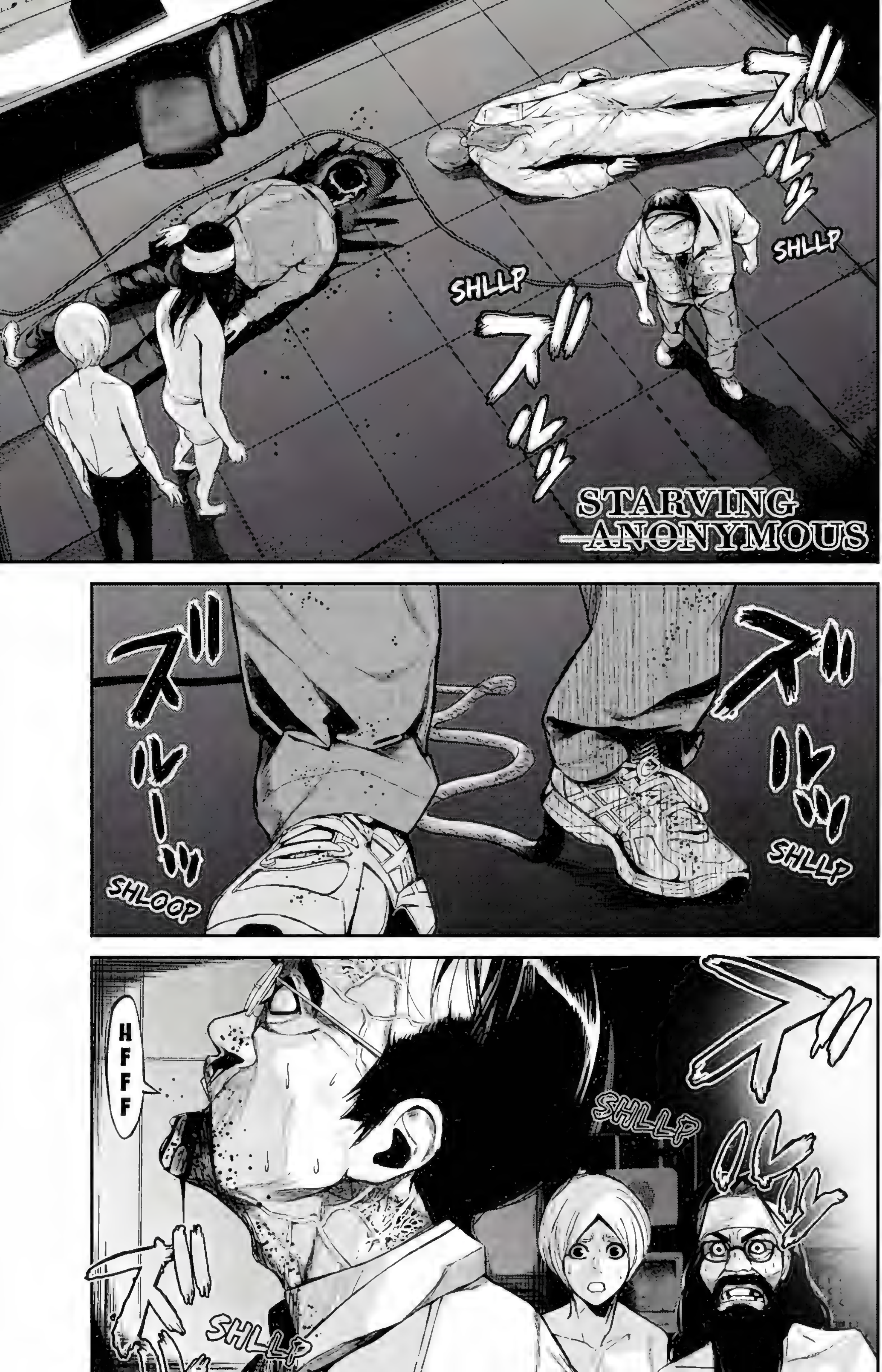

NOW, WHY WOULD YOU GO AND DO THAT, HMM?
NO ...!
IT'S JUST ...
...I CAN... HEAR THEM AGAIN!
HEAR WHAT?
THE VOICES!!
AAAGH!
AAAA-ARGH!!
SWRRKT

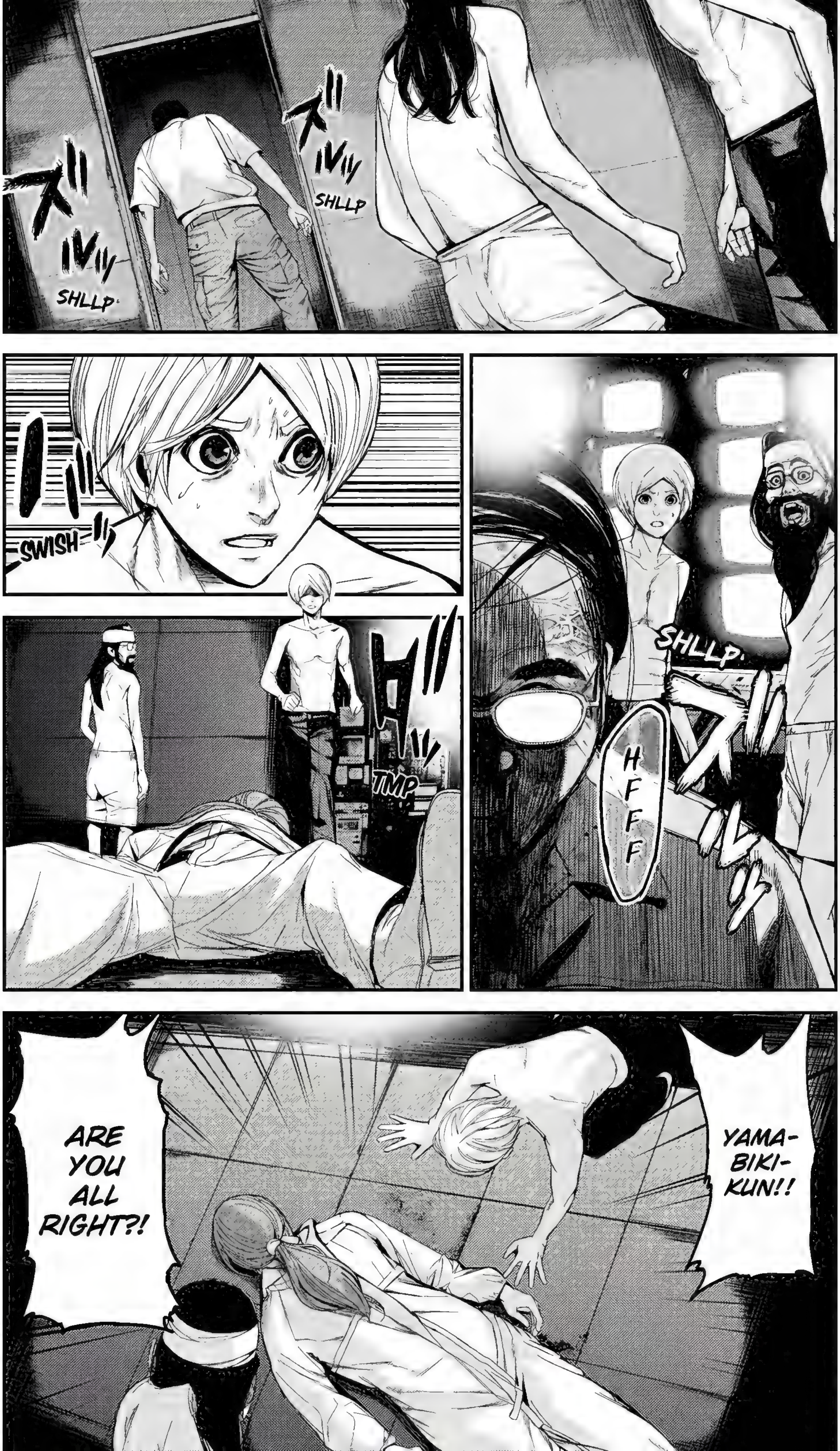

WHO THE HELL ...
...ARE YOU ?!
BSHH
!!
ド
THMP
YAMABIKI-KUN!!
ビリ
KZZT
ビリ
KZZT
ビリ
KZZT

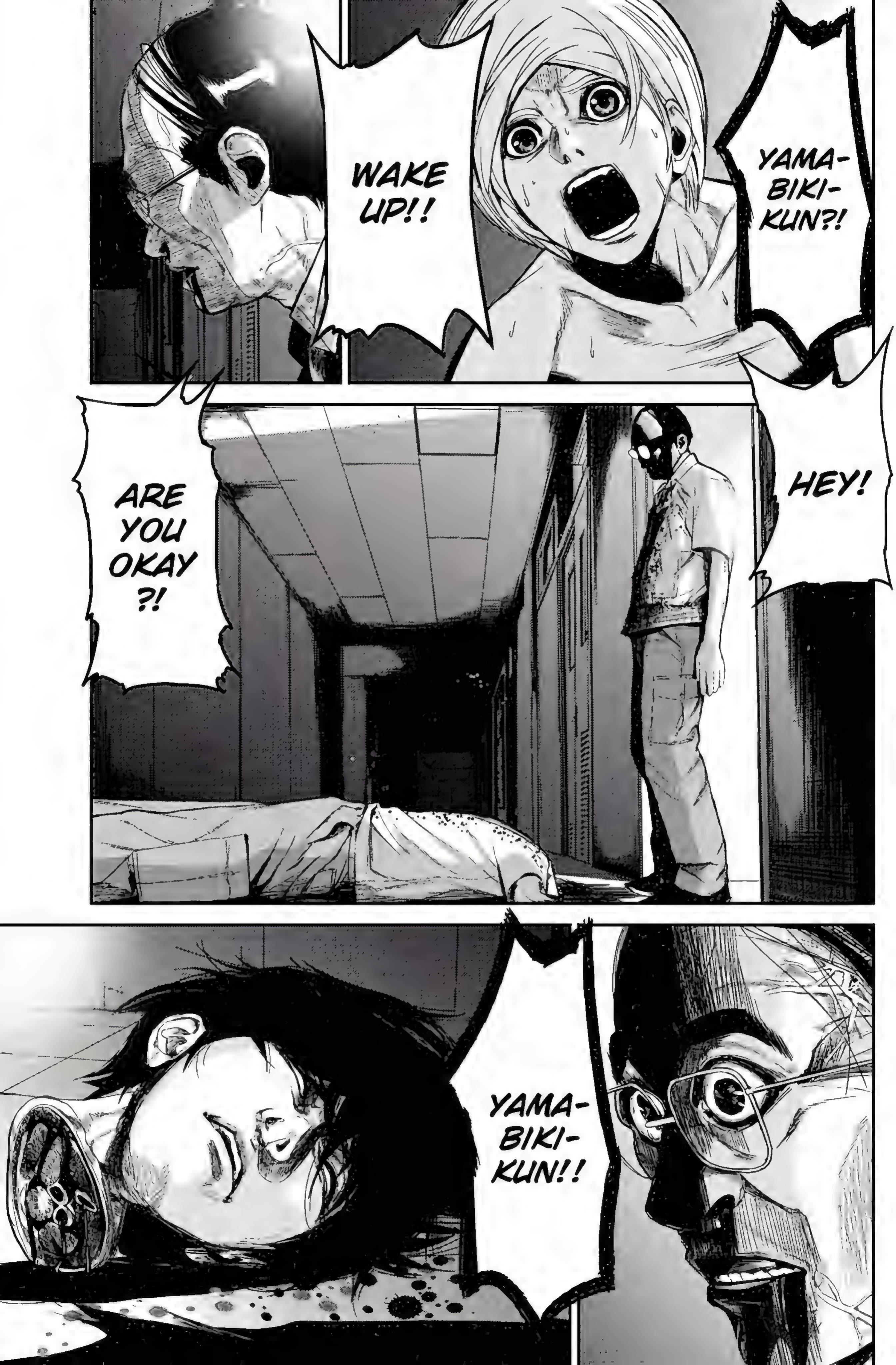

WHY MUST ...
...YOU FOOLS ...
...STAND IN OUR WAY?!
RRK ...!
ビリ KZZT
ビリ KZZT
R R
A A H H


WHY ?!!
HEY! L-L-LOOK DOWN THERE!!
HUH?! WHAT?!
WHAT IS THAT THING?!
IT'S A F... FEELER...

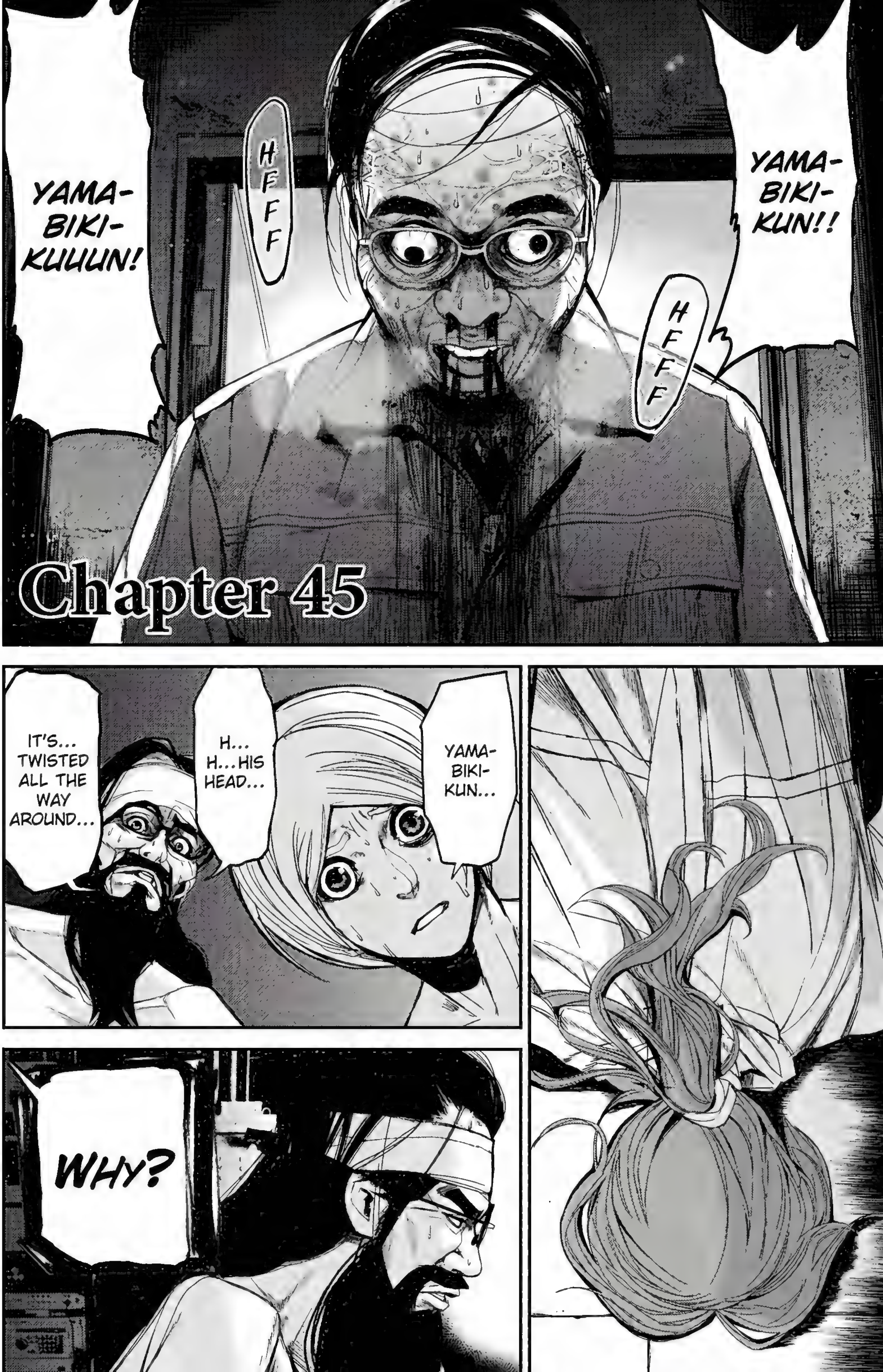

BOOM

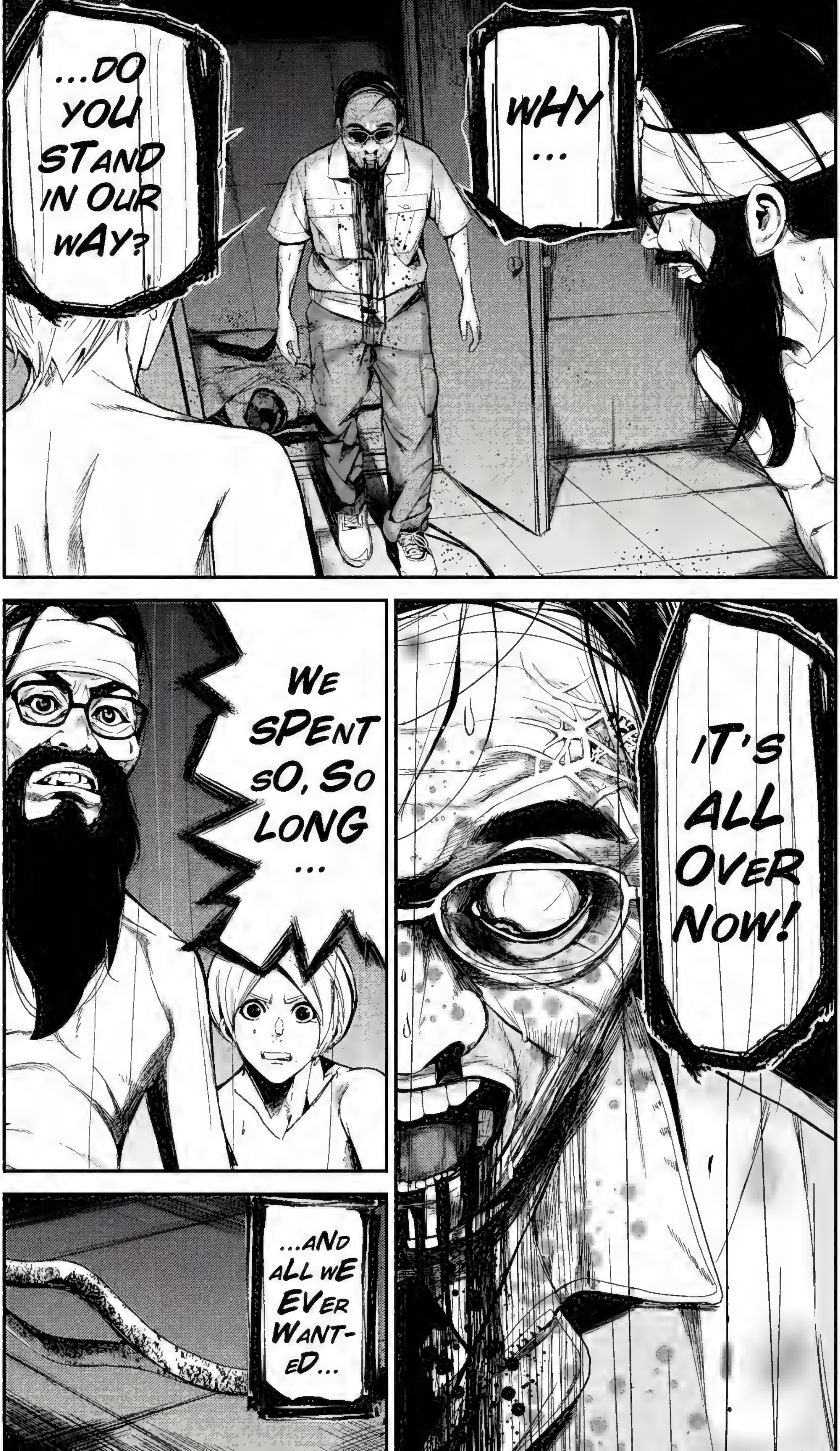

ズルッ
SHLLP
ズルッ
SHLLP
STARVING ANONYMOUS
ズルルッ
SHLLP
ズルーッ
SHLOOP
ズルルッ
SHLLP
HFFF
ズル
SHLLP

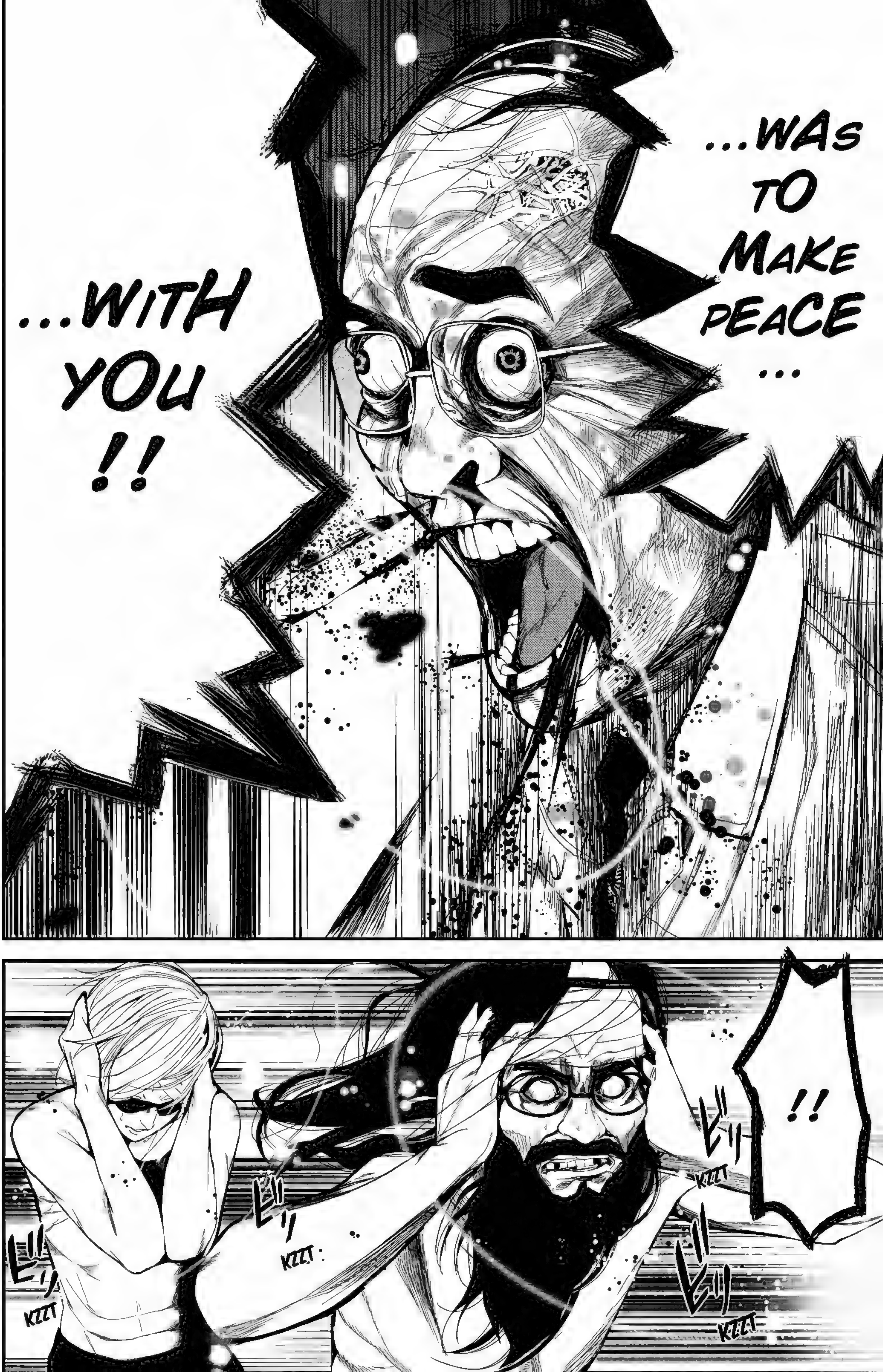

SHLLP
SHLLP
SHLLP
HFFF
SWISH
TMP
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

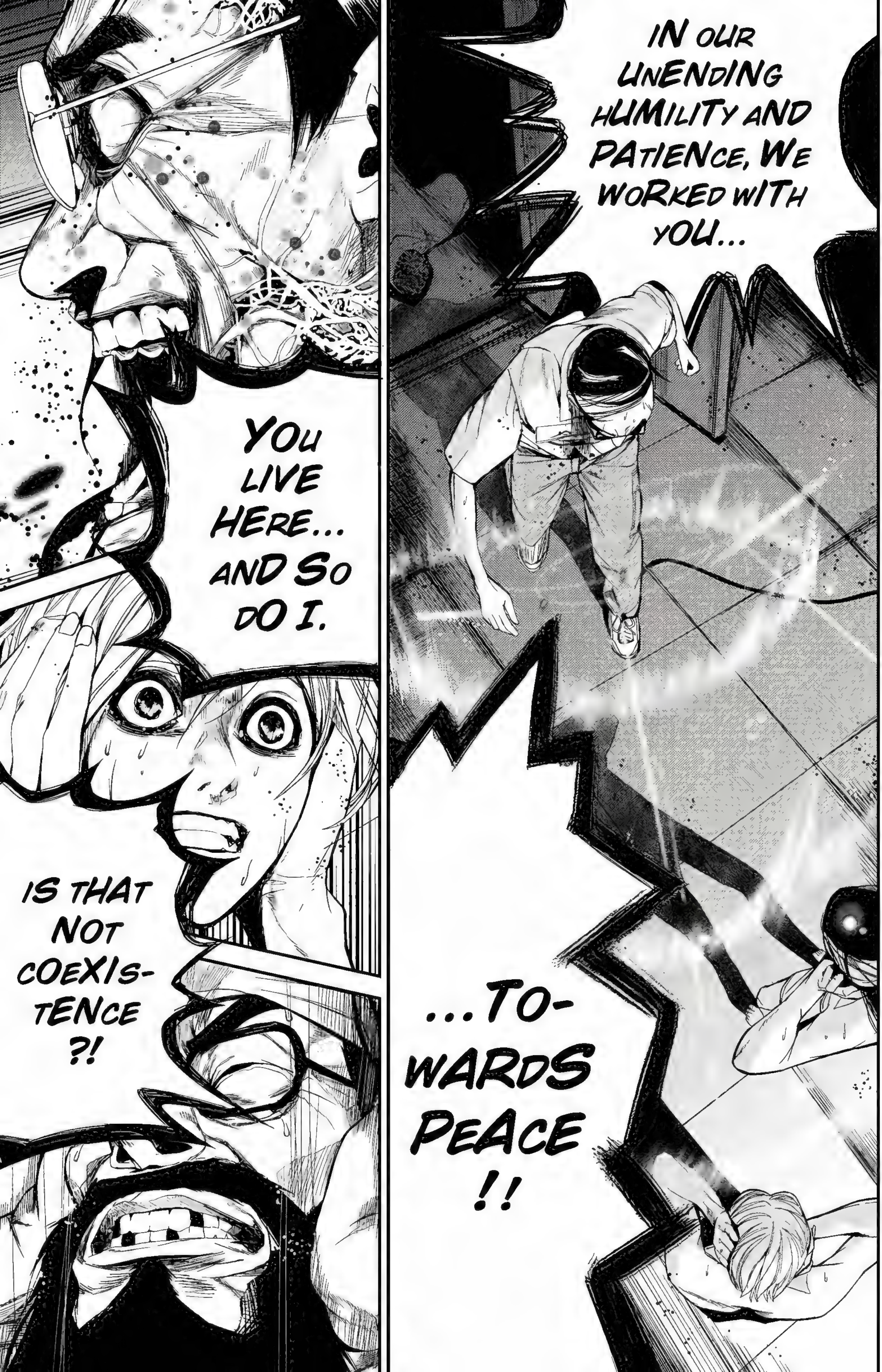

YAMABIKI-KUN?!
WAKE UP!!
HEY!
ARE YOU OKAY?!
YAMABIKI-KUN!!

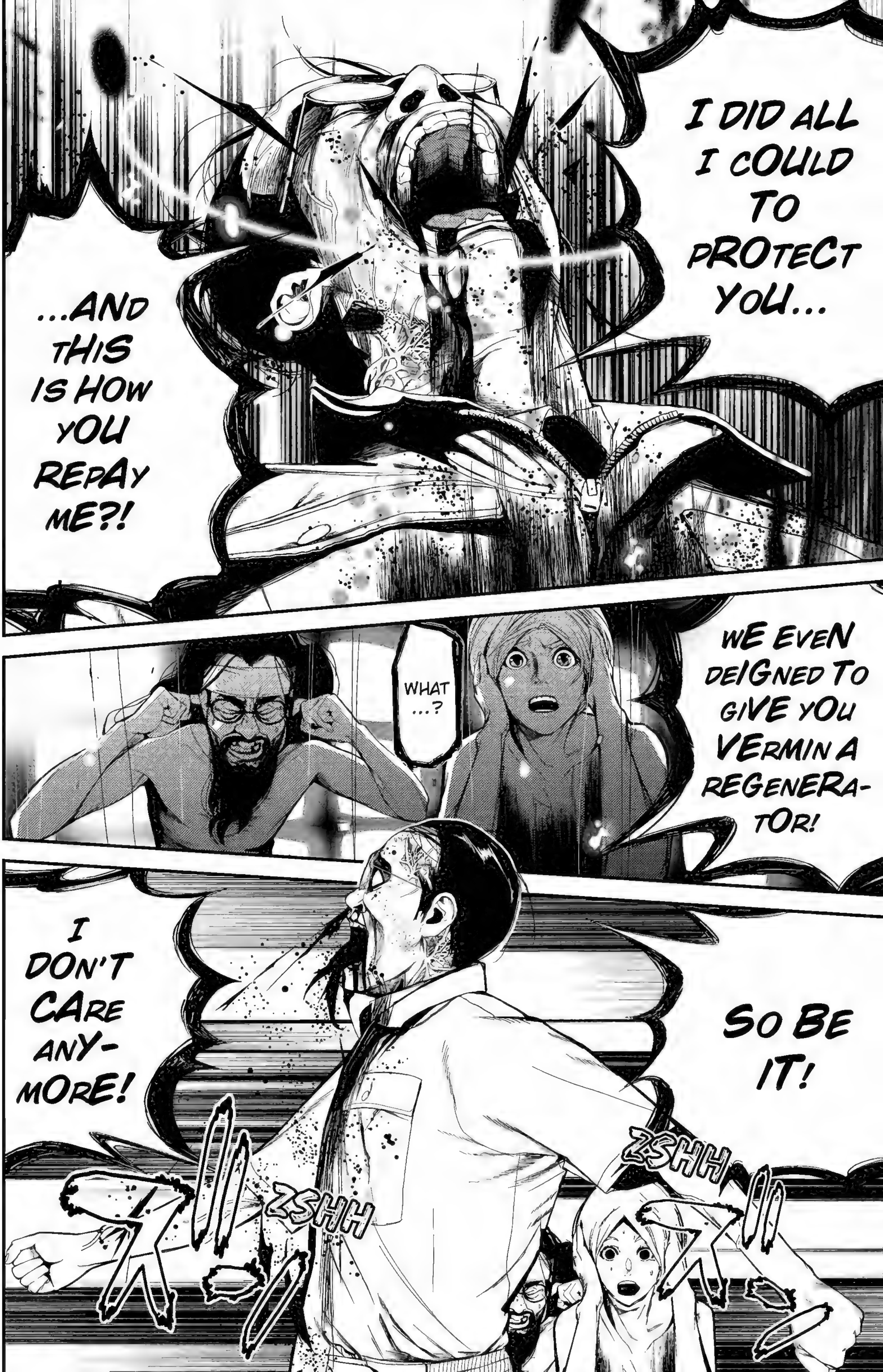
Chapter 45

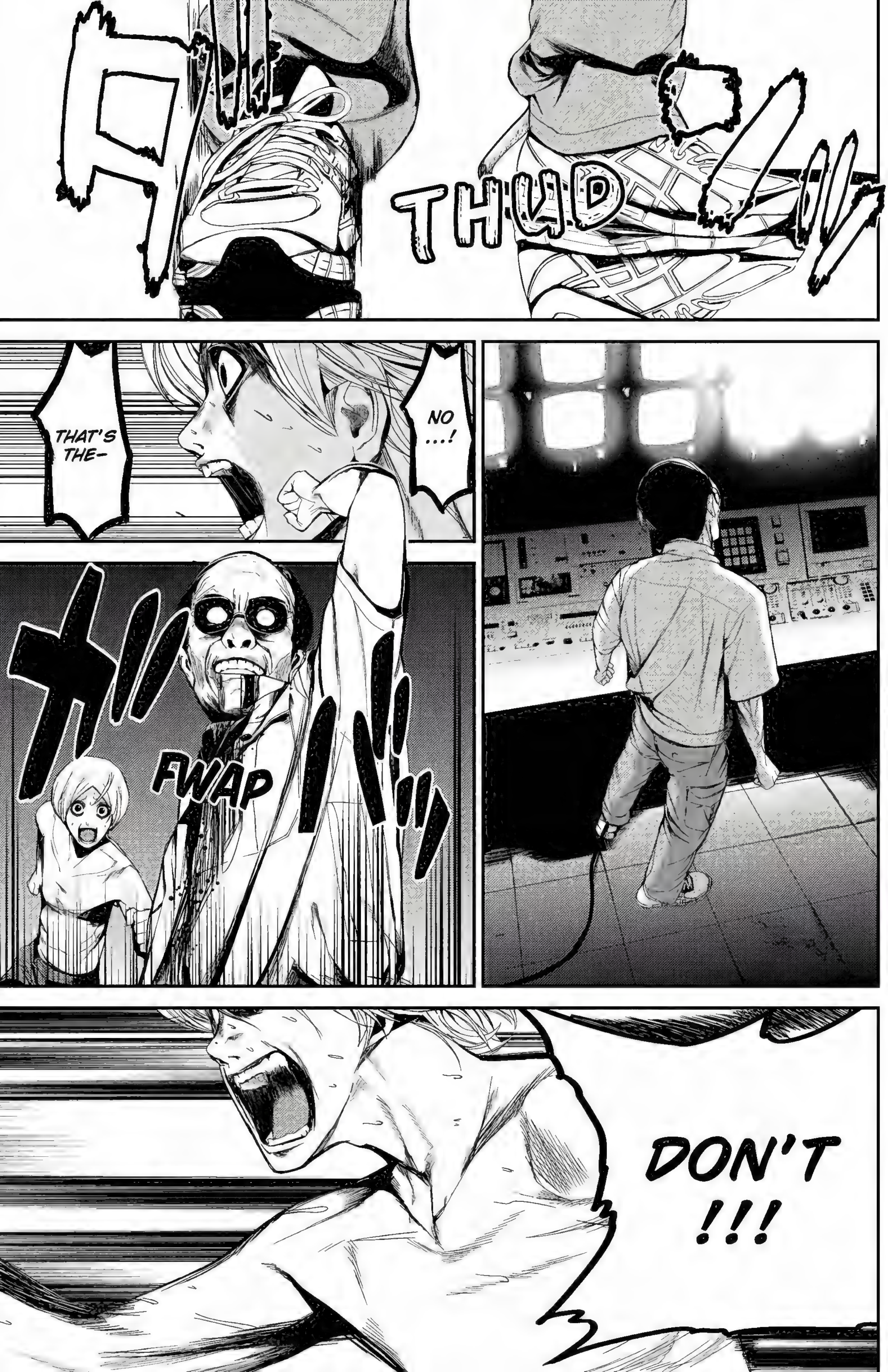

YAMA-BIKI-KUN!!
HFFF
HFFF
YAMA-BIKI-KUUUN!
YAMA-BIKI-KUN...
H... H...HIS HEAD...
IT'S... TWISTED ALL THE WAY AROUND...
WHY?

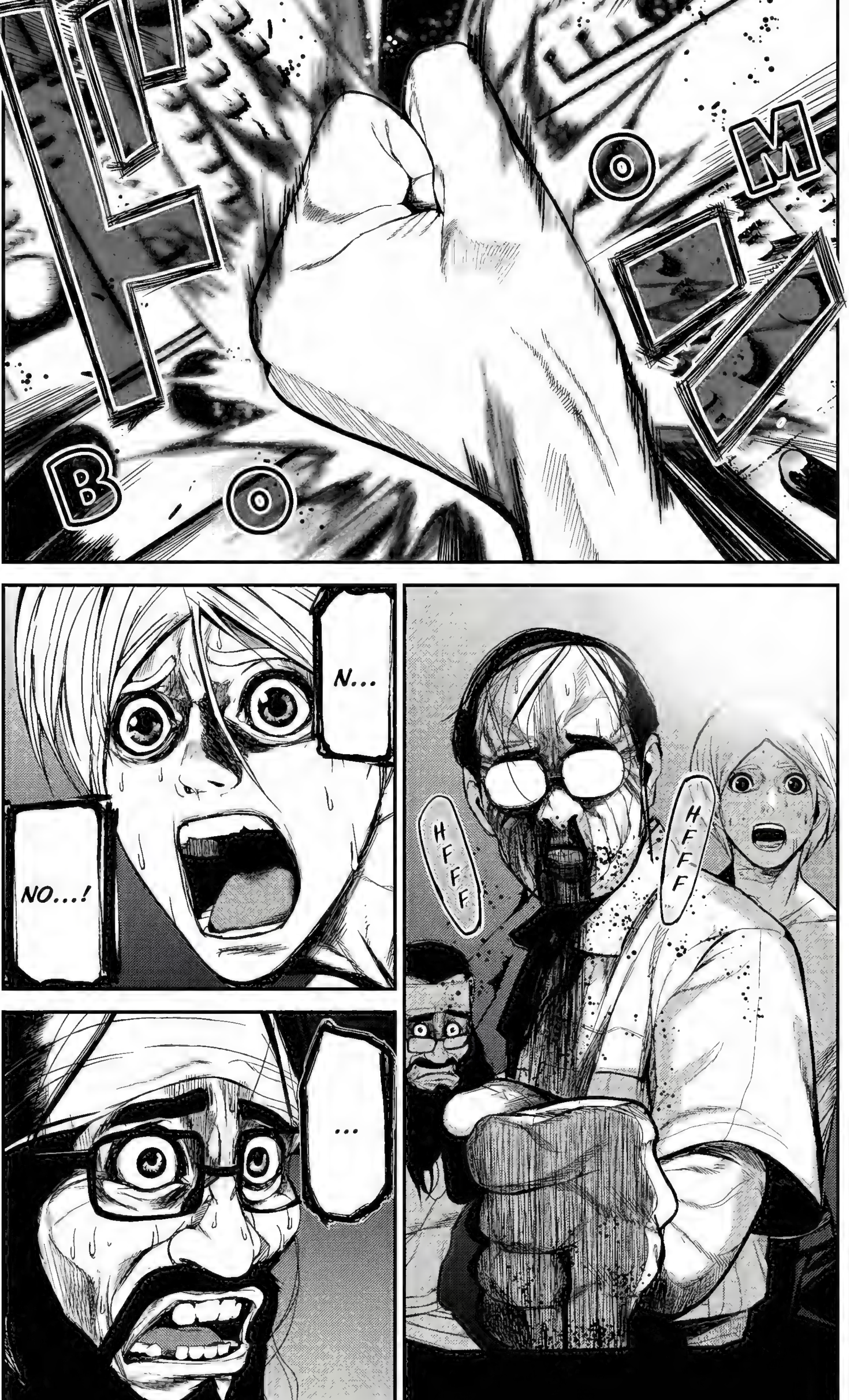

WHY...
...DO YOU STAND IN OUR WAY?
IT'S ALL OVER NOW!
WE SPENT SO, SO LONG...
...AND ALL WE EVER WANTED...

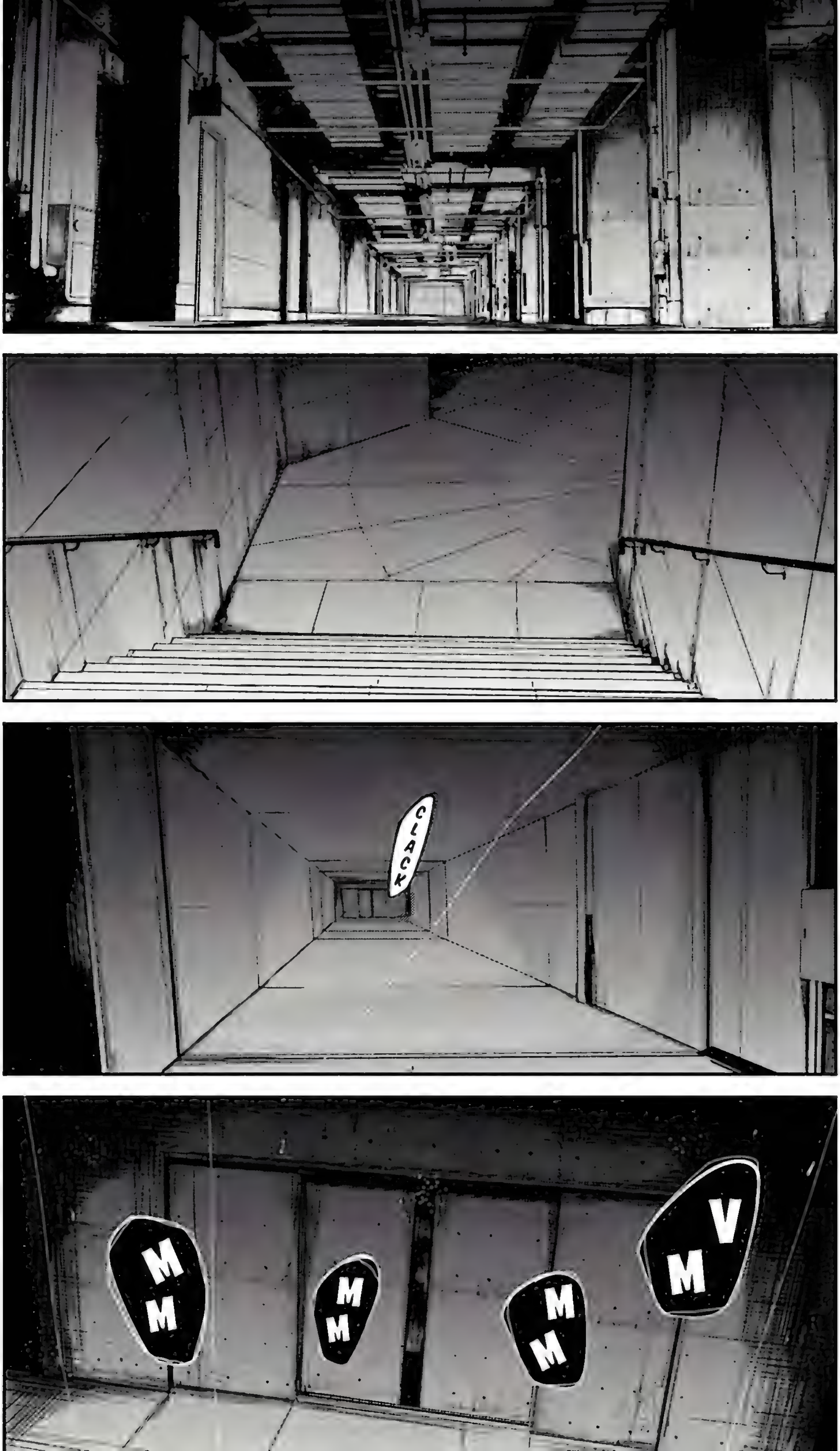

...WAs TO MAKE PEACE...
...WITH YOU!!
!!
KZZT
KZZT
KZZT
KZZT

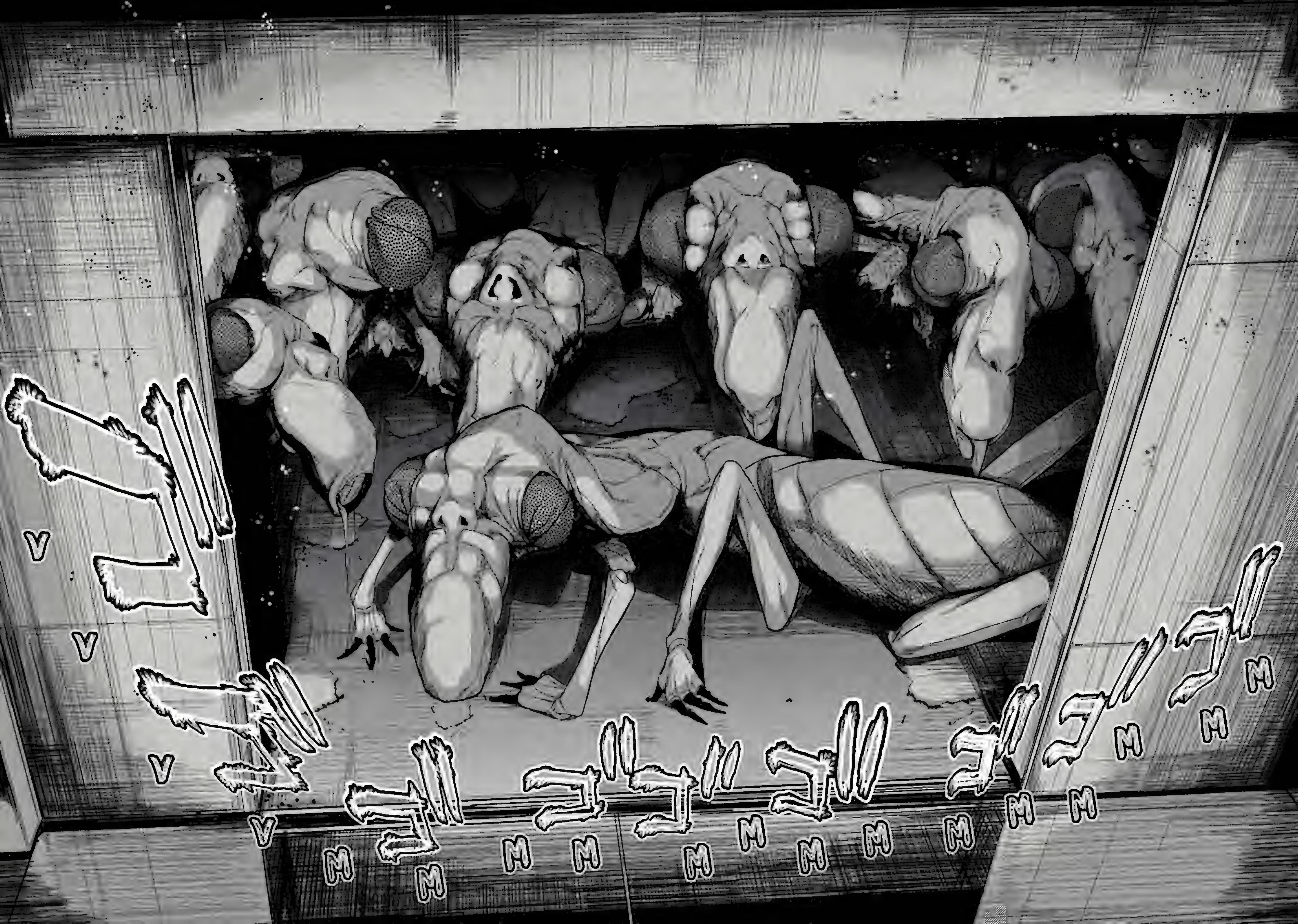

IN OUR UNENDING HUMILITY AND PATIENCE, WE WORKED WITH YOU...
...TOWARDS PEACE!!
YOU LIVE HERE... AND SO DO I.
IS THAT NOT COEXISTENCE?!

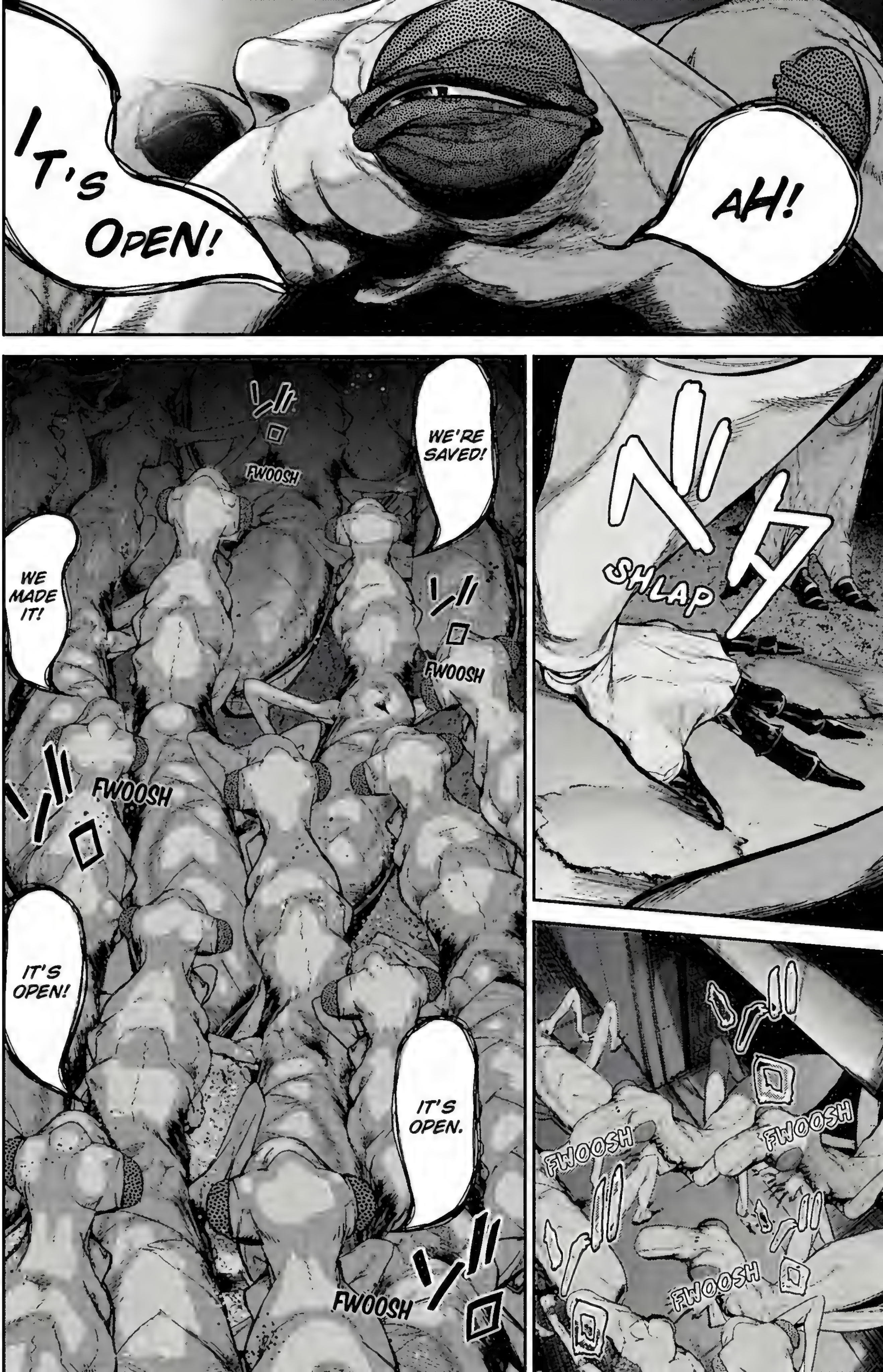

I DID ALL I COULD TO PROTECT YOU...
...AND THIS IS HOW YOU REPAY ME?!
WE EVEN DEIGNED TO GIVE YOU VERMIN A REGENERATOR!
WHAT ...?
SO BE IT!
I DON'T CARE ANYMORE!
ZSHH
ZSHH

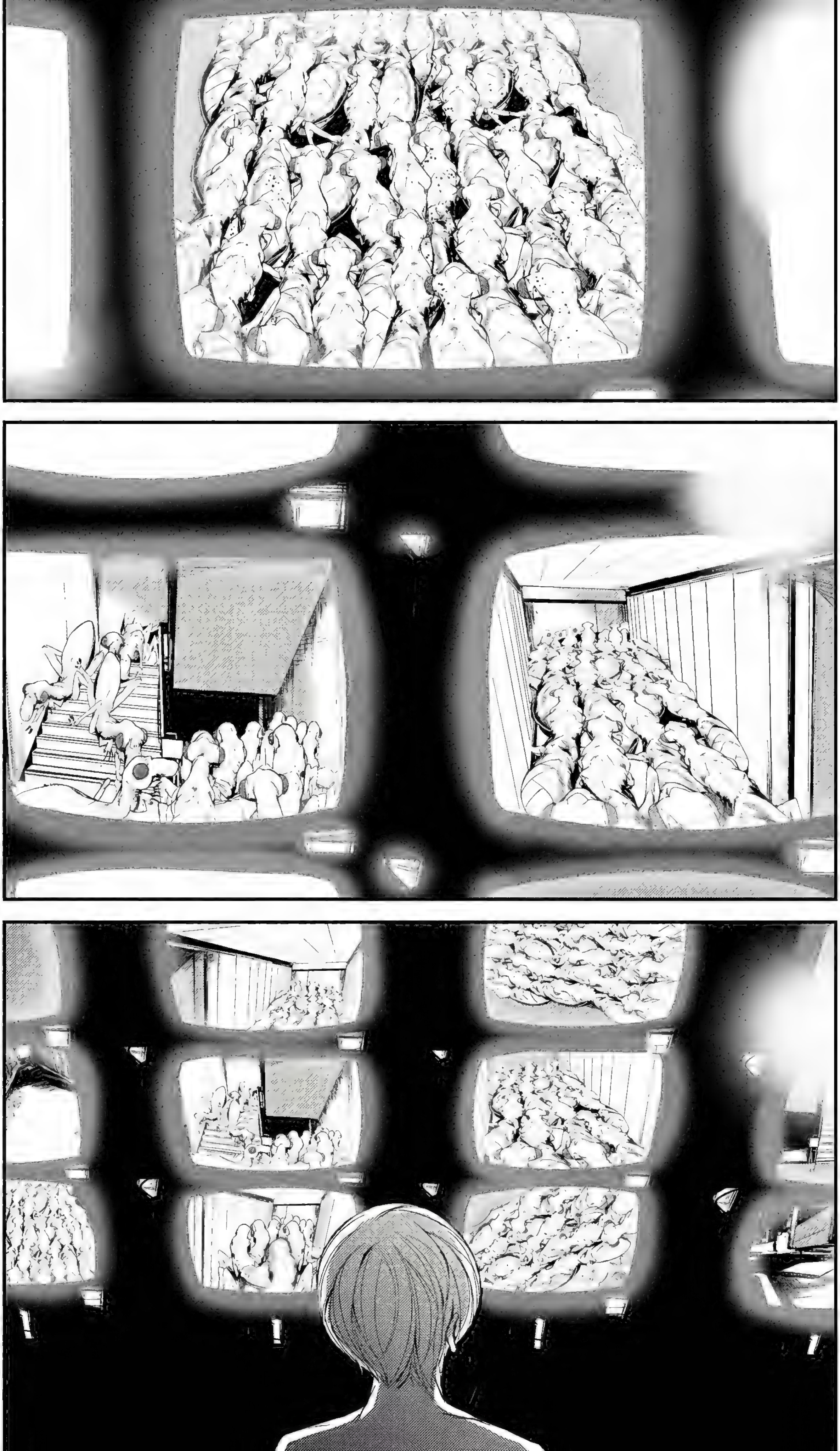

THUD
NO ...!
THAT'S THE-
FWAP
DON'T !!!

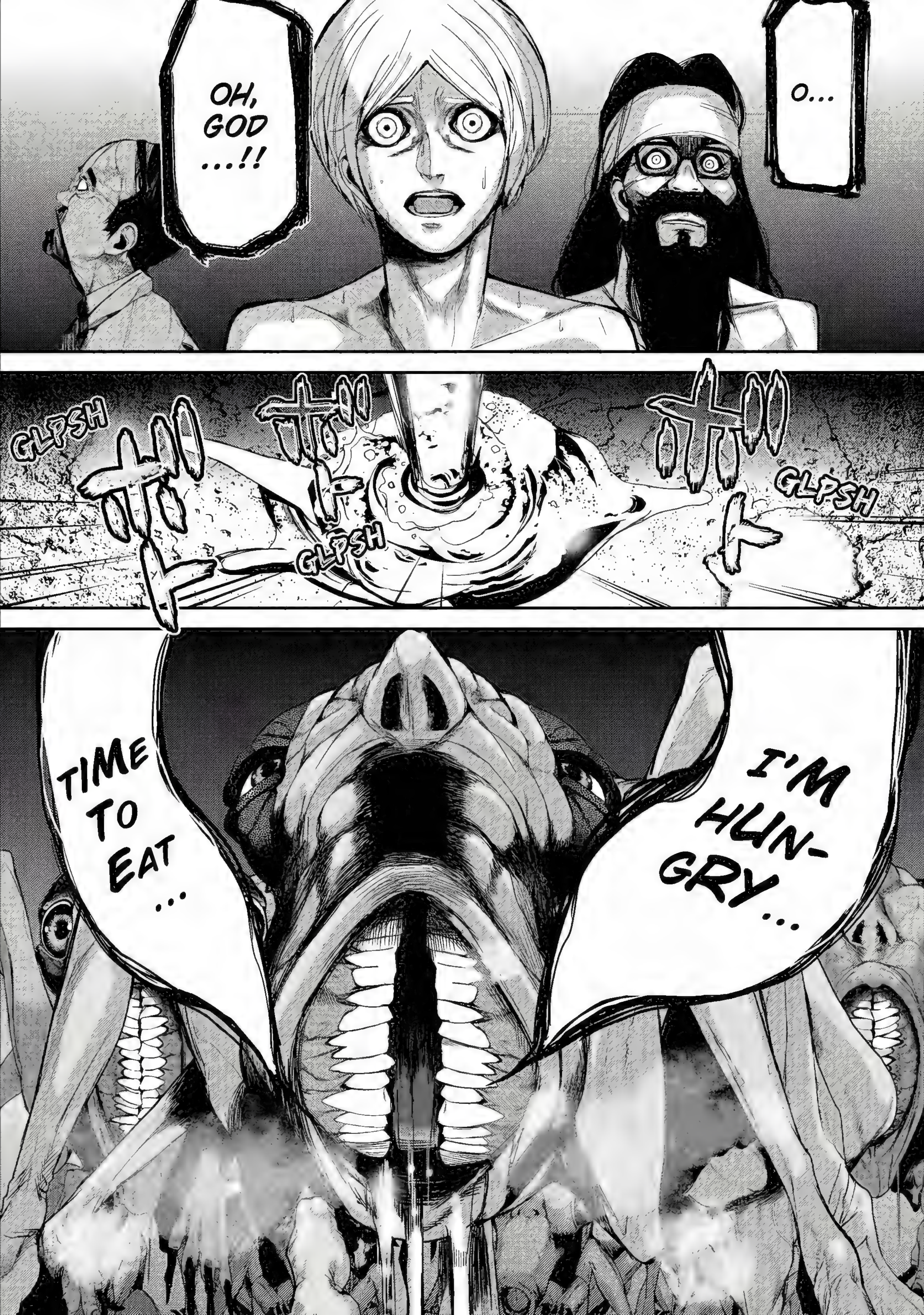

BOOM!!
HFFF
HFFF
N...
NO...!
...


CLACK
VM
MM
MM
MM

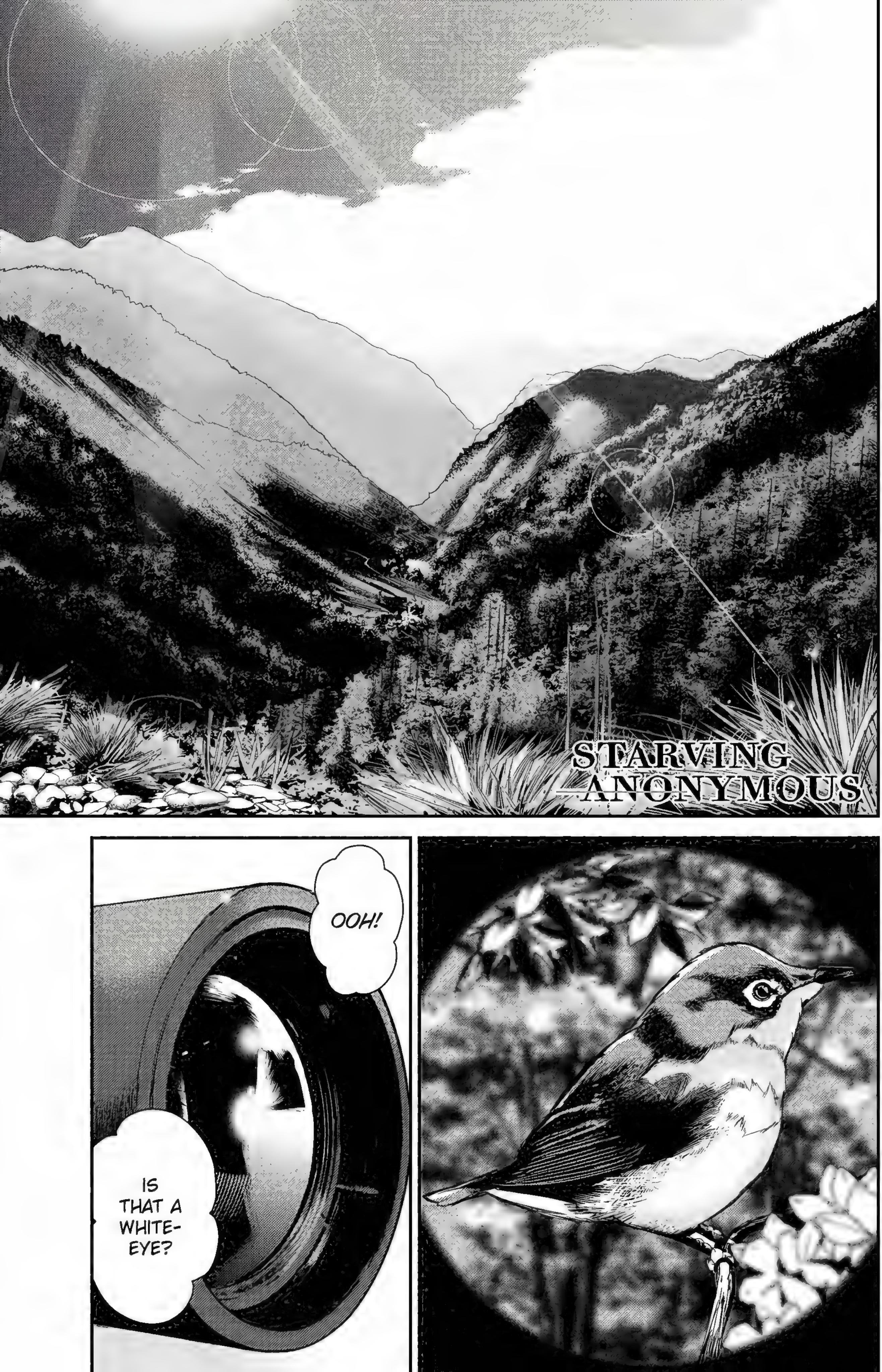

ブブ
VVVV
ゾゴゾゴゴゾブ
MMMMMMMMMMMMMM

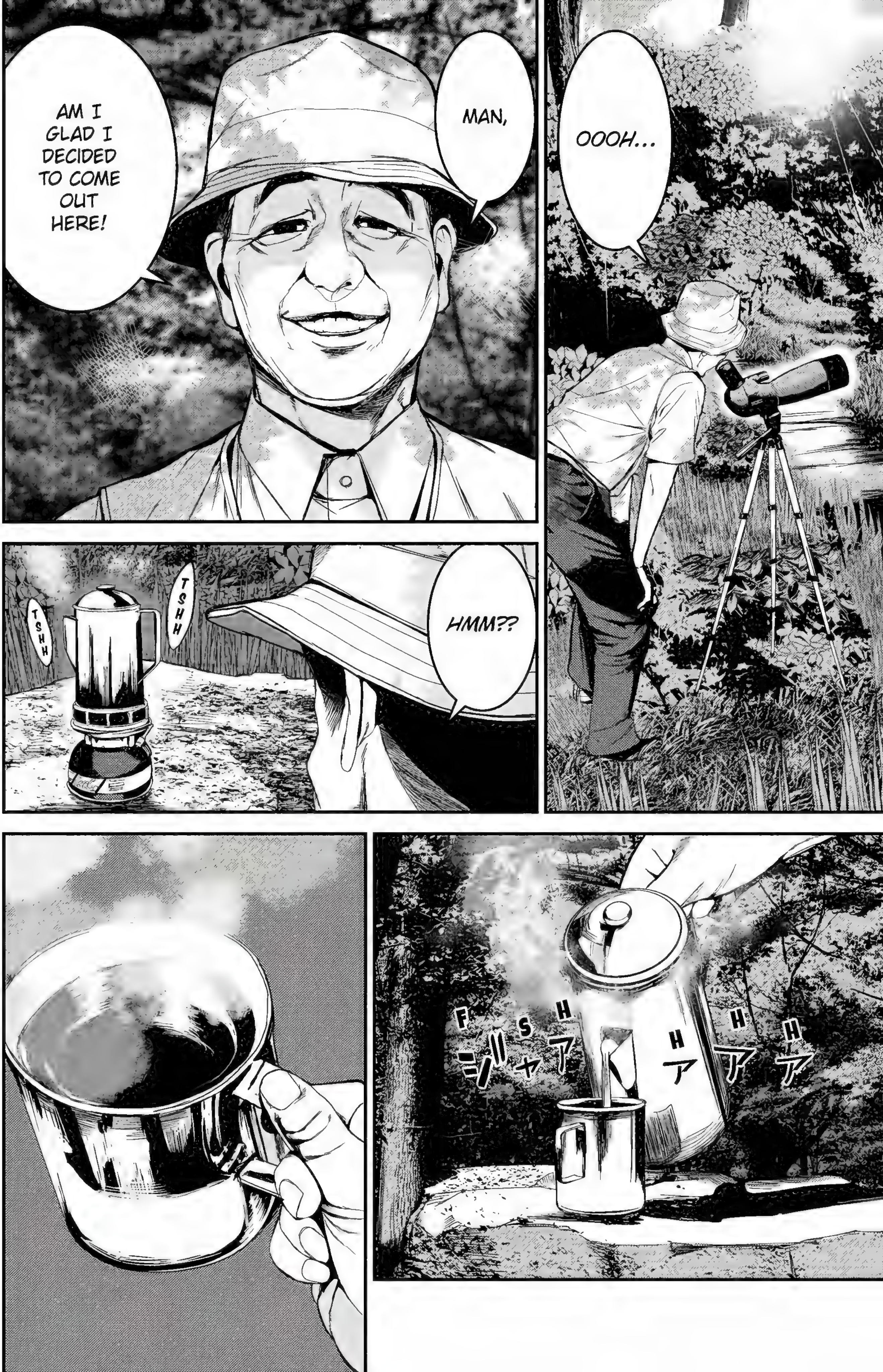

AH!
IT'S OPEN!
SHLAP
FWOOSH
FWOOSH
FWOOSH
WE'RE SAVED!
FWOOSH
FWOOSH
WE MADE IT!
FWOOSH
IT'S OPEN.
IT'S OPEN!
FWOOSH

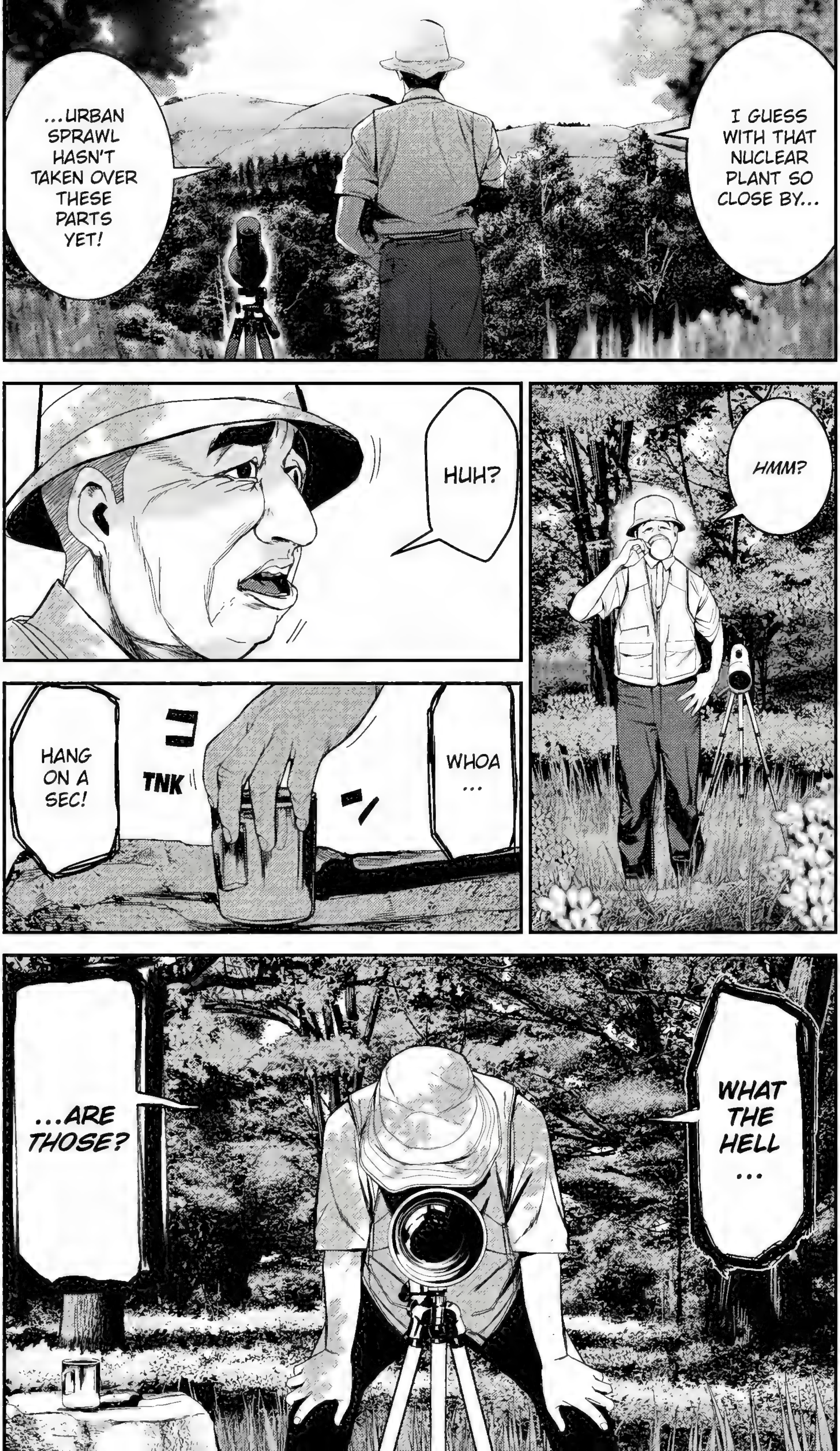


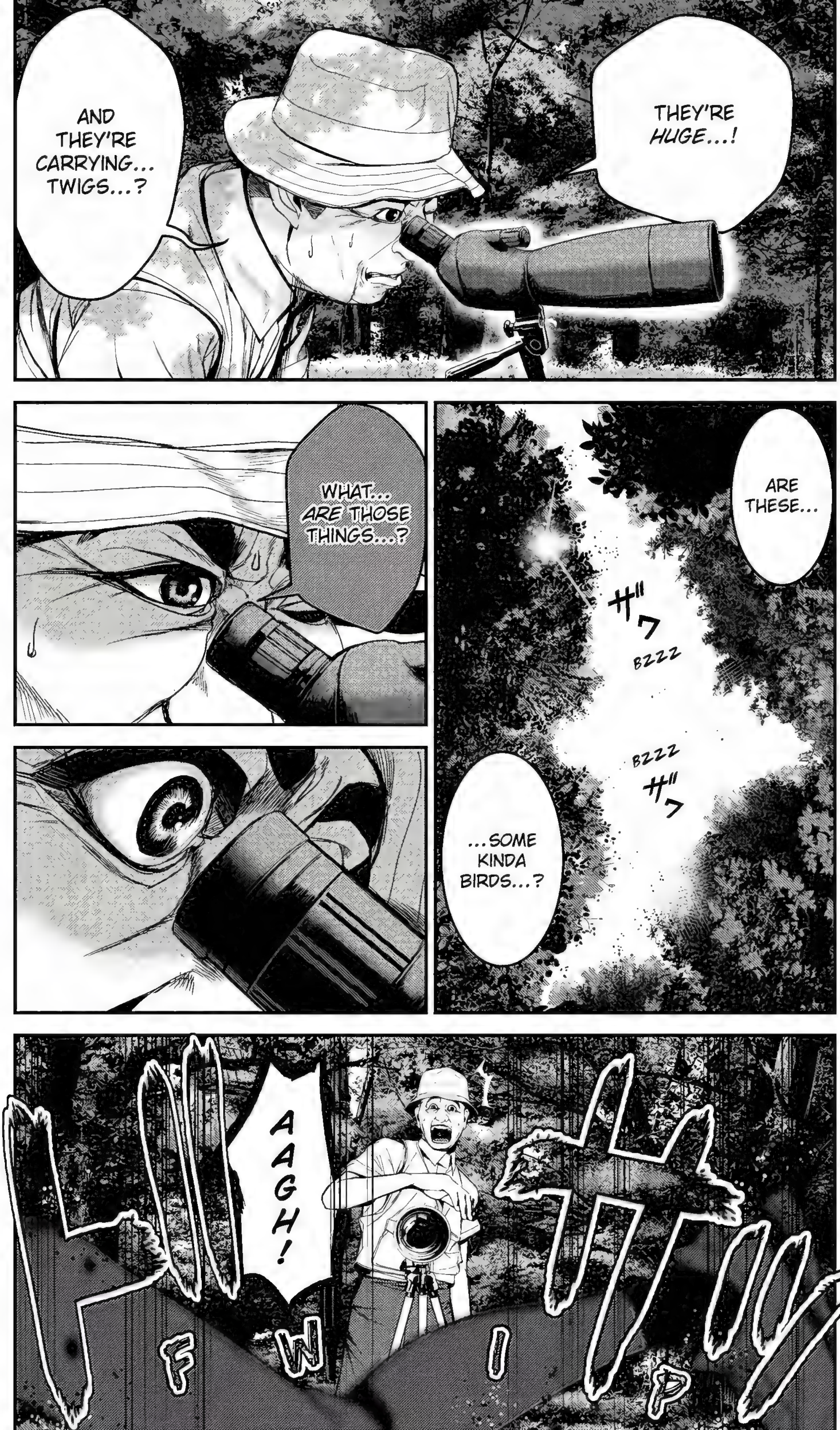

O...
OH, GOD ...!!
GLPSH
GLPSH
GLPSH
I'M HUNGRY...
TIME TO EAT ...

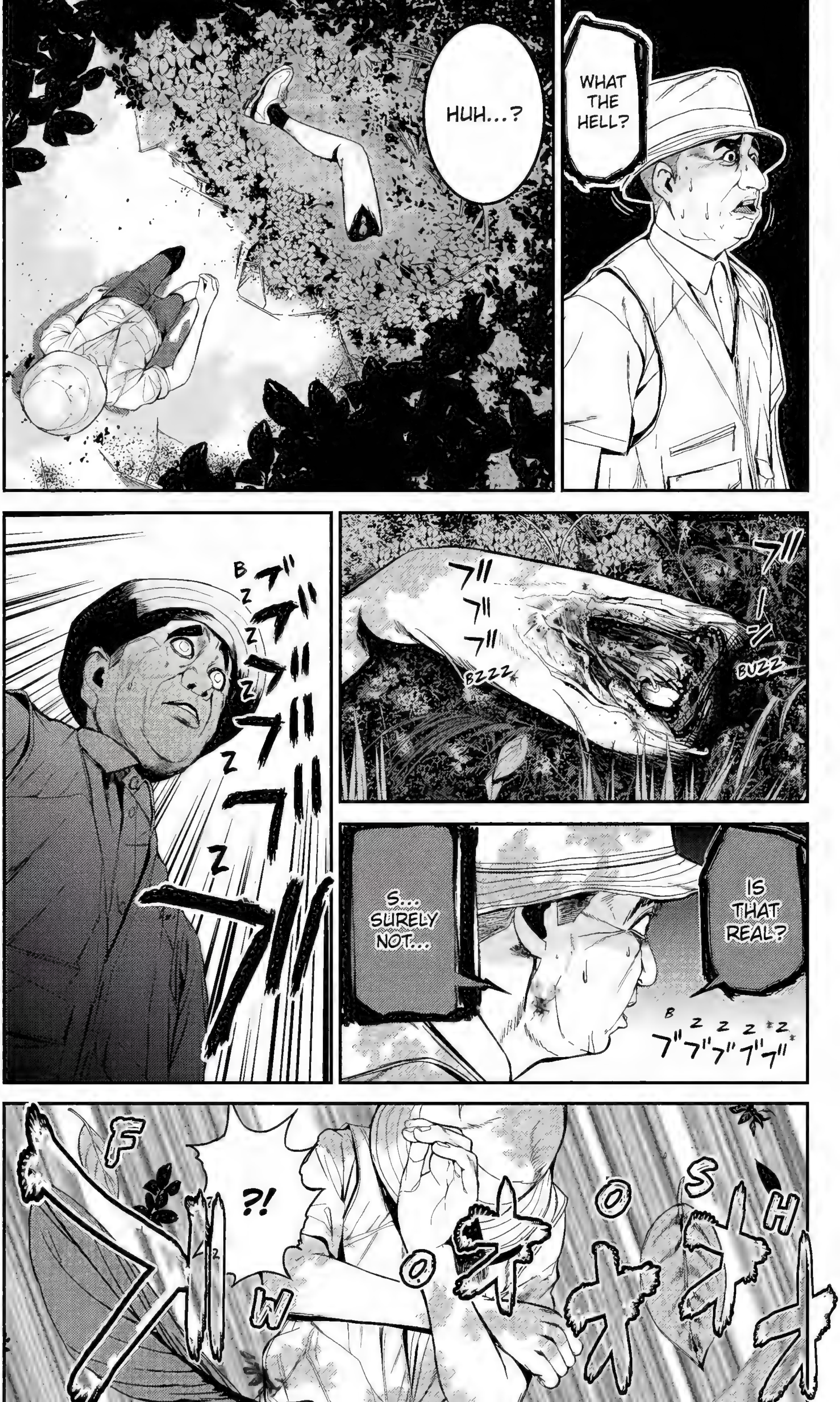
STARVING
ANONYMOUS


STARVING ANONYMOUS
OOH!
IS THAT A WHITE-EYE?

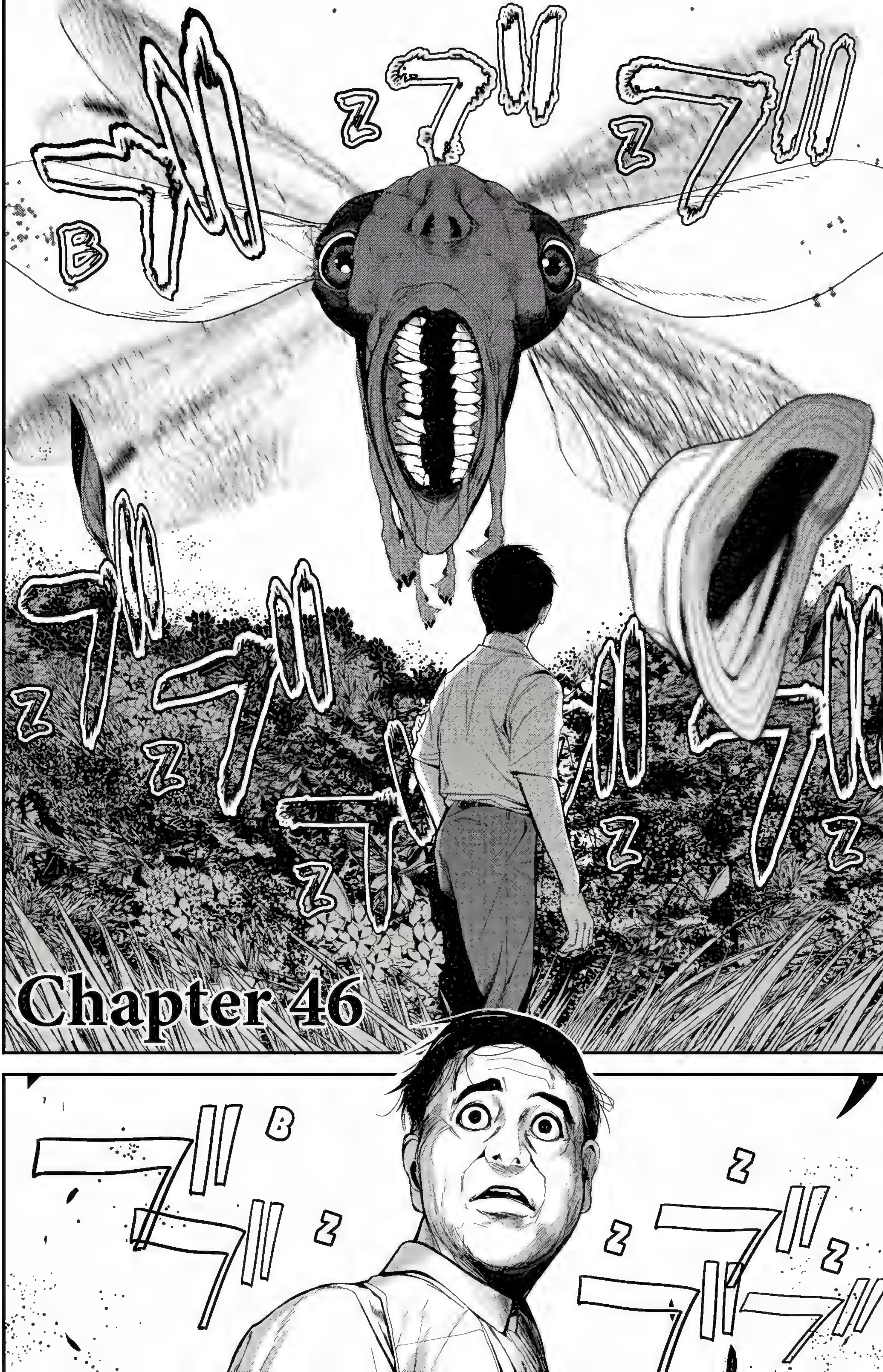

OOOH...
MAN,
AM I GLAD I DECIDED TO COME OUT HERE!
HMM??
TSHH
TSHH
FSHHHH
ジャアアア


I GUESS WITH THAT NUCLEAR PLANT SO CLOSE BY...
...URBAN SPRAWL HASN'T TAKEN OVER THESE PARTS YET!
HMM?
HUH?
WHOA ...
TNK
HANG ON A SEC!
WHAT THE HELL ...
...ARE THOSE?

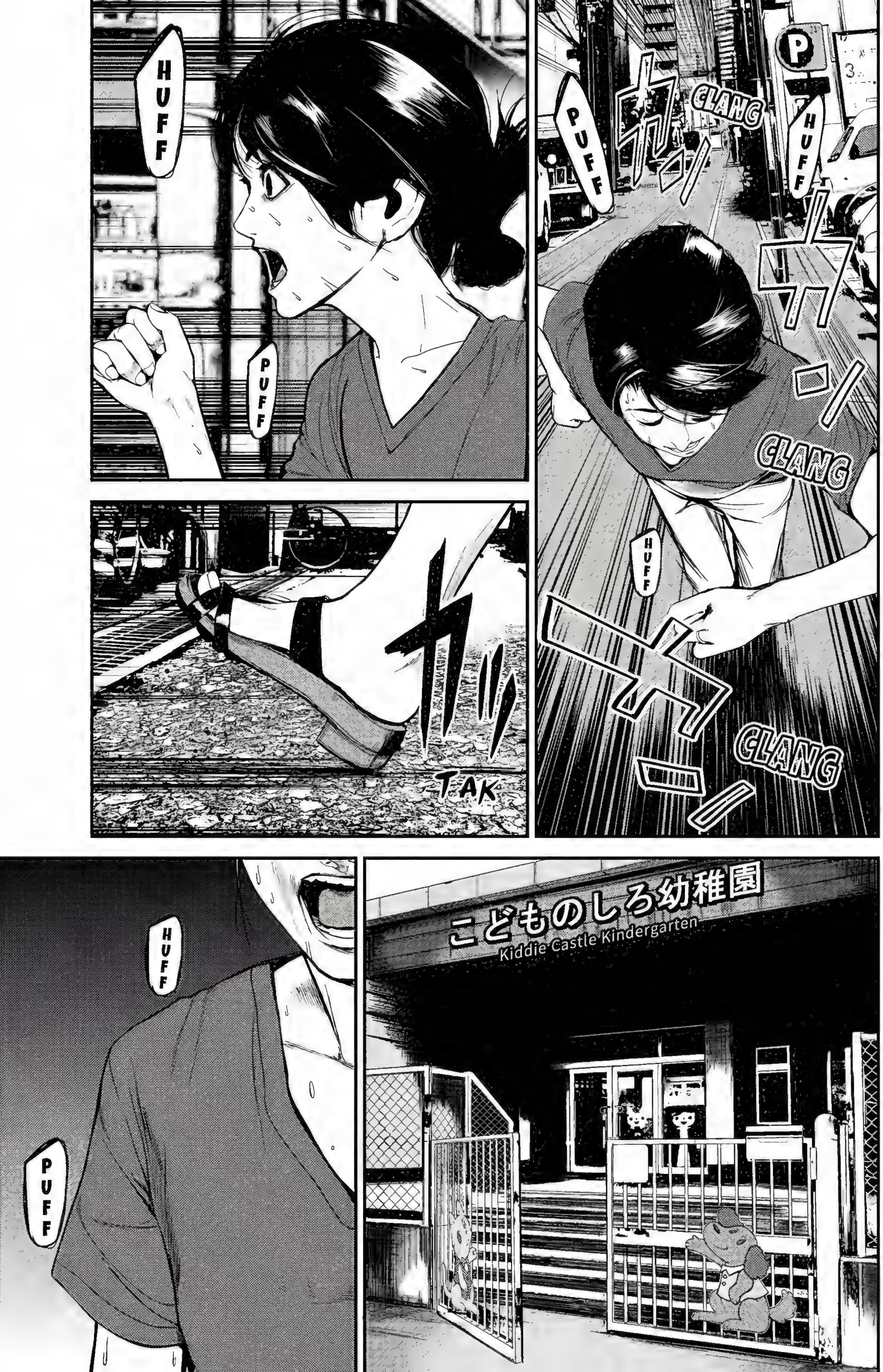

THEY'RE *HUGE*...!
AND THEY'RE CARRYING... TWIGS...?
ARE THESE...
ザワ
BZZZ
BZZZ
ザワ
...SOME KINDA BIRDS...?
WHAT... ARE THOSE THINGS...?
AAAGH!
FWIP

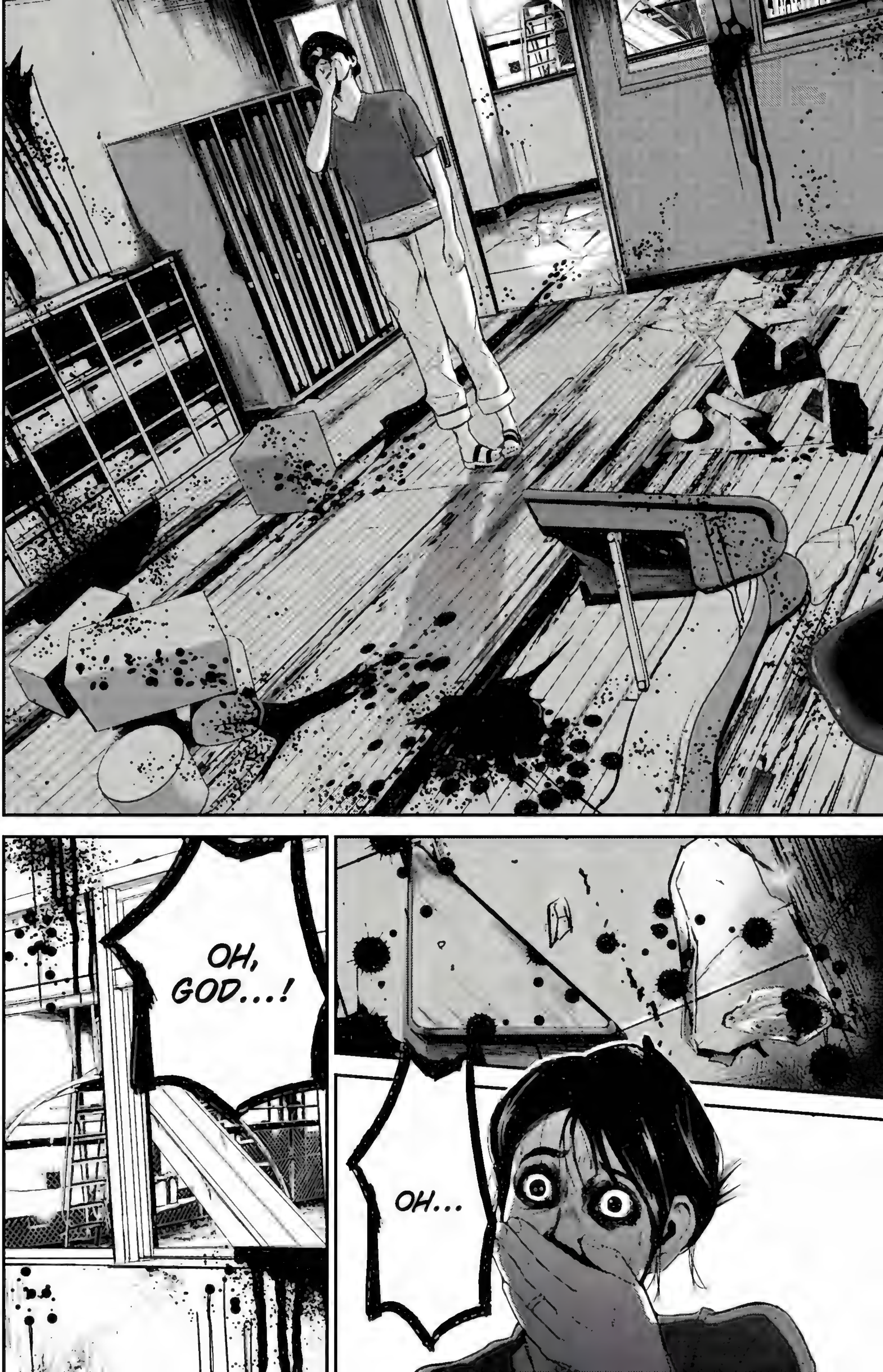

WHAT THE HELL?
HUH...?
ブブブ BZZZ
ブーン BUZZ
ブブブブブ BZZZZZ
IS THAT REAL?
S... SURELY NOT...
ブブブブブ BZZZZZ
?!
FWOOSH

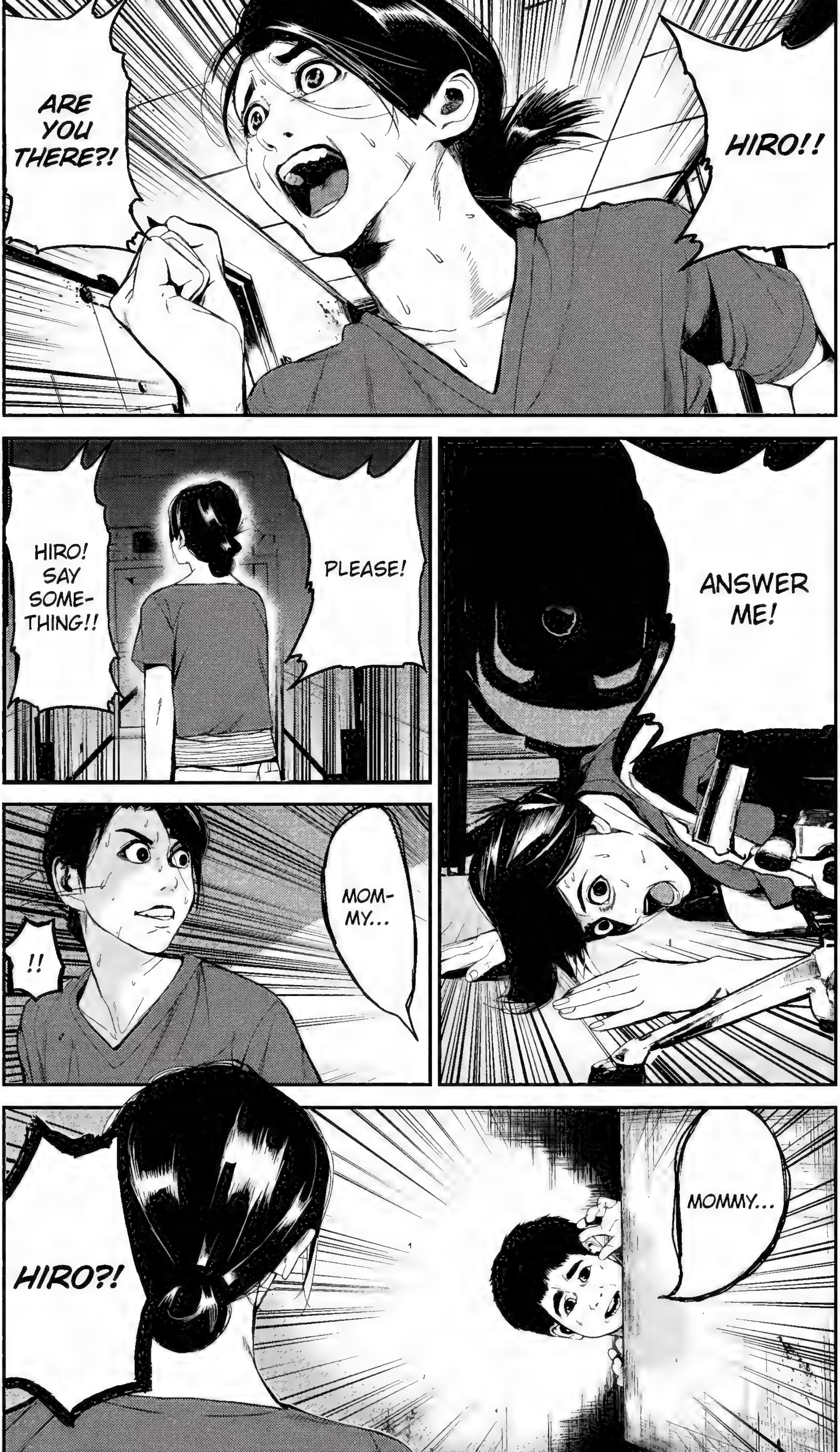
Chapter 46

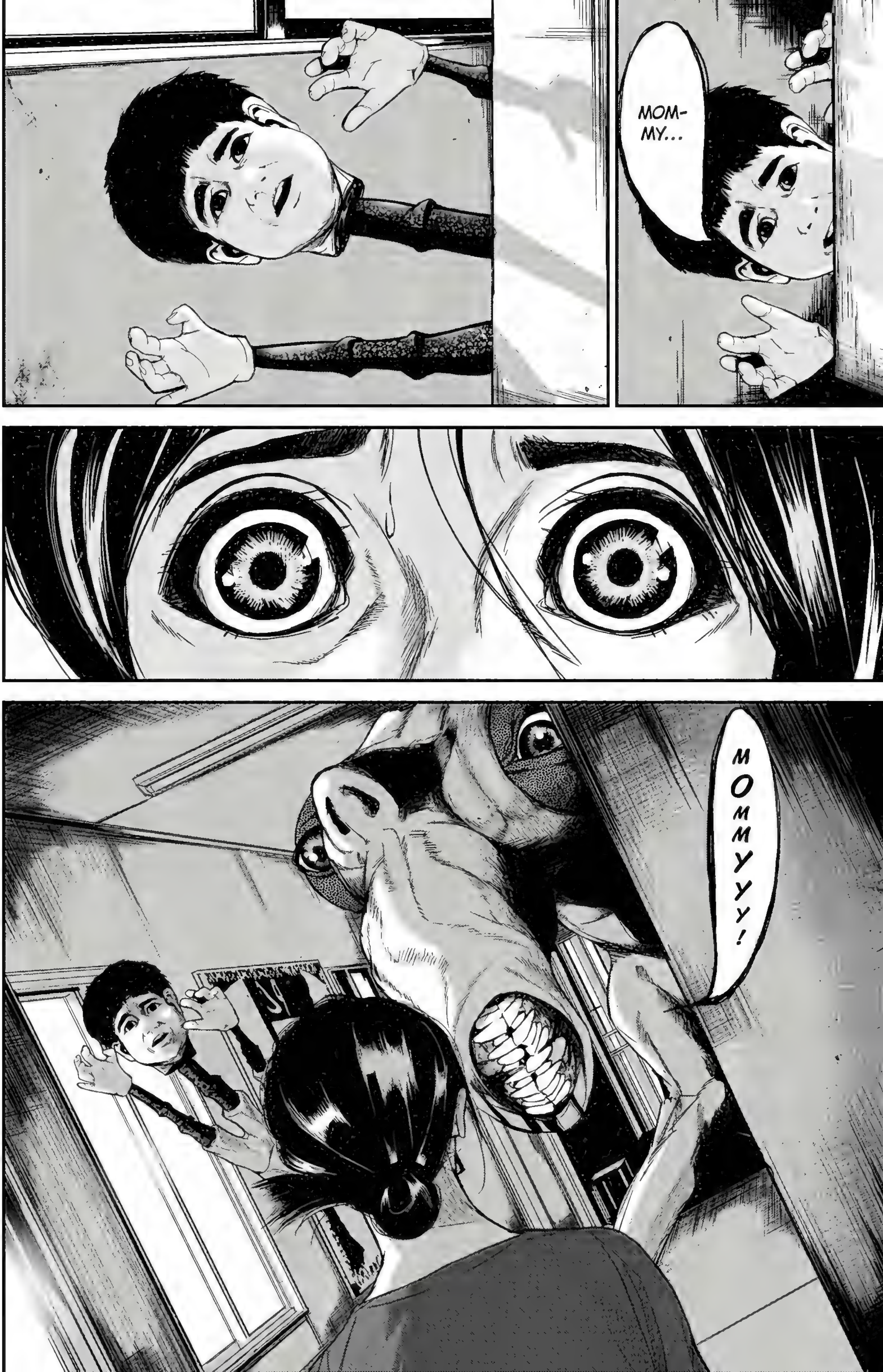


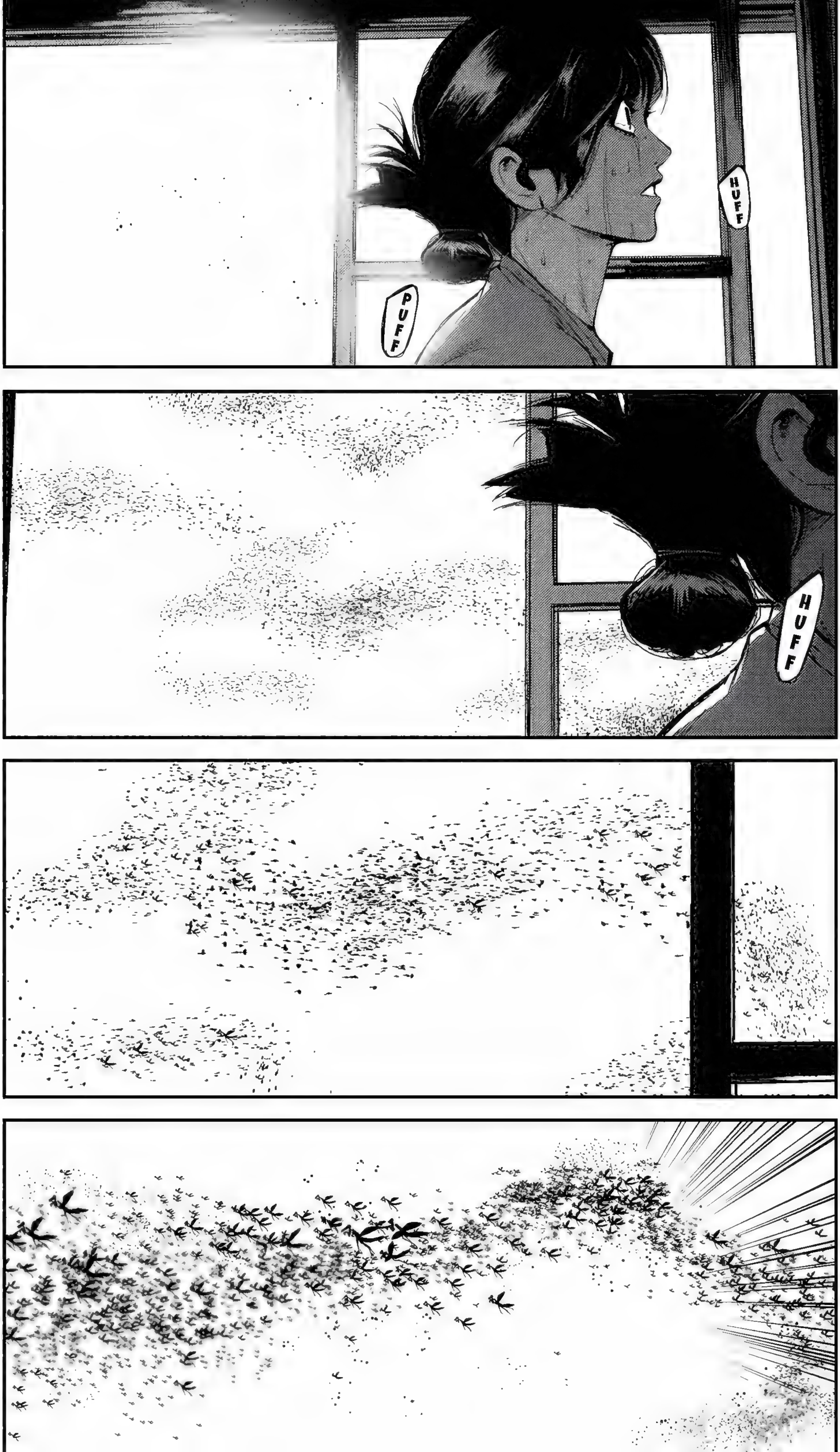
B Z Z
Z Z Z Z Z
B Z Z Z Z


PUFF
HUFF
CLANG
CLANG
HUFF
CLANG
HUFF
PUFF
TAK
こどものしろ幼稚園
Kiddie Castle Kindergarten
HUFF
PUFF

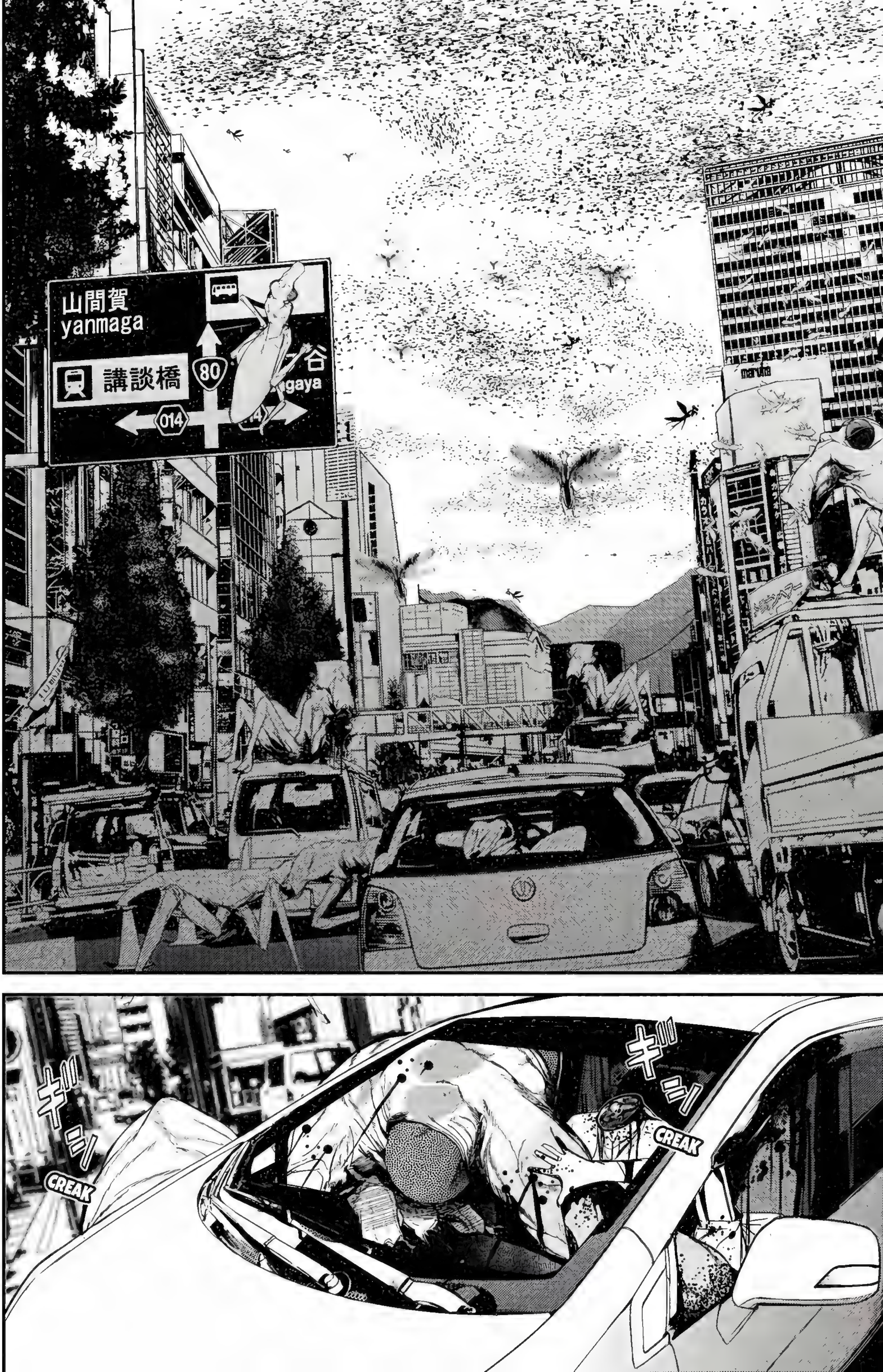

OH...
OH, GOD...!

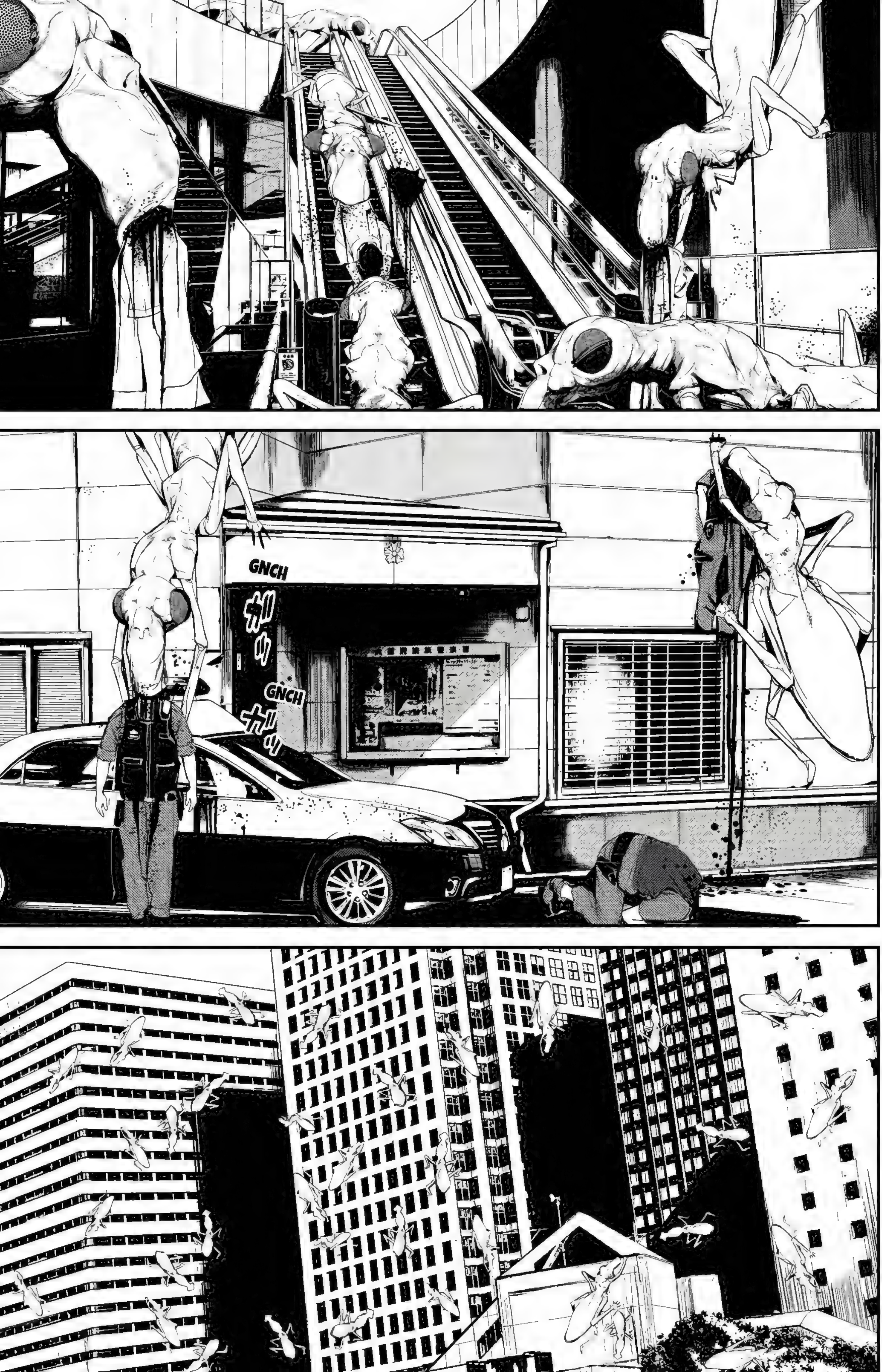

HIRO!!
ARE YOU THERE?!
ANSWER ME!
PLEASE!
HIRO! SAY SOME-THING!!
MOM-MY...
!!
MOMMY...
HIRO?!

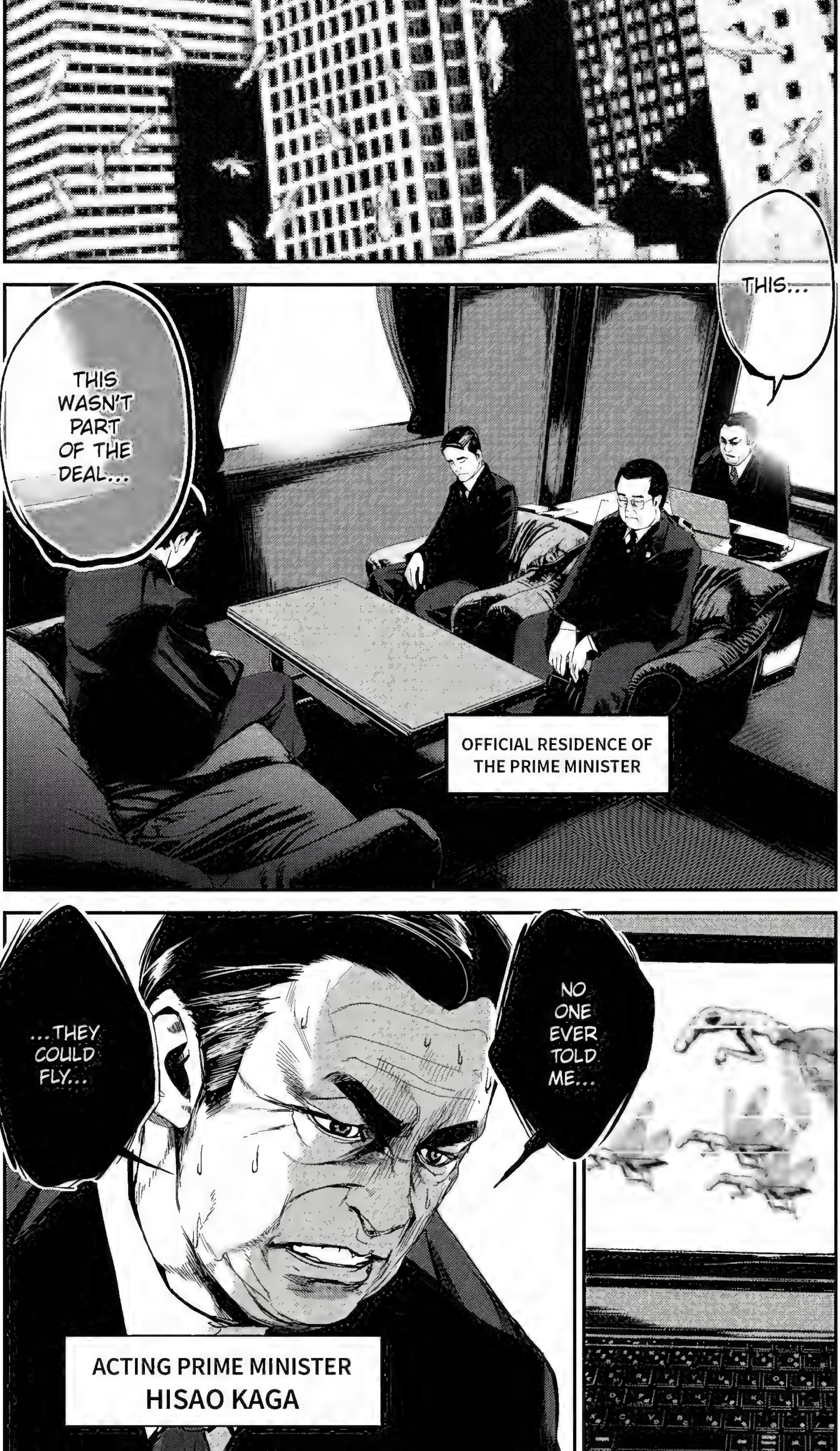

MOMMY...
MOMMYYY!

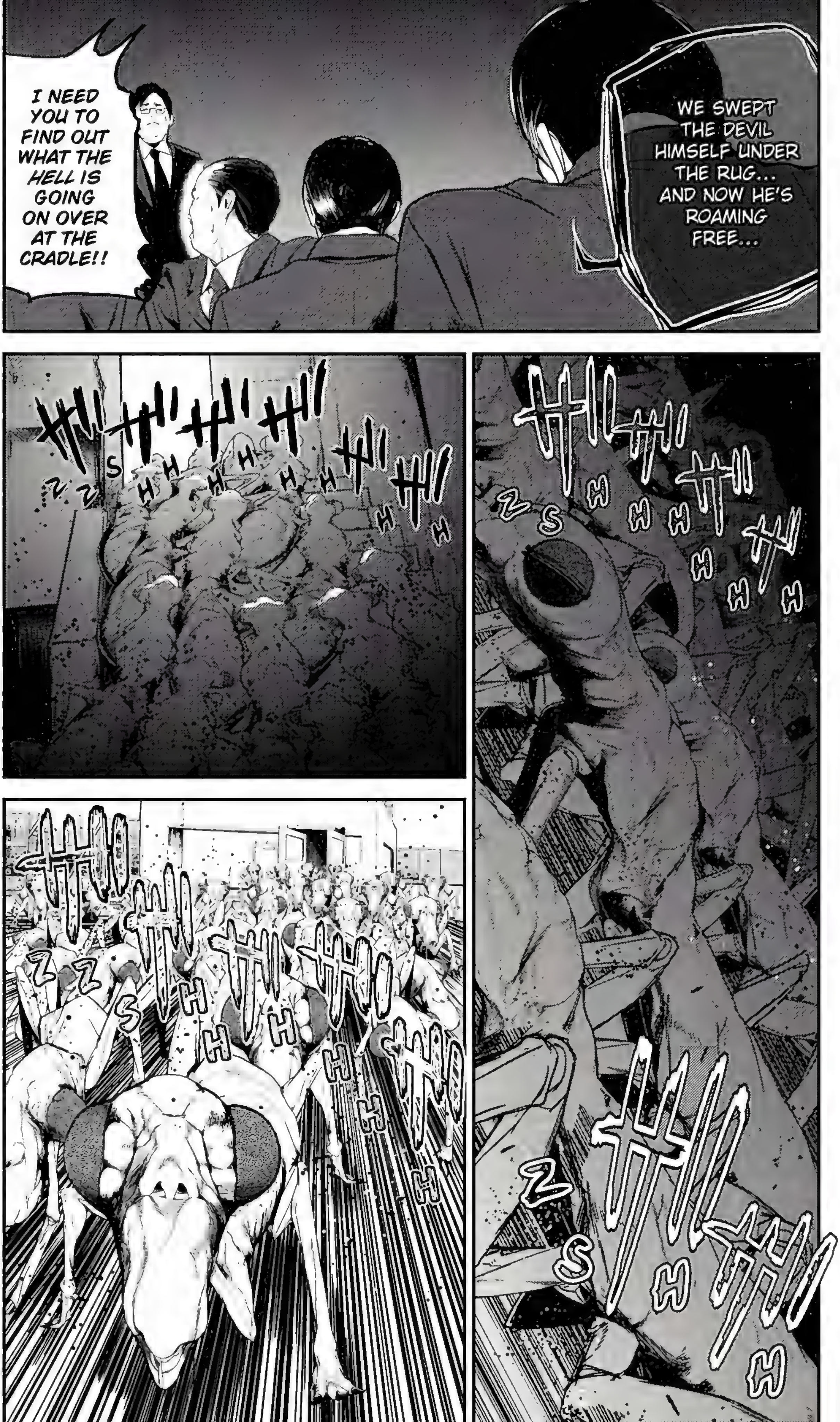

HUFF
PUFF
HUFF

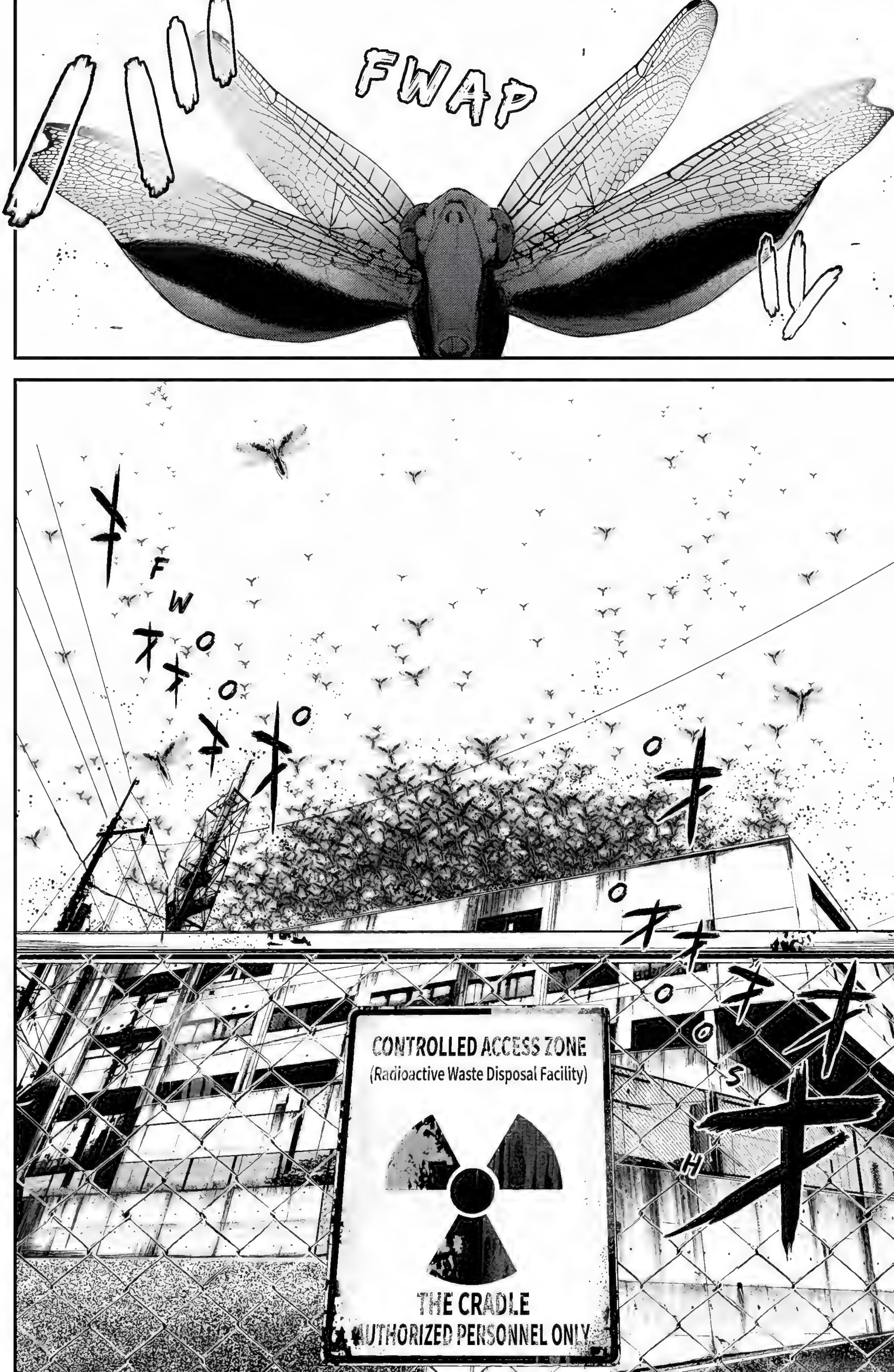
FWOOOOOOOSHHH
FWOOMM

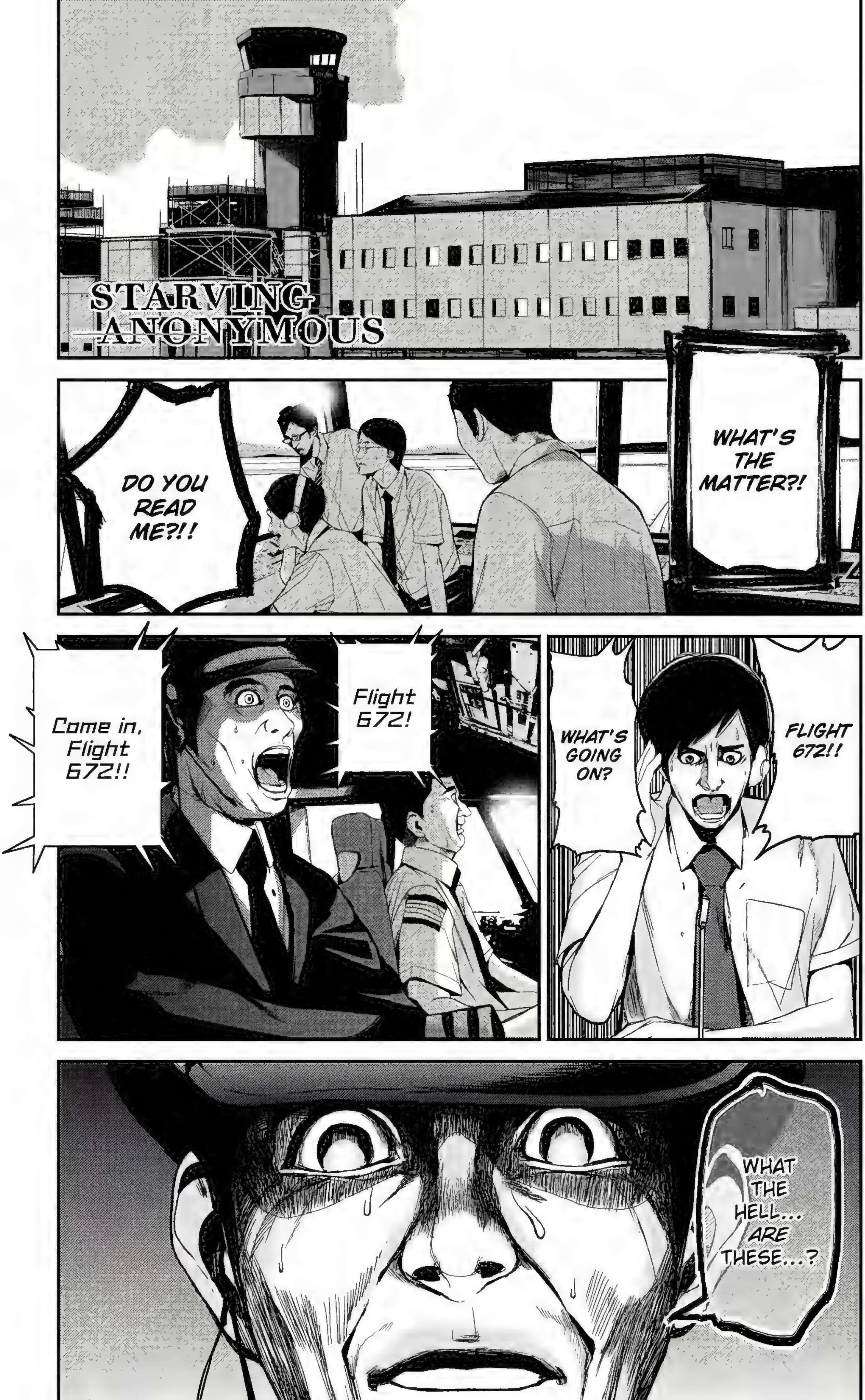

山間賀
yanmaga
講談橋
80
014
14
谷
gaya
ギシ
CREAK
ギシ
CREAK


GNCH
ガッ
GNCH
ガッ

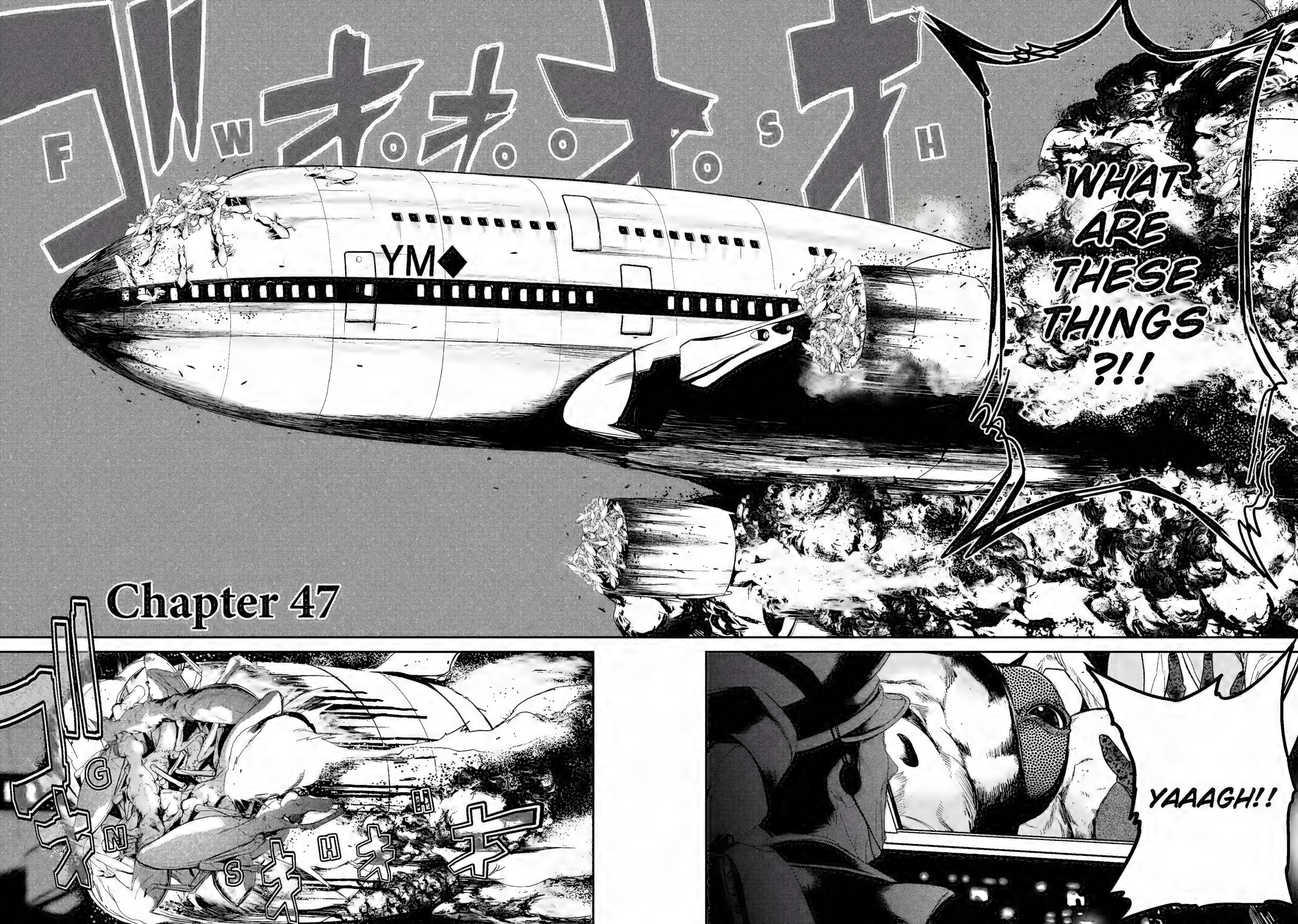

THIS...
THIS WASN'T PART OF THE DEAL...
OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
NO ONE EVER TOLD ME...
...THEY COULD FLY...
ACTING PRIME MINISTER
HISAO KAGA

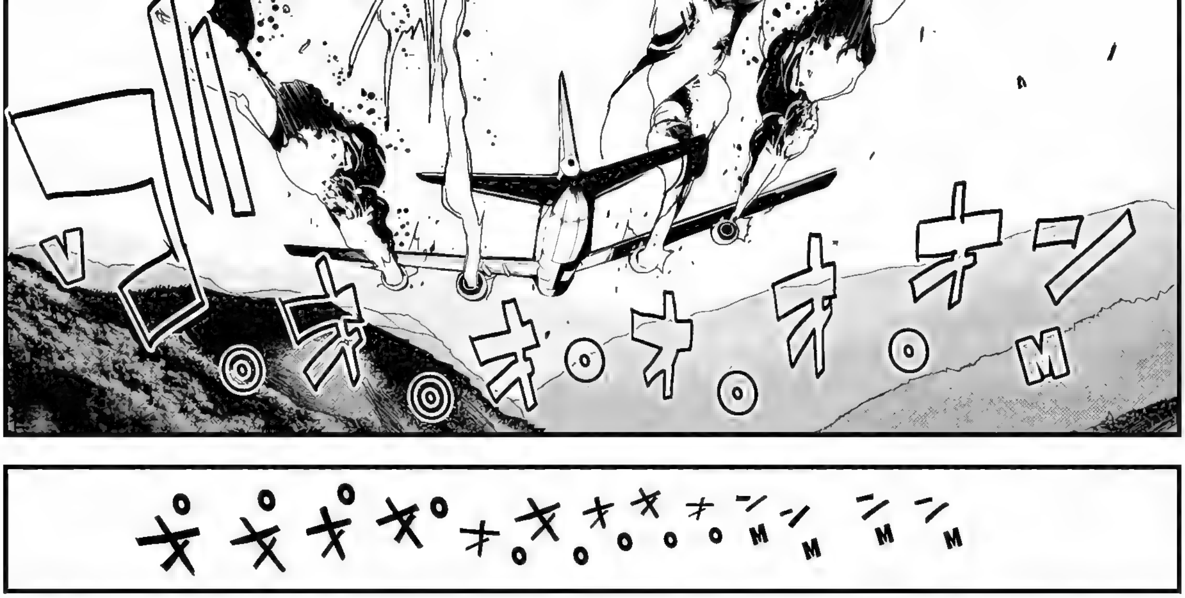

WE SWEPT THE DEVIL HIMSELF UNDER THE RUG... AND NOW HE'S ROAMING FREE...
I NEED YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT THE *HELL* IS GOING ON OVER AT THE CRADLE!!
ZSHHHHHH
ZZSHHHHHHH
ZSHHHHH
ZZSHHHHHHHH


FWAP
ブオオオオ
FWOOOOSH
オオオオオ
CONTROLLED ACCESS ZONE
(Radioactive Waste Disposal Facility)
THE CRADLE
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

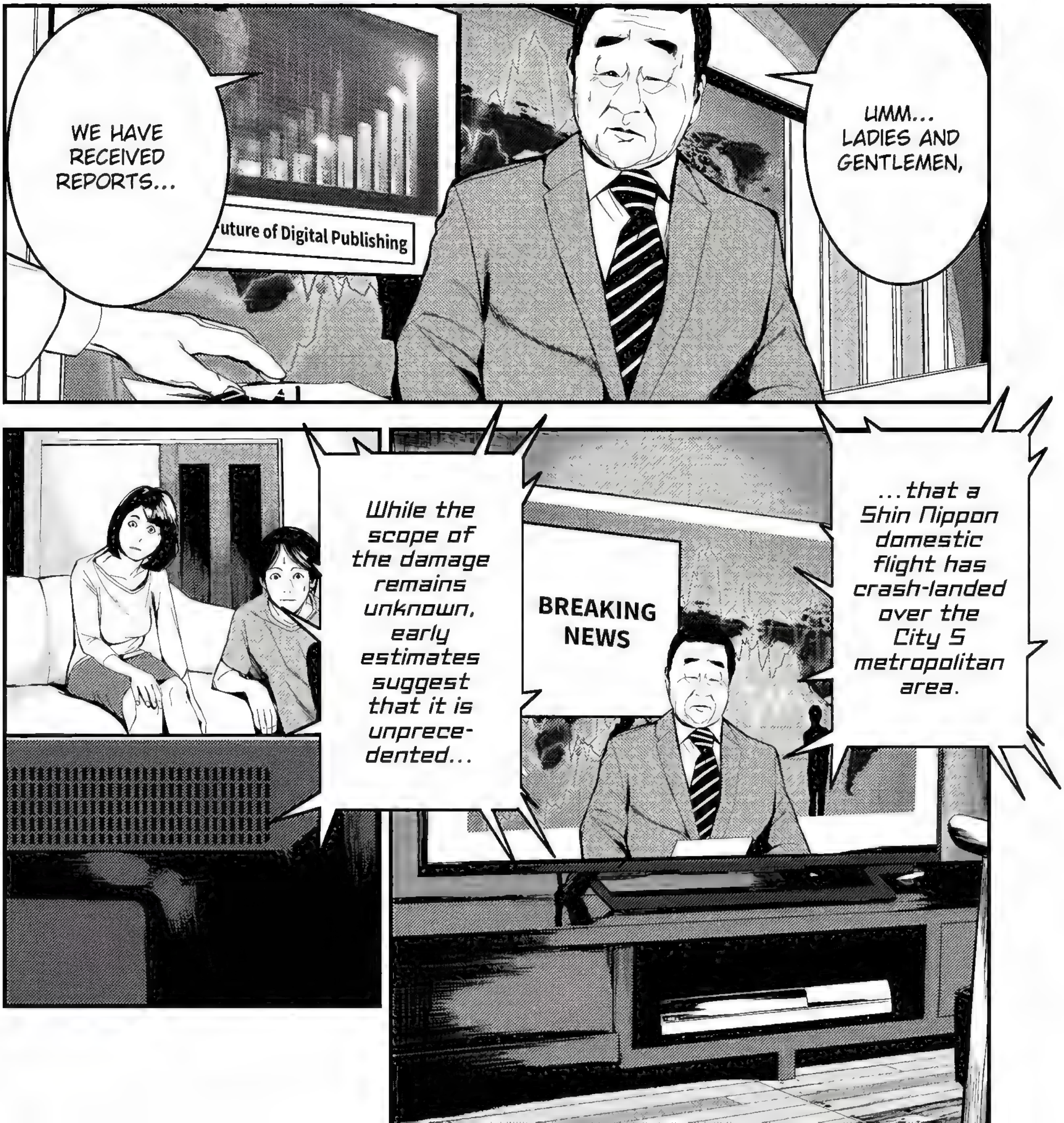

STARVING ANONYMOUS
WHAT'S THE MATTER?!
DO YOU READ ME?!!
FLIGHT 672!!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
Flight 672!
Come in, Flight 672!!
WHAT THE HELL... ARE THESE...?

Chapter 47

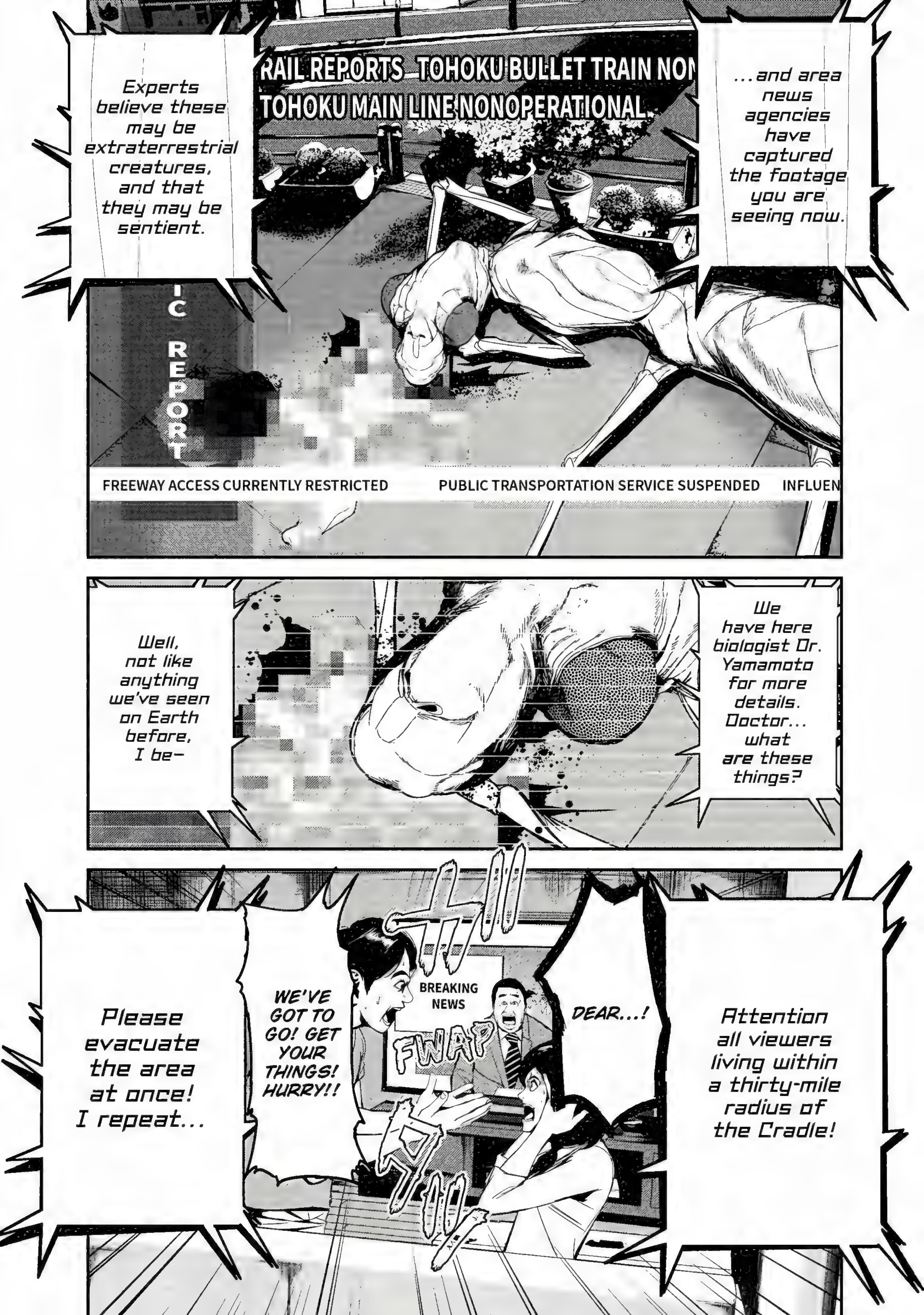

FWOOOSH
YM
WHAT ARE THESE THINGS?!!
YAAAGH!!
GNSHH

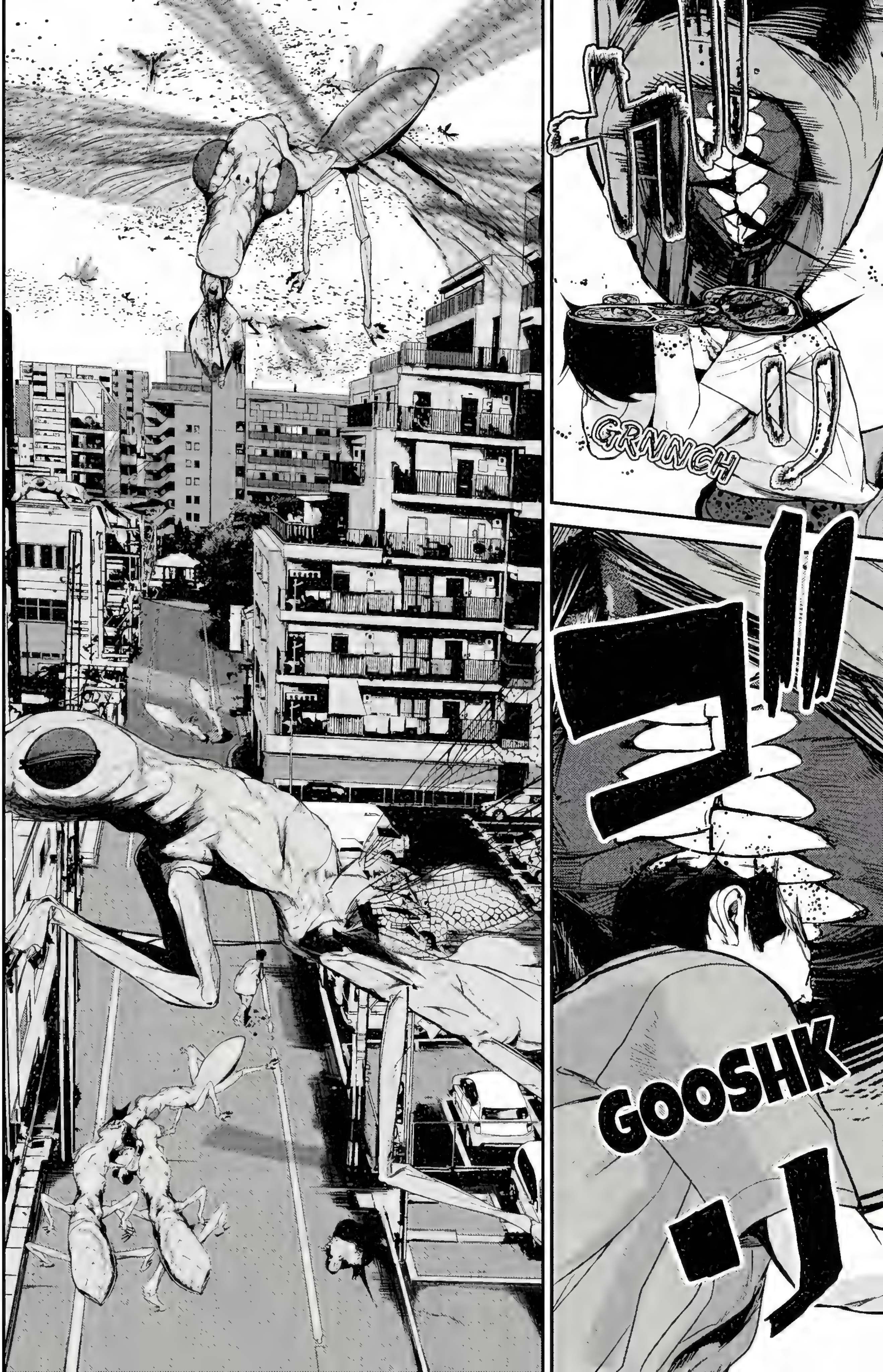


ヴォォオオオオン
V
M
ォォォォォォォォォォォンンンン
M M M M

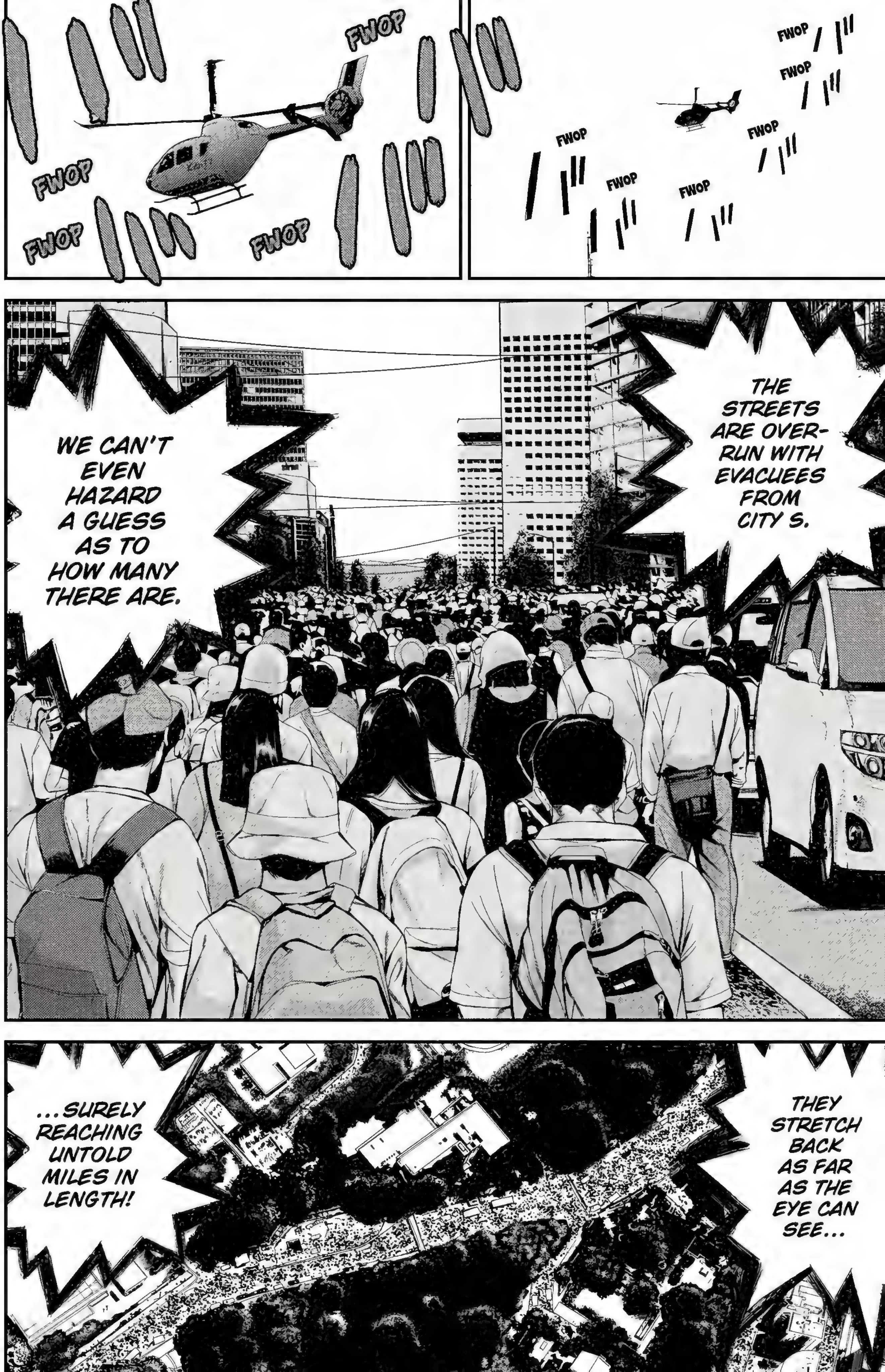


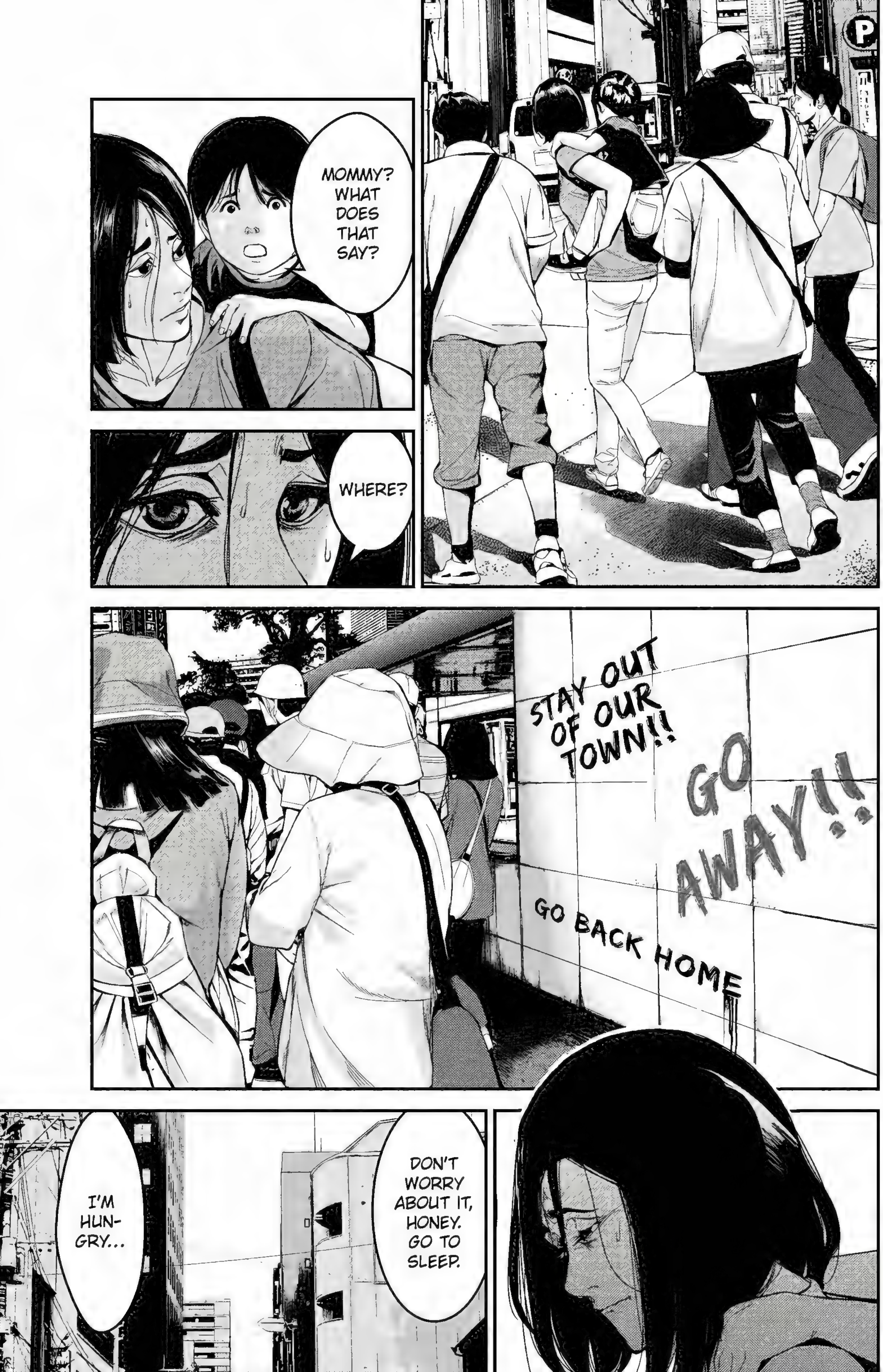
UMM... LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS...
Future of Digital Publishing
...that a Shin Nippon domestic flight has crash-landed over the City S metropolitan area.
BREAKING NEWS
While the scope of the damage remains unknown, early estimates suggest that it is unprecedented...

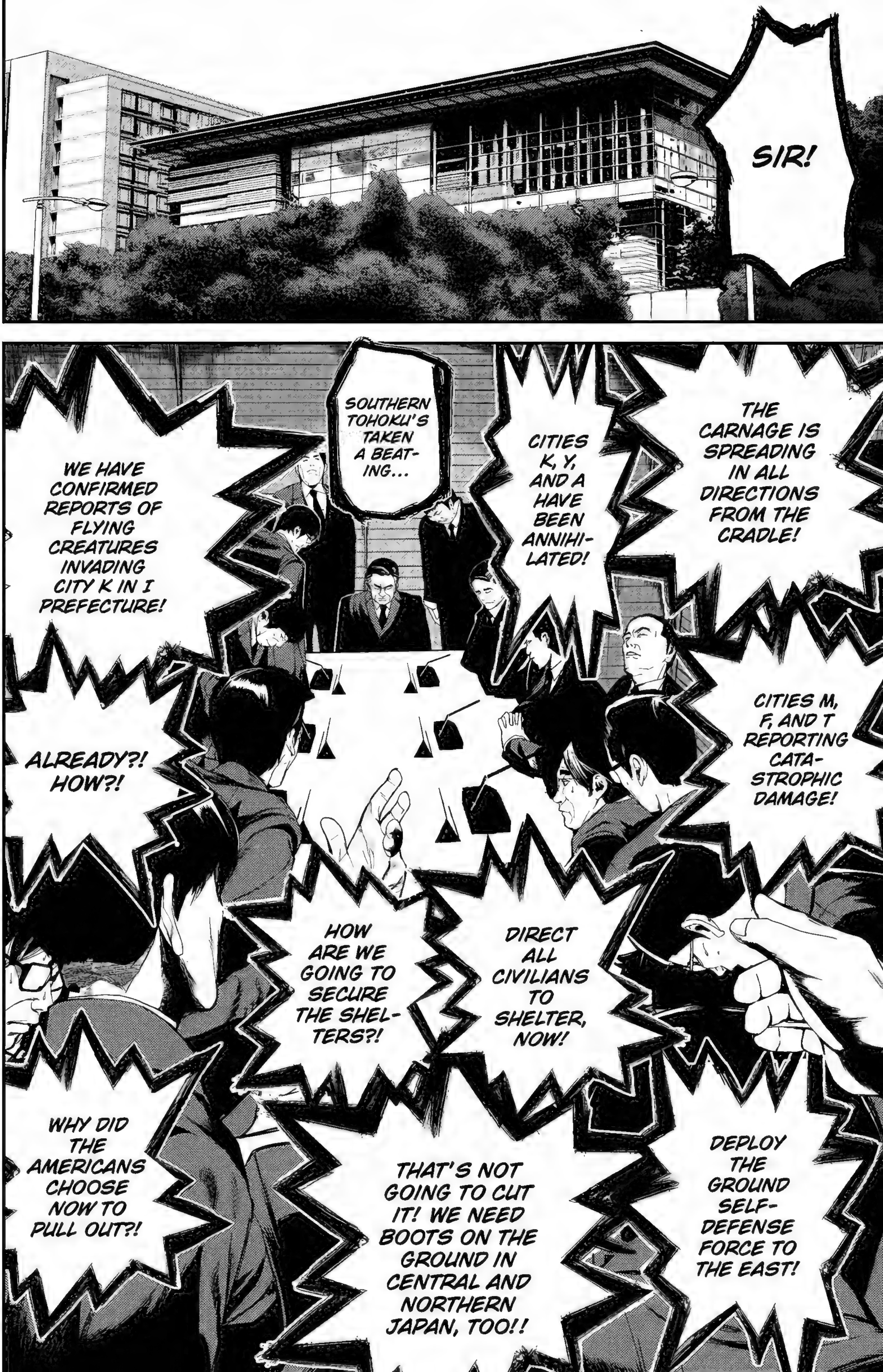

RAIL REPORTS TOHOKU BULLET TRAIN NON
TOHOKU MAIN LINE NONOPERATIONAL.
...and area news agencies have captured the footage you are seeing now.
Experts believe these may be extraterrestrial creatures, and that they may be sentient.
IC REPORT
FREEWAY ACCESS CURRENTLY RESTRICTED
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICE SUSPENDED
INFLUEN
We have here biologist Dr. Yamamoto for more details. Doctor... what are these things?
Well, not like anything we've seen on Earth before, I be–
Attention all viewers living within a thirty-mile radius of the Cradle!
DEAR...!
BREAKING NEWS
FWAP
WE'VE GOT TO GO! GET YOUR THINGS! HURRY!!
Please evacuate the area at once! I repeat...

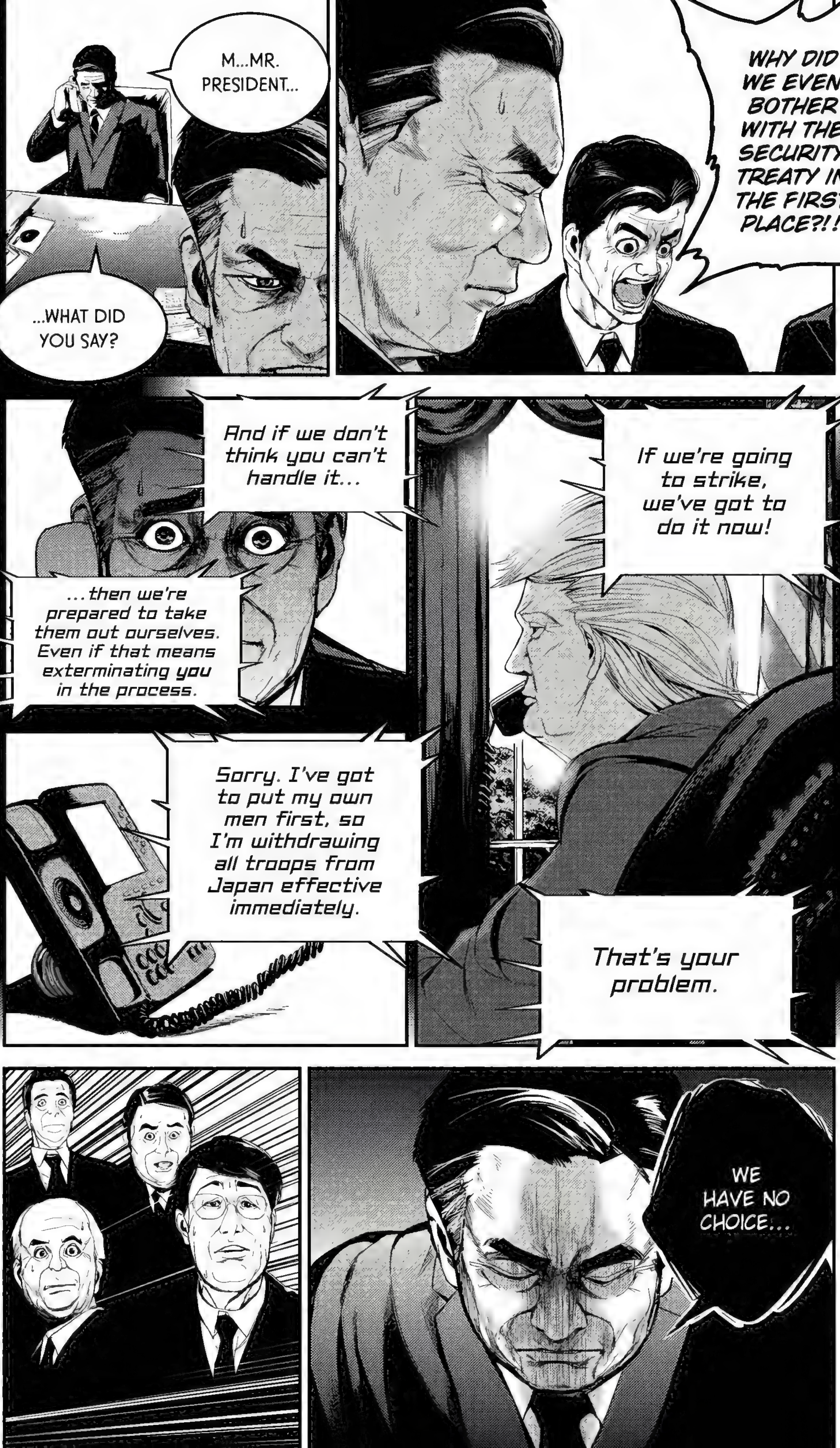

GRNNCH
ゴッ
GOOSHK

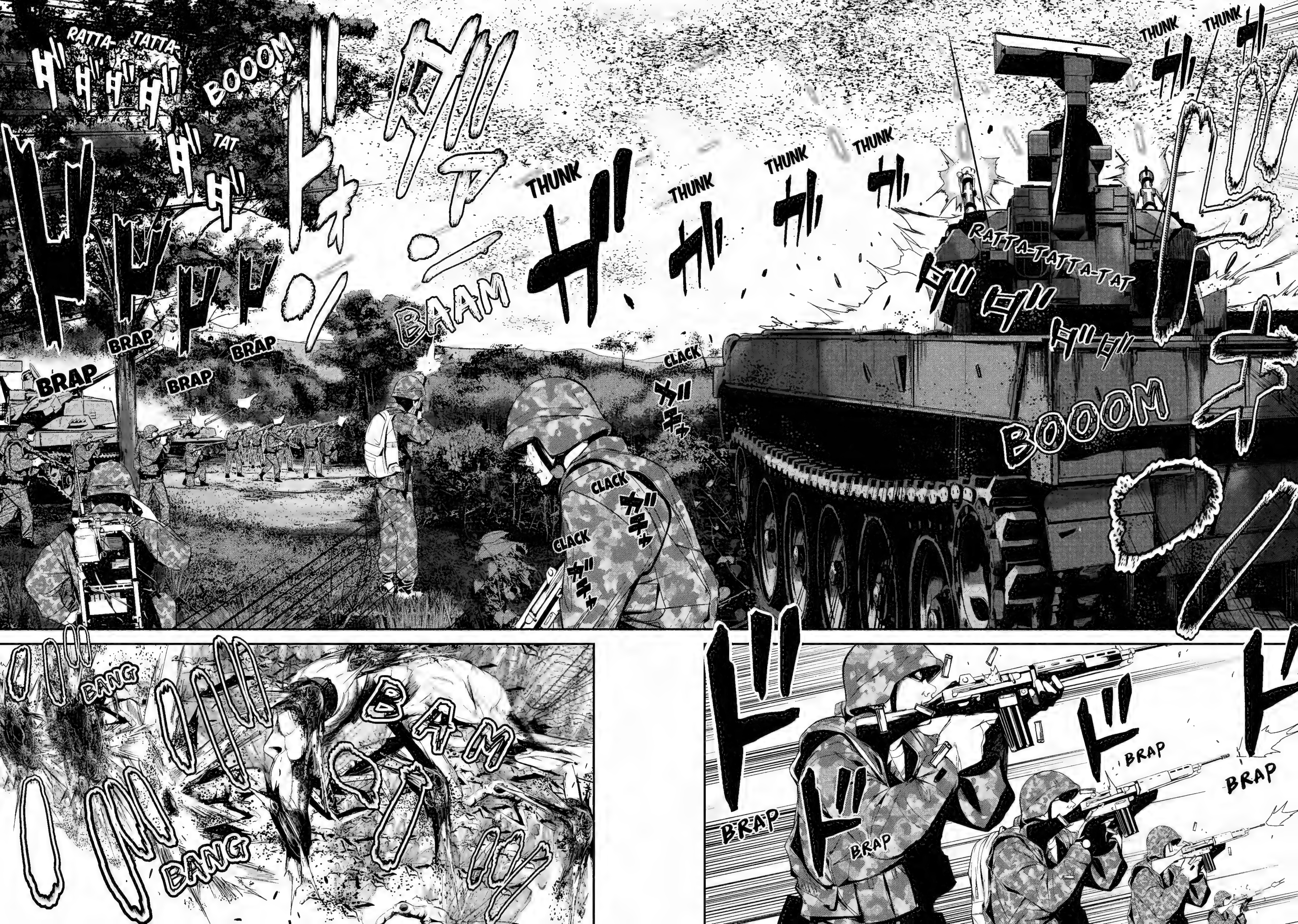
ズル
SHLLRP
ズル
SHLLRP
ガシャ
GSHH

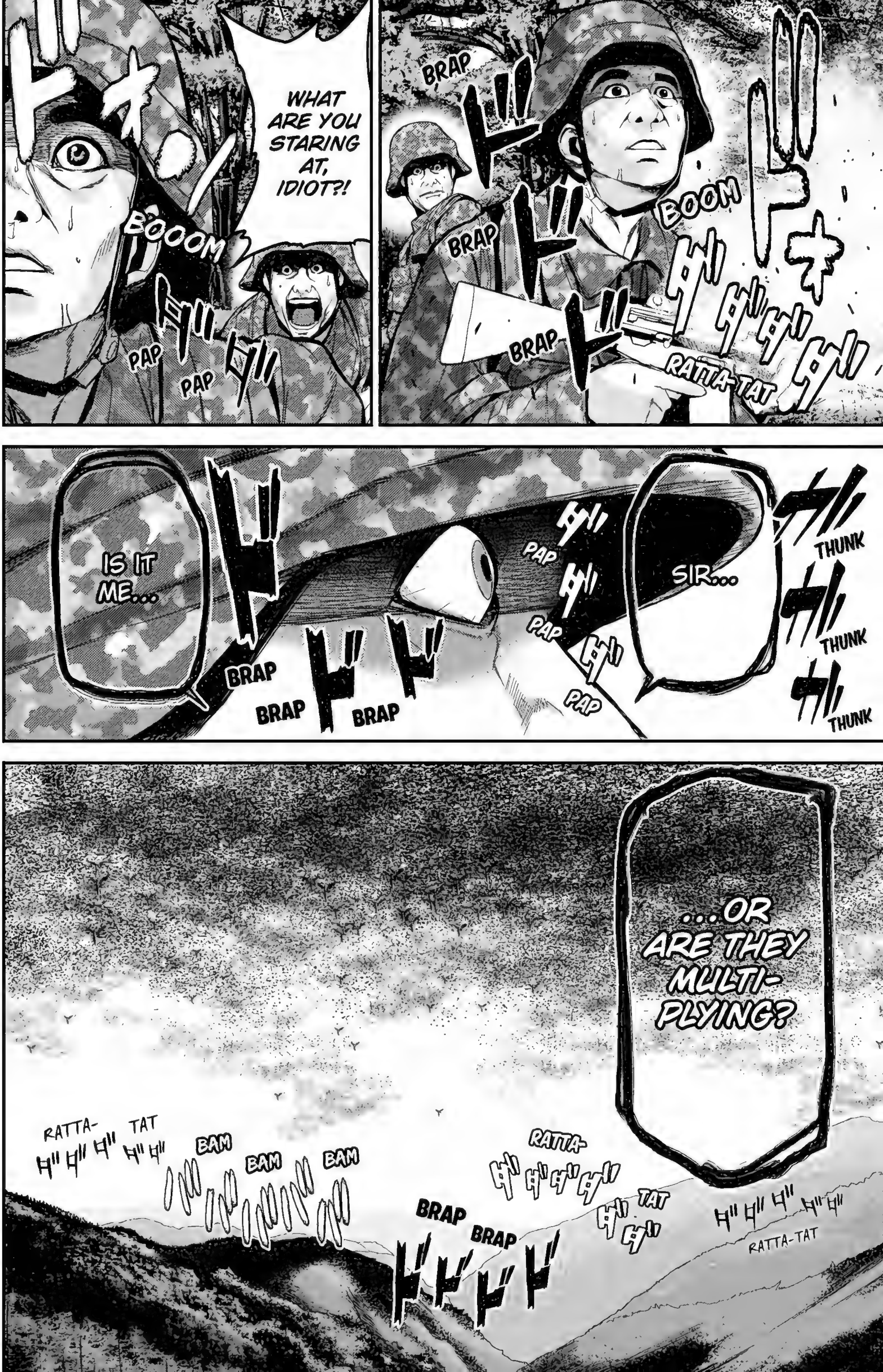

FWOP
FWOP
FWOP
FWOP
FWOP
FWOP
FWOP
FWOP
FWOP
FWOP
THE STREETS ARE OVER-RUN WITH EVACUEES FROM CITY S.
WE CAN'T EVEN HAZARD A GUESS AS TO HOW MANY THERE ARE.
THEY STRETCH BACK AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE...
...SURELY REACHING UNTOLD MILES IN LENGTH!

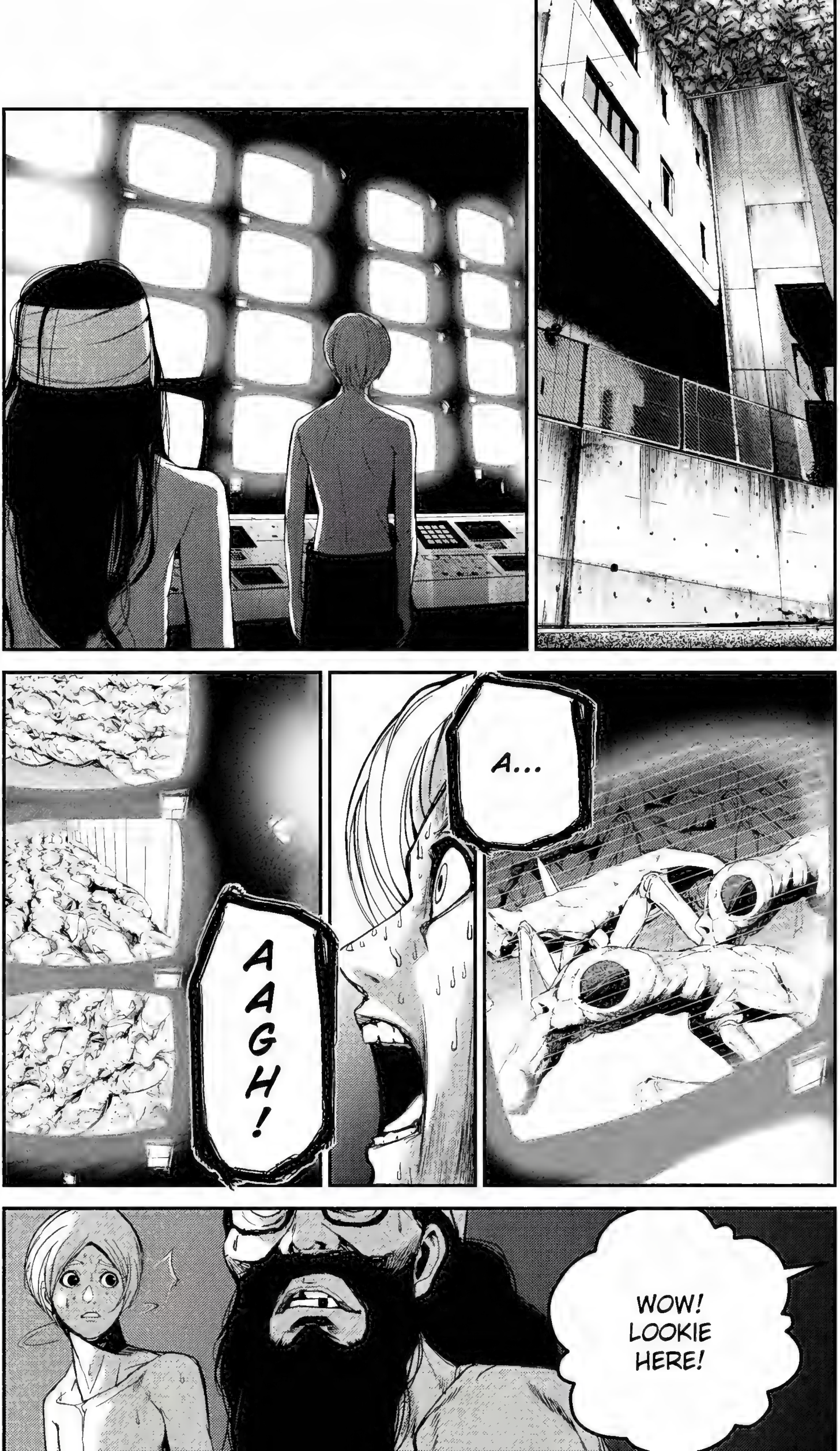

MOMMY? WHAT DOES THAT SAY?
WHERE?
STAY OUT OF OUR TOWN!!
GO AWAY!!
GO BACK HOME
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, HONEY. GO TO SLEEP.
I'M HUNGRY...

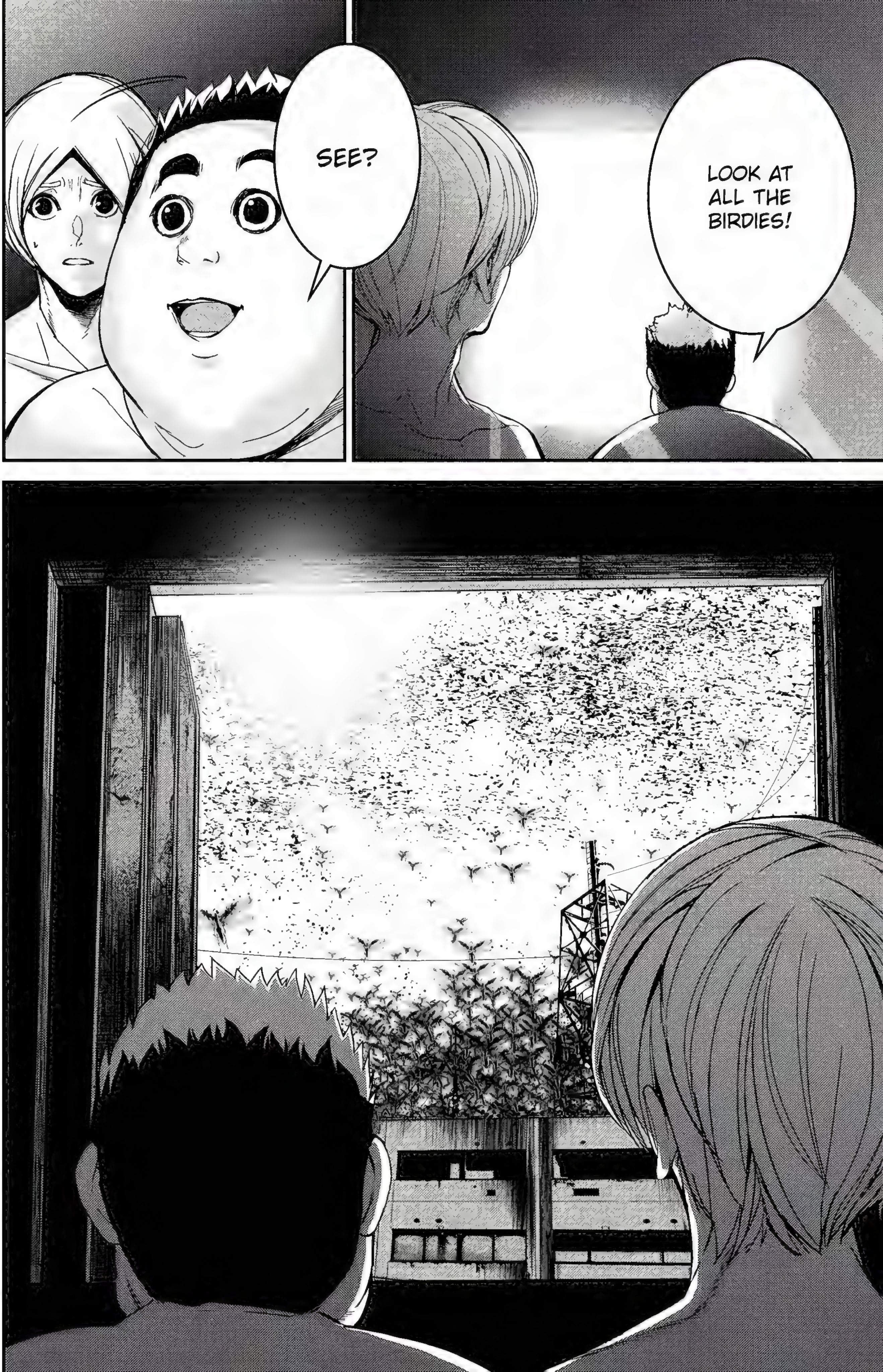

SIR!
THE CARNAGE IS SPREADING IN ALL DIRECTIONS FROM THE CRADLE!
CITIES K, Y, AND A HAVE BEEN ANNIHILATED!
SOUTHERN TOHOKU'S TAKEN A BEATING...
WE HAVE CONFIRMED REPORTS OF FLYING CREATURES INVADING CITY K IN I PREFECTURE!
CITIES M, F, AND T REPORTING CATASTROPHIC DAMAGE!
ALREADY?! HOW?!
DIRECT ALL CIVILIANS TO SHELTER, NOW!
HOW ARE WE GOING TO SECURE THE SHELTERS?!
DEPLOY THE GROUND SELF-DEFENSE FORCE TO THE EAST!
THAT'S NOT GOING TO CUT IT! WE NEED BOOTS ON THE GROUND IN CENTRAL AND NORTHERN JAPAN, TOO!!
WHY DID THE AMERICANS CHOOSE NOW TO PULL OUT?!

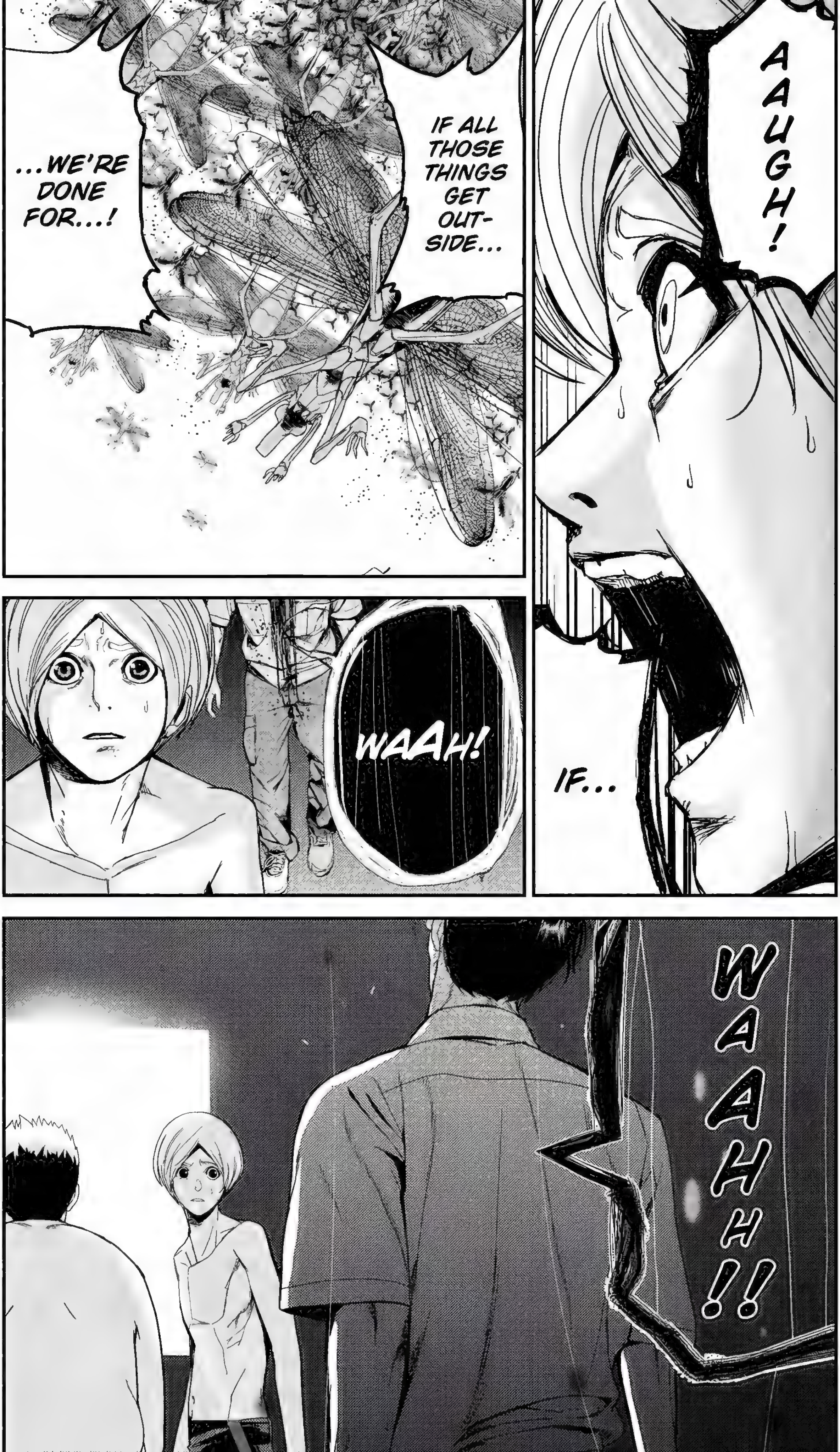

M...MR. PRESIDENT...
...WHAT DID YOU SAY?
WHY DID WE EVEN BOTHER WITH THE SECURITY TREATY IN THE FIRST PLACE?!!
And if we don't think you can't handle it...
...then we're prepared to take them out ourselves. Even if that means exterminating you in the process.
If we're going to strike, we've got to do it now!
Sorry. I've got to put my own men first, so I'm withdrawing all troops from Japan effective immediately.
That's your problem.
WE HAVE NO CHOICE...

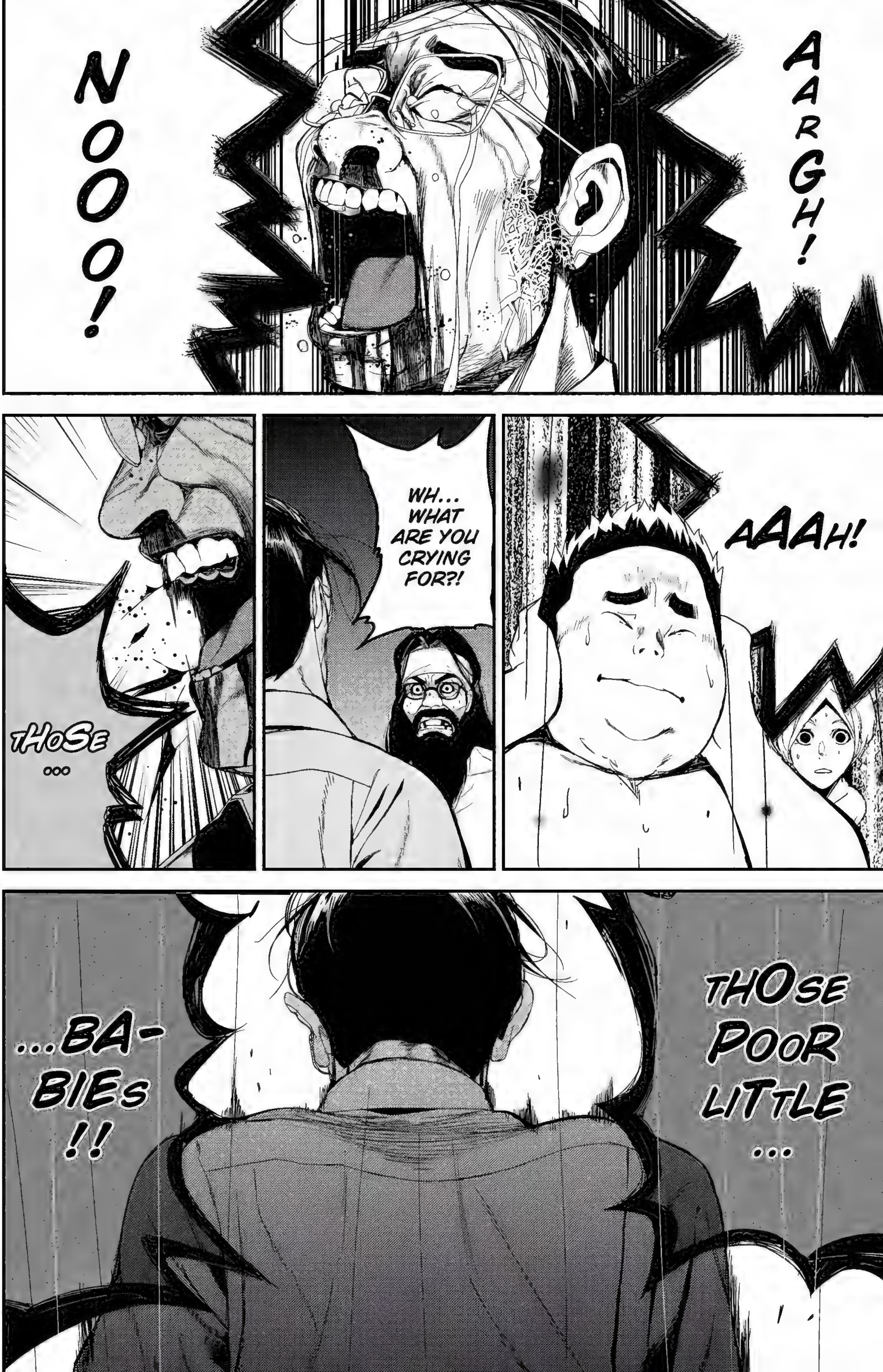

THUNK
THUNK
ガ
ガ
RATTA-TATTA-TAT
ダダダダ
BOOOM
THUNK
ガ
THUNK
ガ
THUNK
ガ
THUNK
ガ
CLACK
ガチャ
CLACK
ガチャ
CLACK
ガチャ
BAAM
ドォン
BOOOM
RATTA-TATTA-
TAT
ダダダダダダ
BRAP
BRAP
BRAP
BRAP
ドドドドド
BRAP
BRAP
BRAP
BRAP
ドドドド
BAM
BANG
BANG

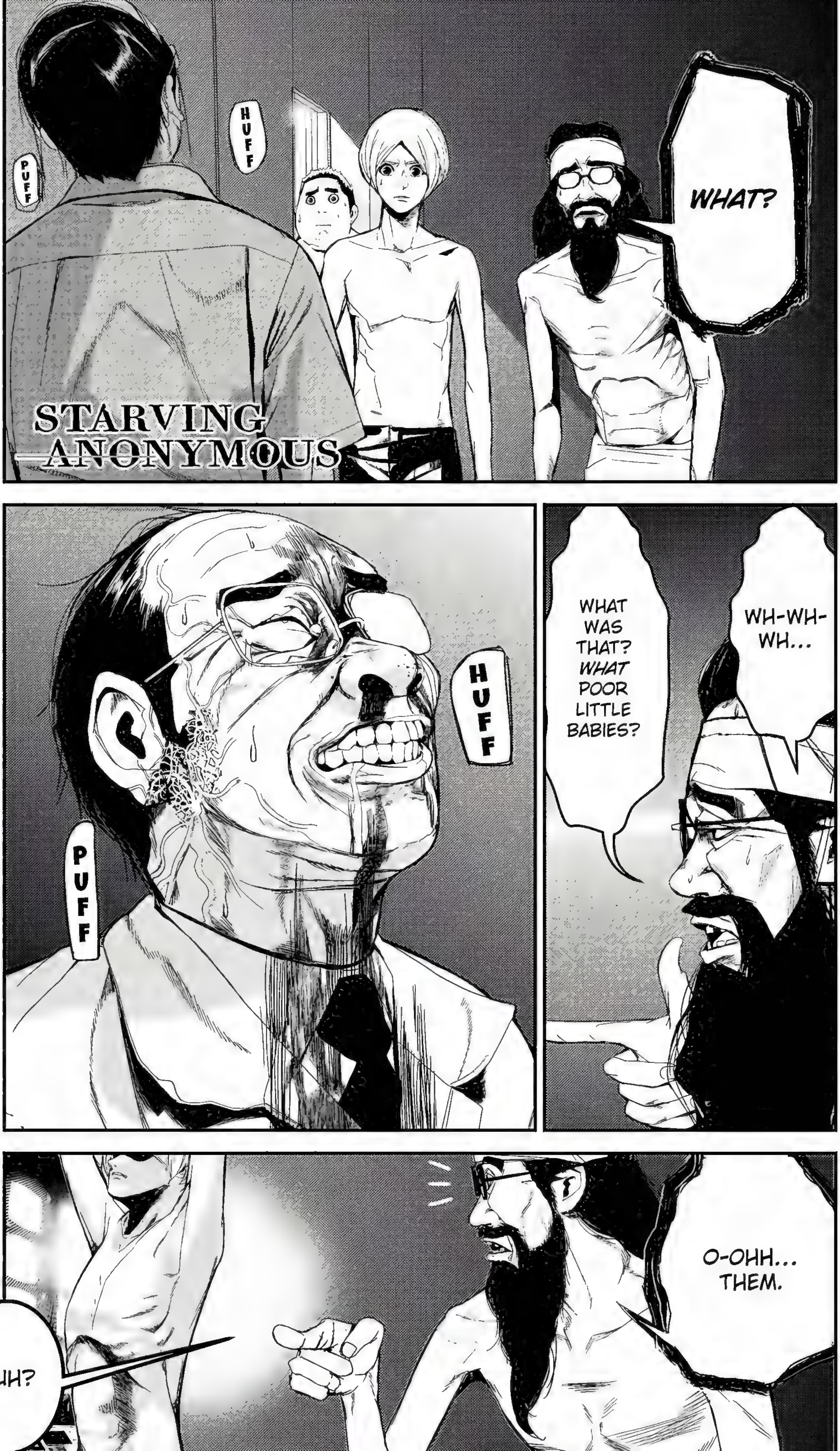

BRAP
BRAP
BOOM
BRAP
RATTA-TAT
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT, IDIOT?!
BOOOM
PAP
PAP
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
SIR...
PAP
PAP
PAP
IS IT ME...
BRAP
BRAP
BRAP
...OR ARE THEY MULTI-PLYING?
RATTA-TAT
TAT
RATTA-
BRAP
BRAP
BAM
BAM
BAM
RATTA- TAT

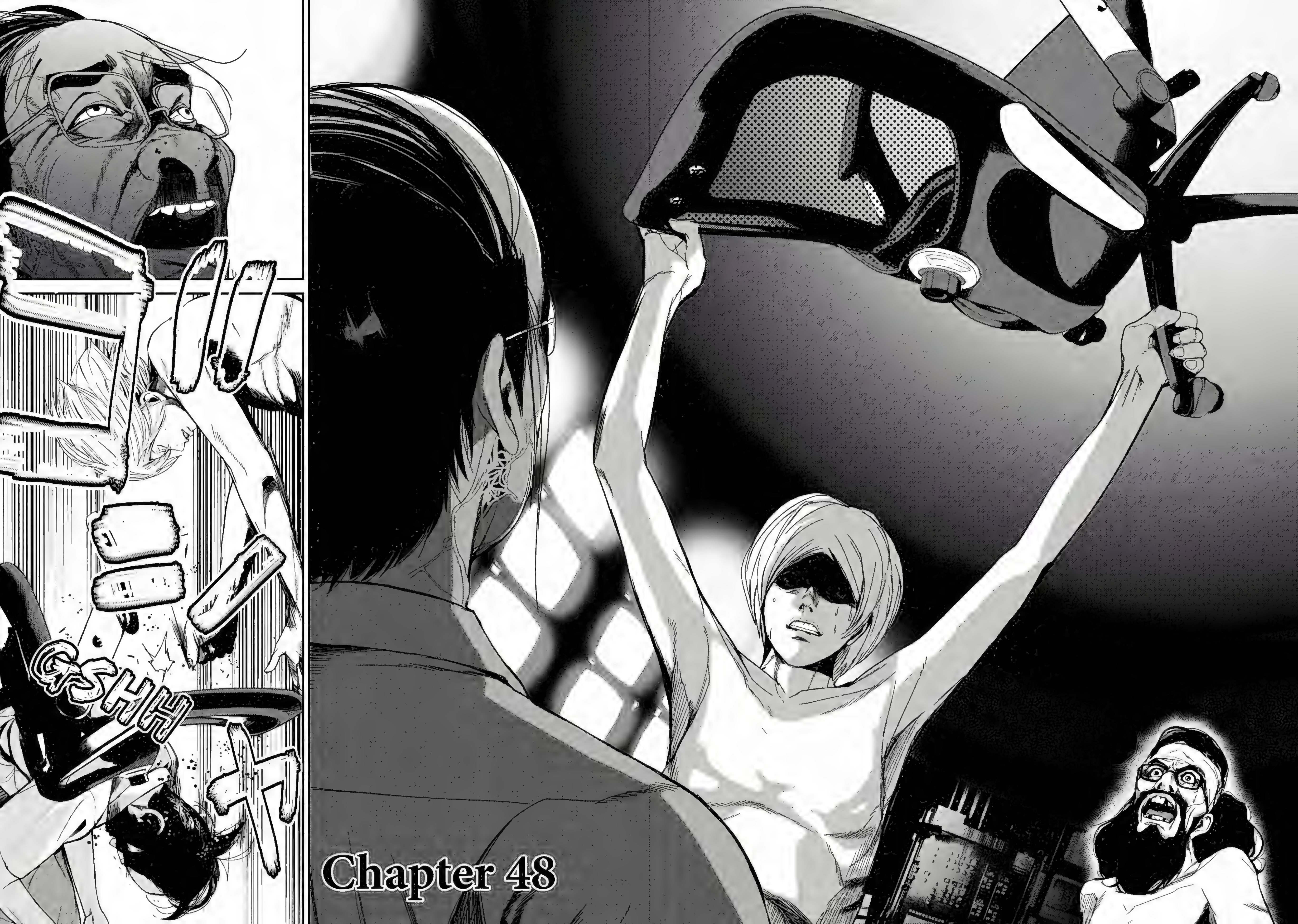

A...
AAGH!
WOW! LOOKIE HERE!


LOOK AT ALL THE BIRDIES!
SEE?

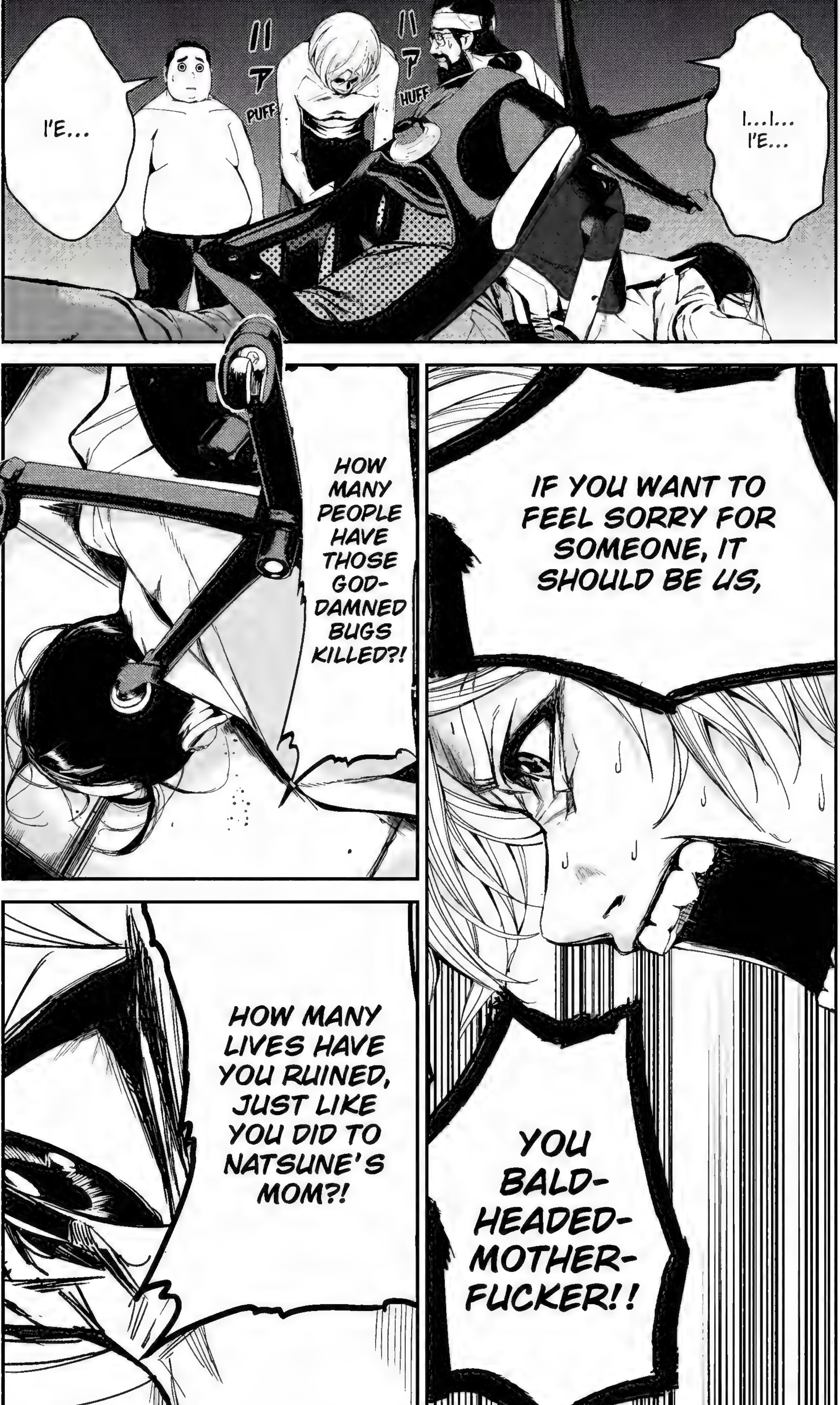

AAAUGH!
IF...
IF ALL THOSE THINGS GET OUTSIDE...
...WE'RE DONE FOR...!
WAAH!
WAAAHH!!

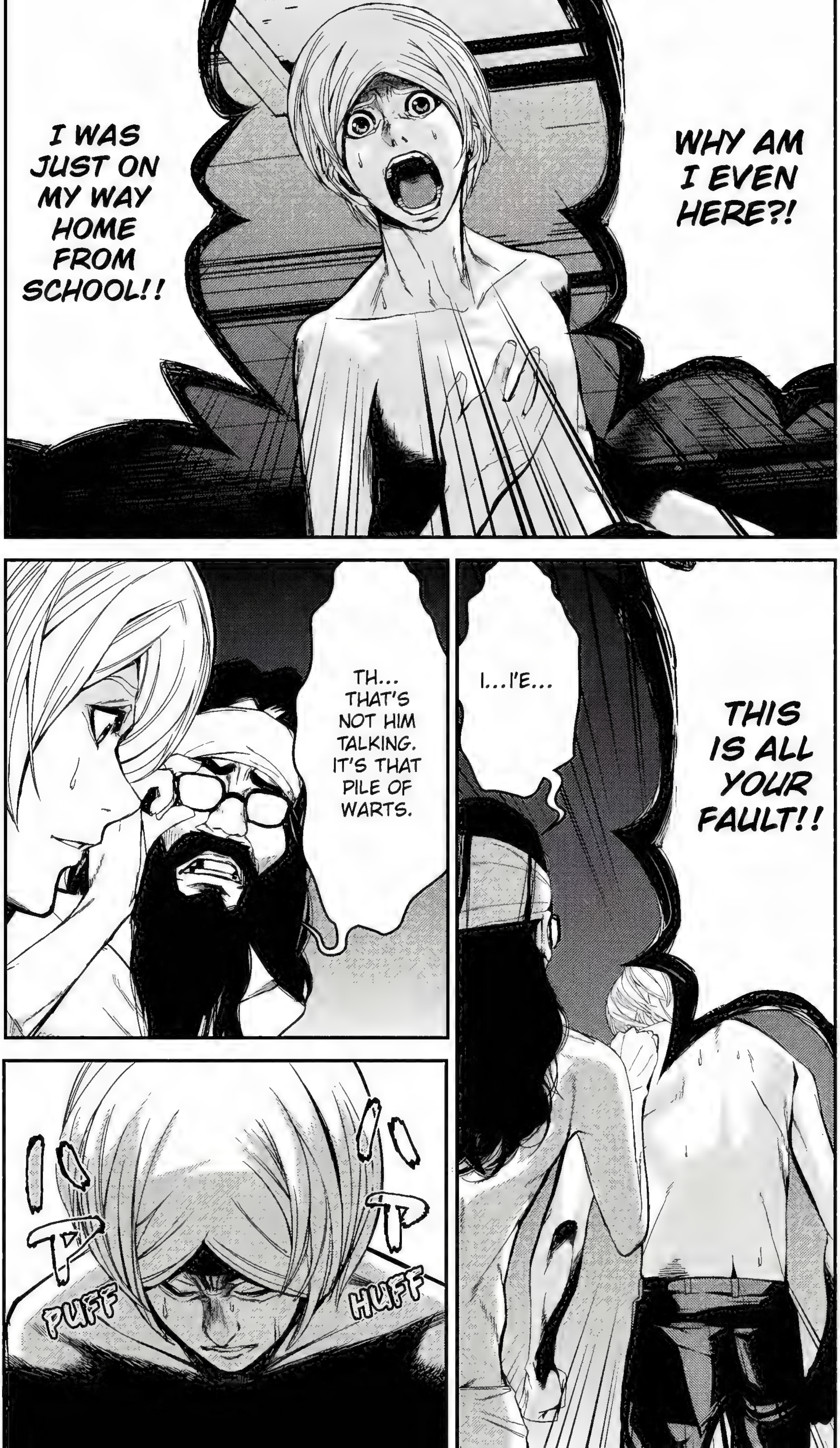

AARGH!
NOOOO!
AAAH!
WH... WHAT ARE YOU CRYING FOR?!
THOSE...
THOSE POOR LITTLE...
...BABIES!!

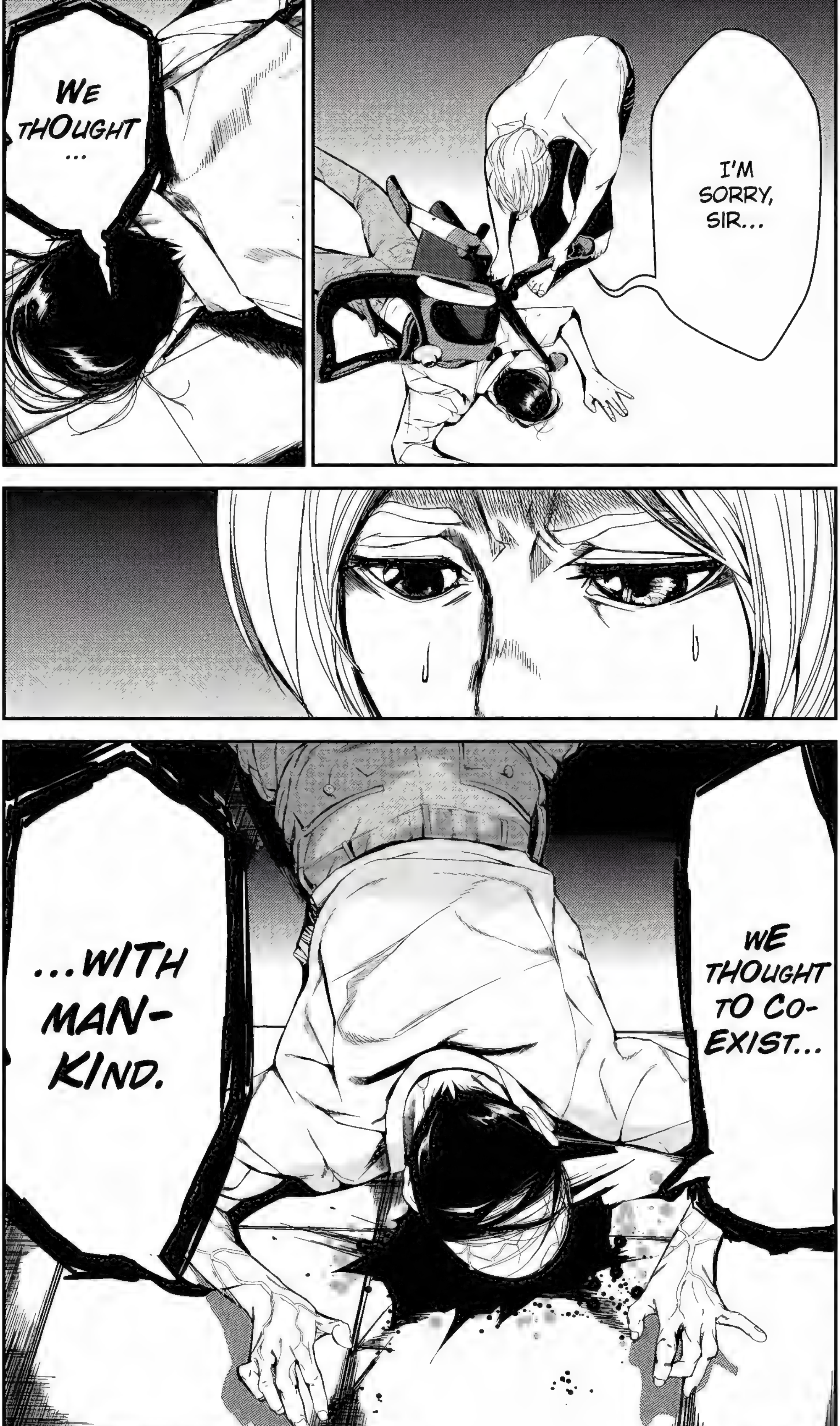

WHAT?
HUFF
PUFF
STARVING ANONYMOUS
WH-WH-WH…
WHAT WAS THAT? *WHAT* POOR LITTLE BABIES?
HUFF
PUFF
O-OHH… THEM.
HUH?

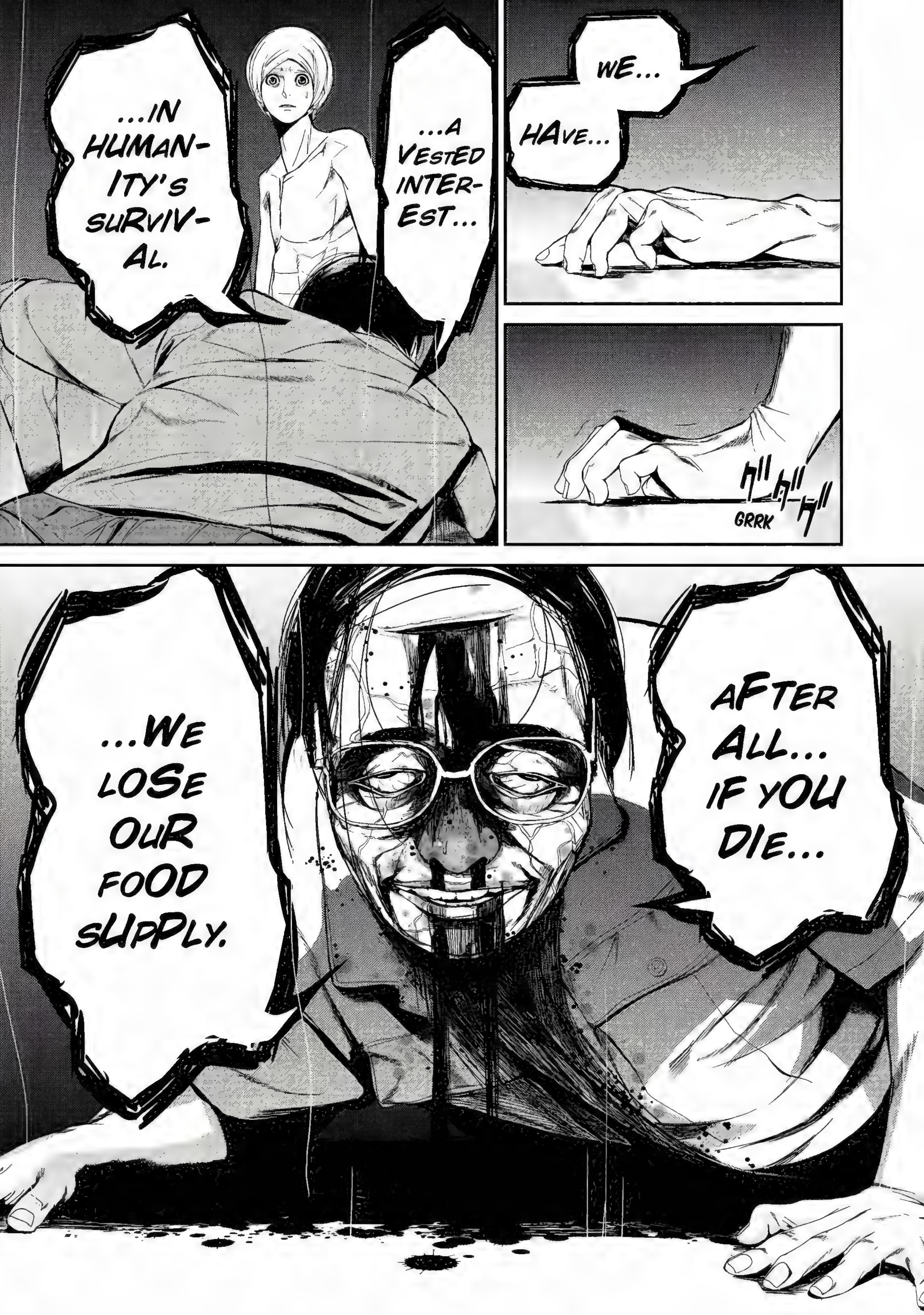


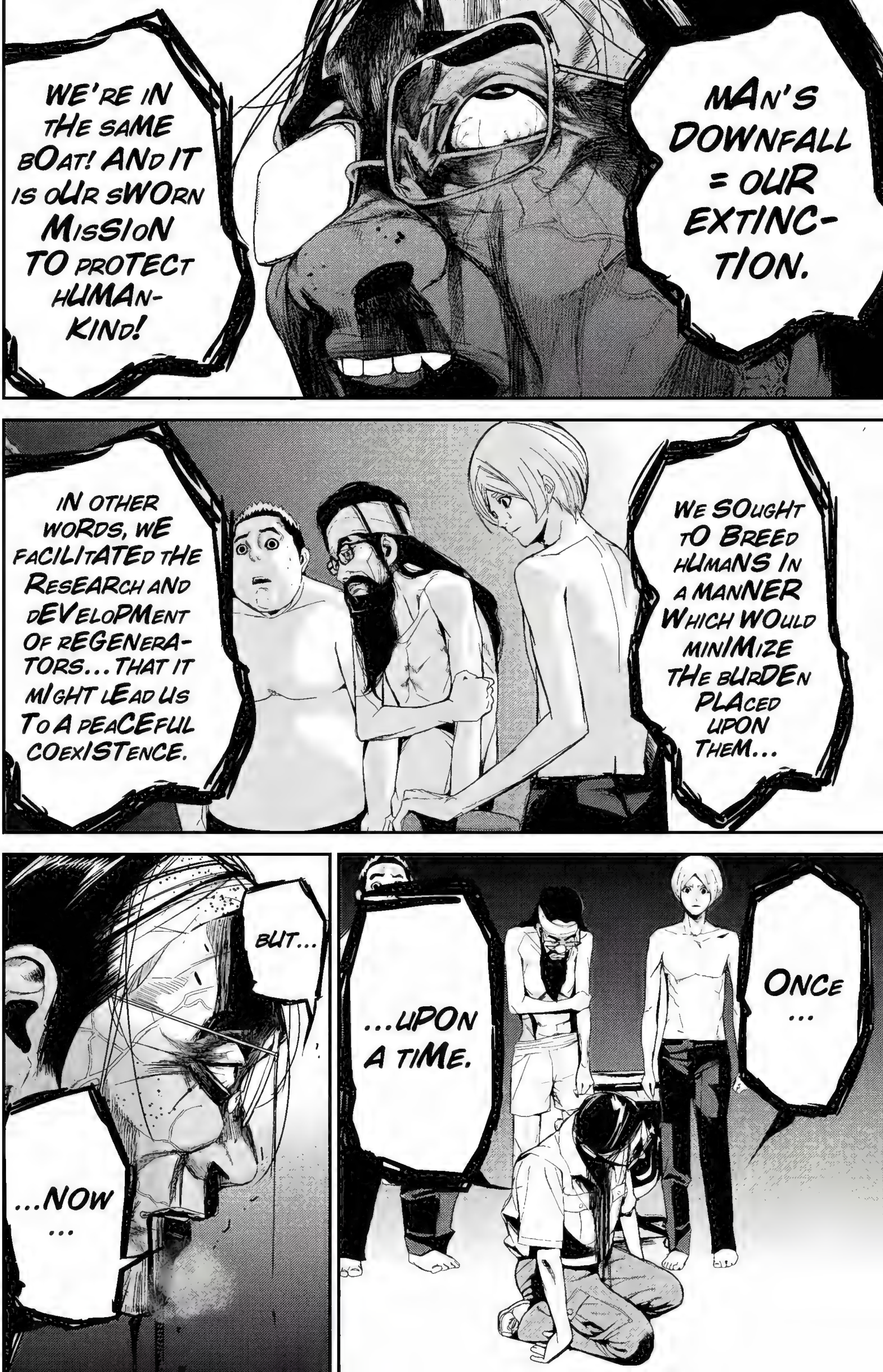
Chapter 48

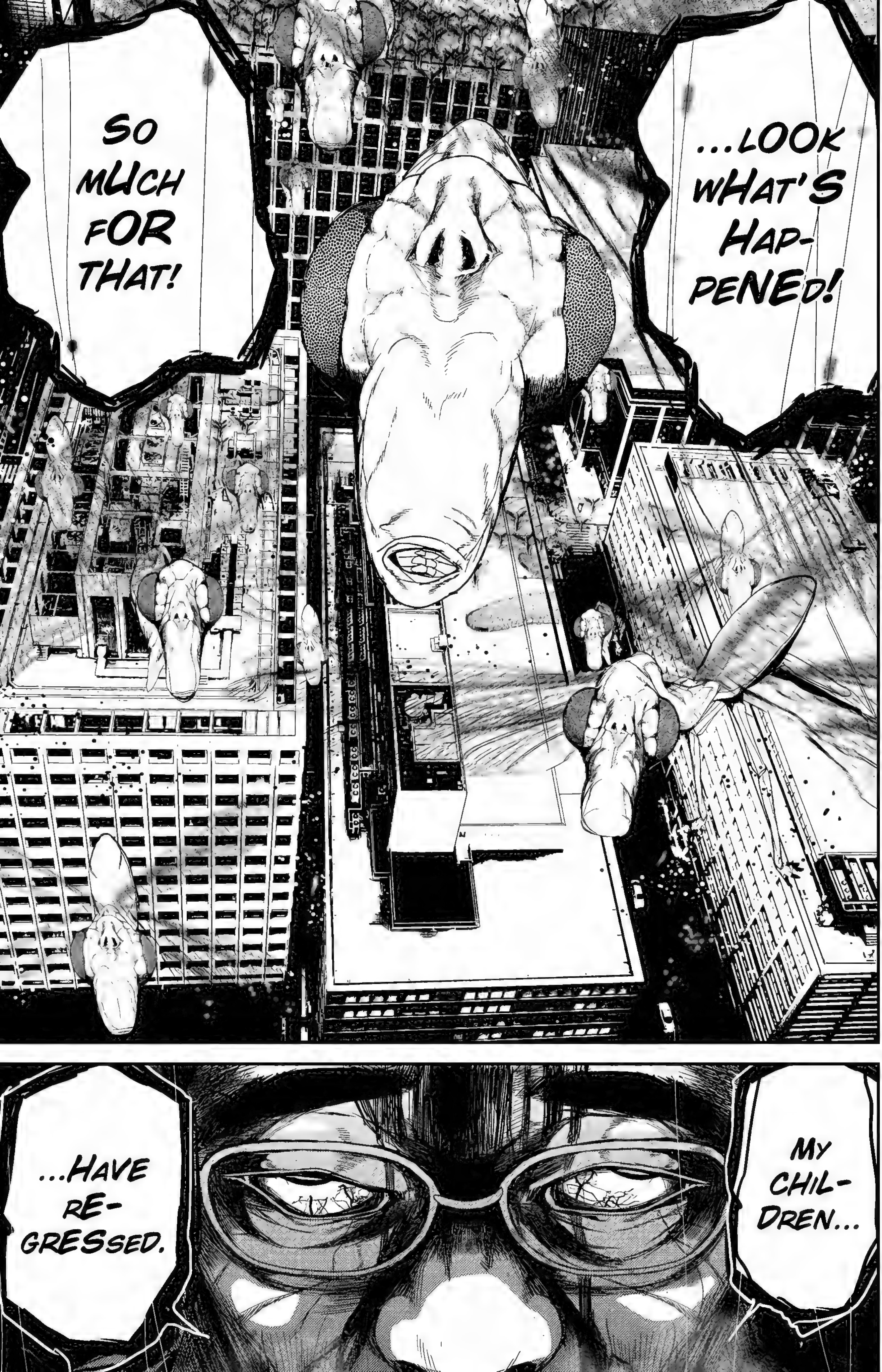

I...I...
I'E...
ハア HUFF
ハア PUFF
I'E...
IF YOU WANT TO FEEL SORRY FOR SOMEONE, IT SHOULD BE US,
HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE THOSE GOD-DAMNED BUGS KILLED?!
HOW MANY LIVES HAVE YOU RUINED, JUST LIKE YOU DID TO NATSUNE'S MOM?!
YOU BALD-HEADED-MOTHER-FUCKER!!

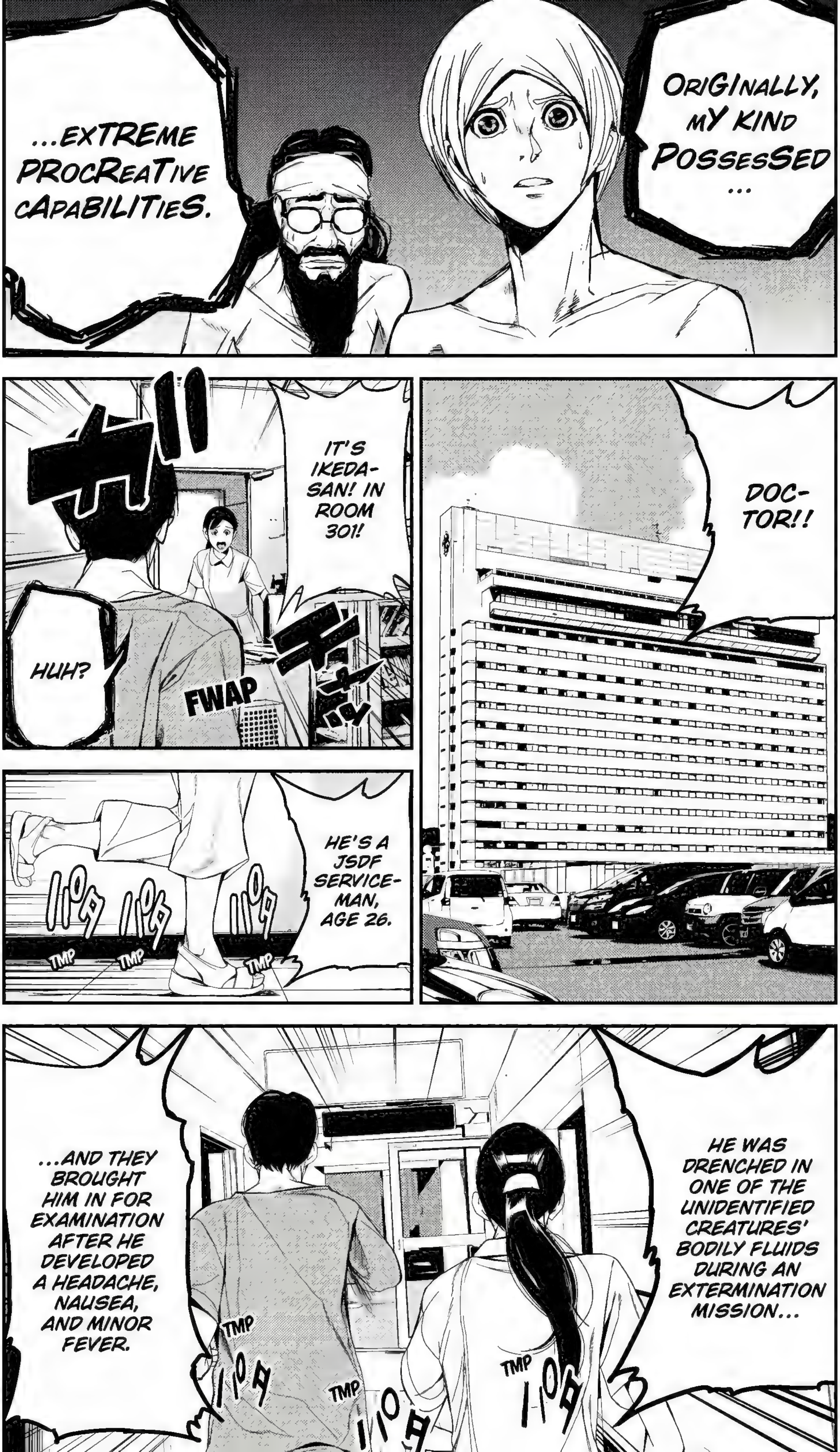

WHY AM I EVEN HERE?!
I WAS JUST ON MY WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL!!
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!!
I...I'E...
TH... THAT'S NOT HIM TALKING. IT'S THAT PILE OF WARTS.
HUFF
PUFF

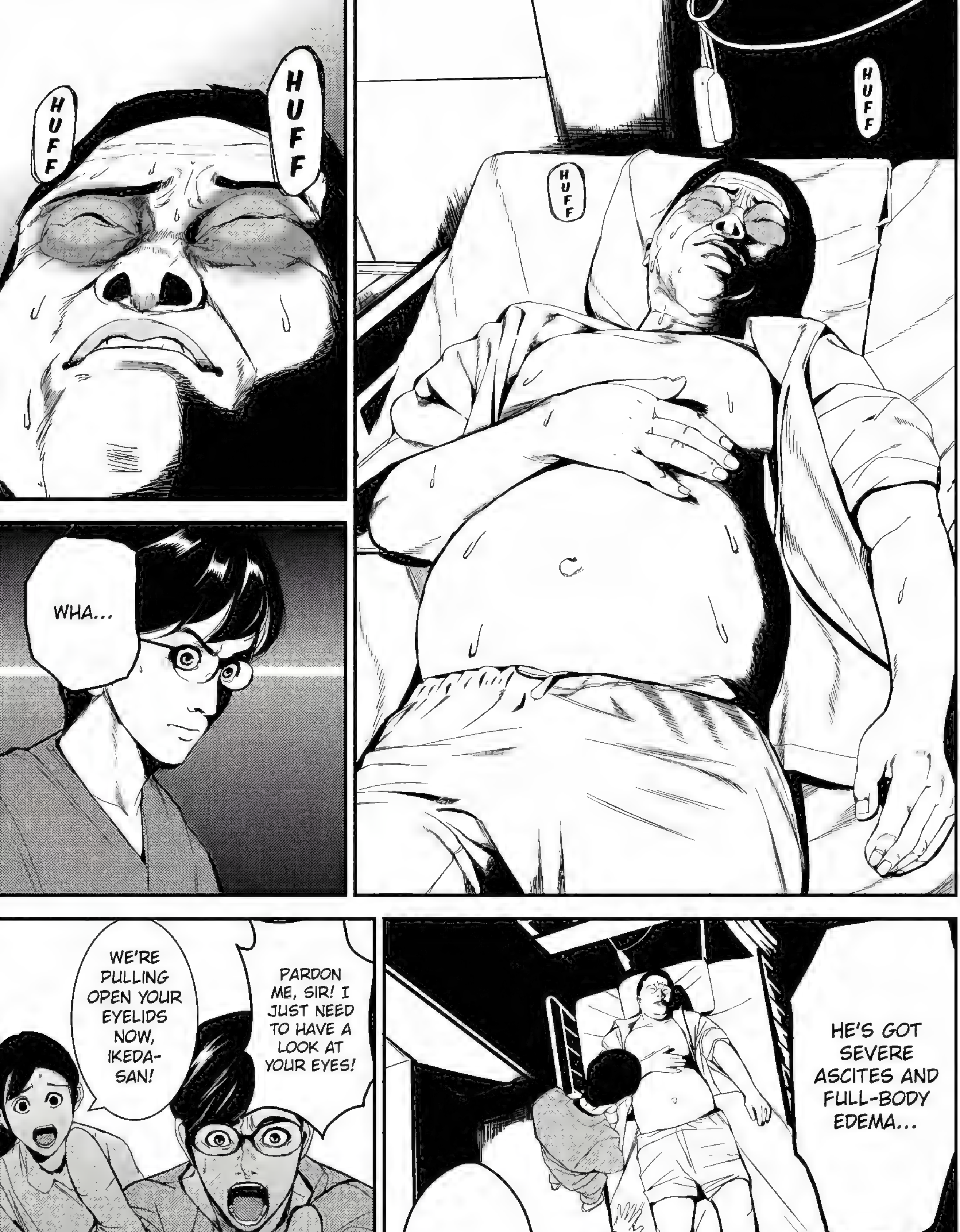

I'M SORRY, SIR...
WE THOUGHT...
WE THOUGHT TO CO-EXIST...
...WITH MANKIND.

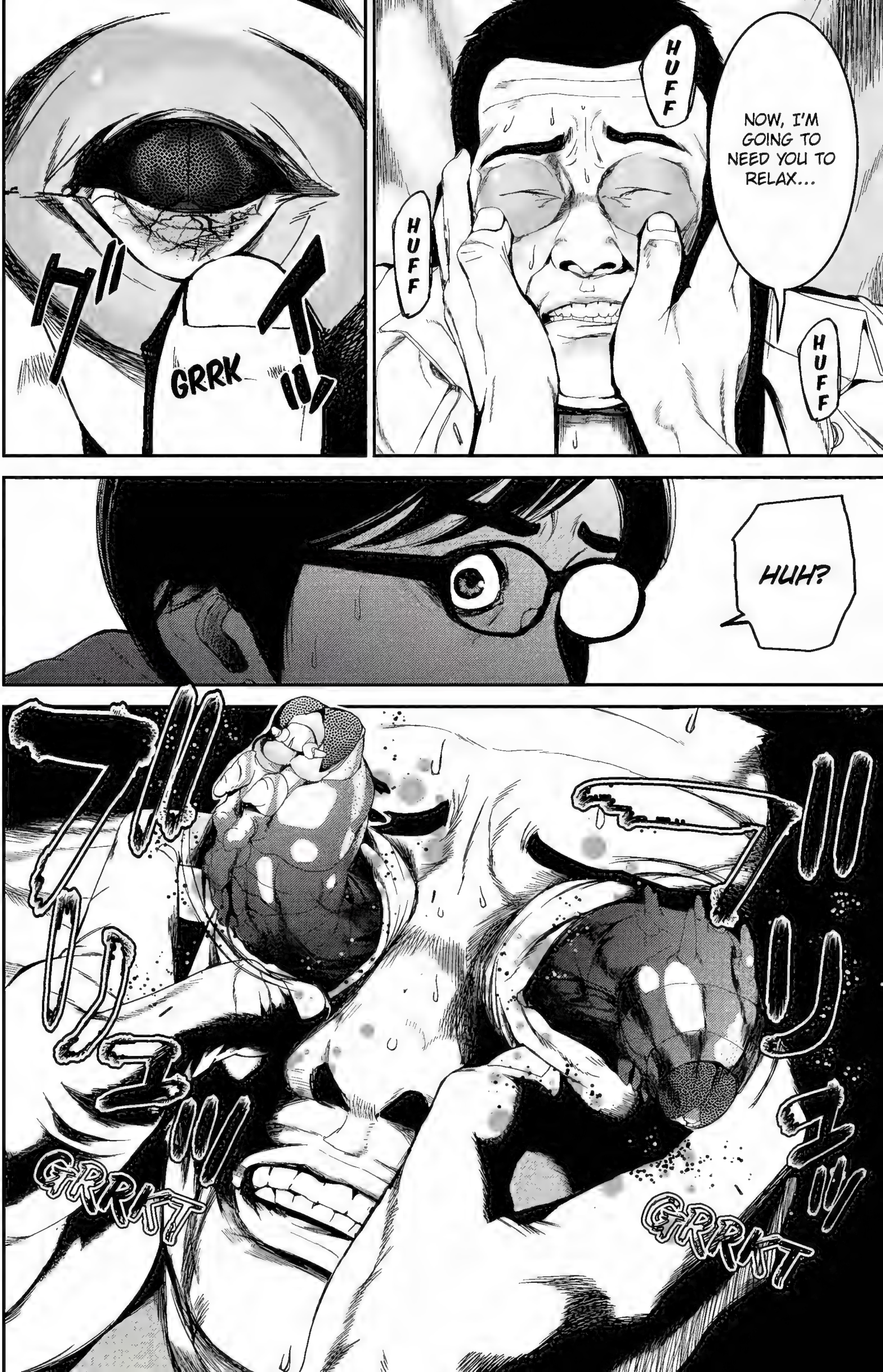

WE...
HAVE...
GRRK
...A VESTED INTEREST...
...IN HUMANITY'S SURVIVAL.
AFTER ALL... IF YOU DIE...
...WE LOSE OUR FOOD SUPPLY.

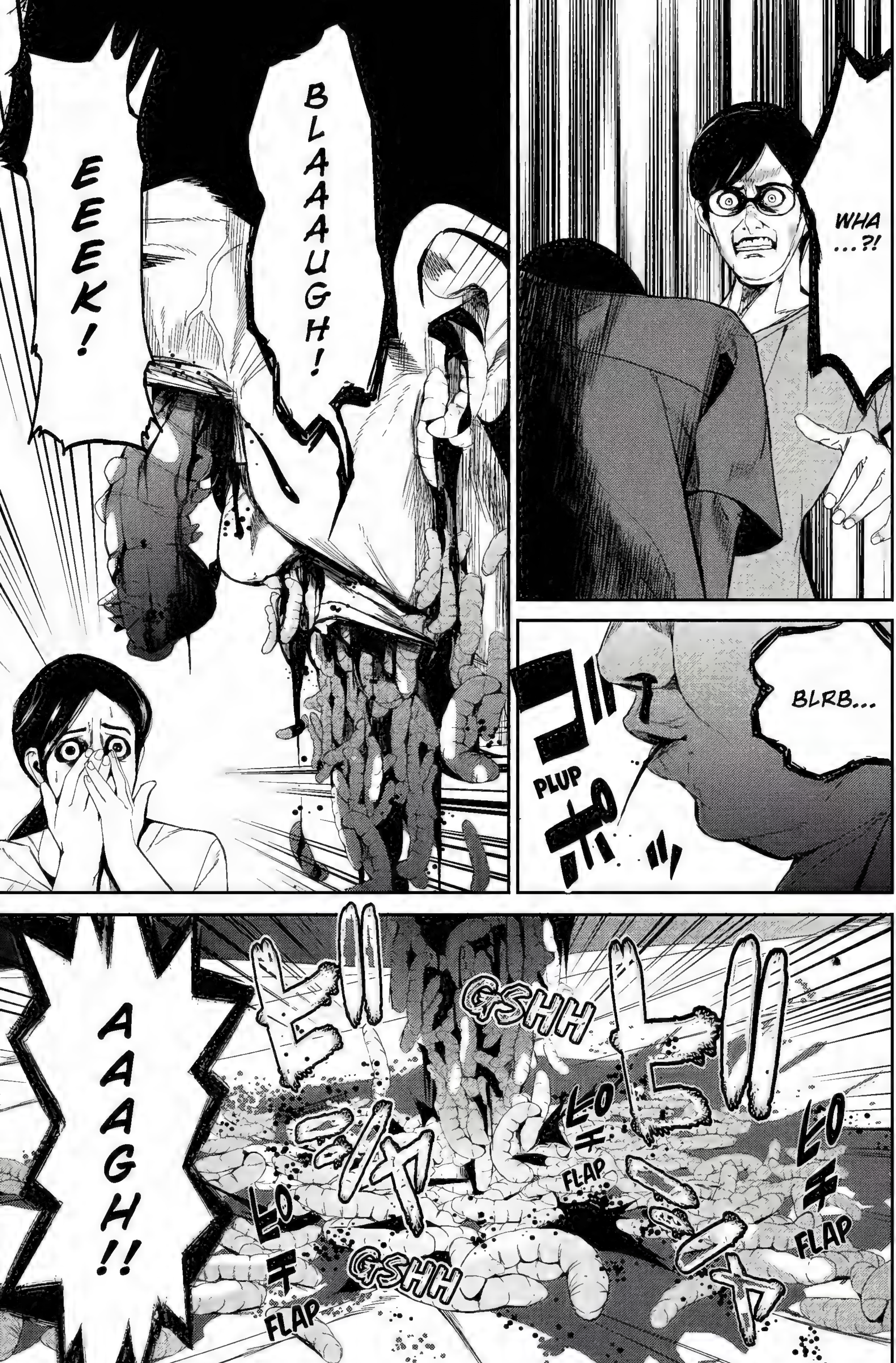

MAN'S DOWNFALL = OUR EXTINCTION.
WE'RE IN THE SAME BOAT! AND IT IS OUR SWORN MISSION TO PROTECT HUMANKIND!
WE SOUGHT TO BREED HUMANS IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD MINIMIZE THE BURDEN PLACED UPON THEM...
IN OTHER WORDS, WE FACILITATED THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF REGENERATORS... THAT IT MIGHT LEAD US TO A PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE.
ONCE...
...UPON A TIME.
BUT...
...NOW...

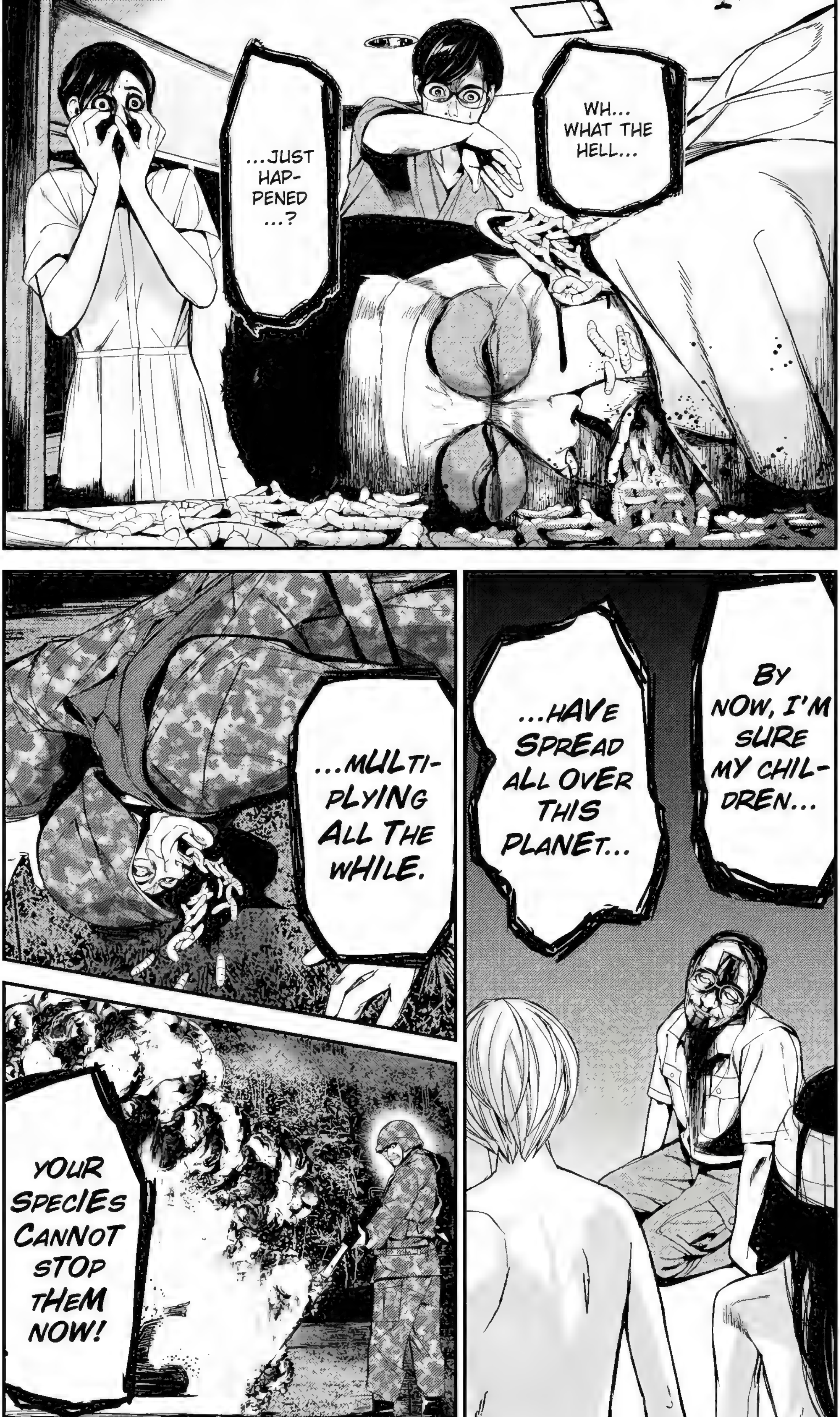

...LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENED!
SO MUCH FOR THAT!
MY CHILDREN...
...HAVE REGRESSED.

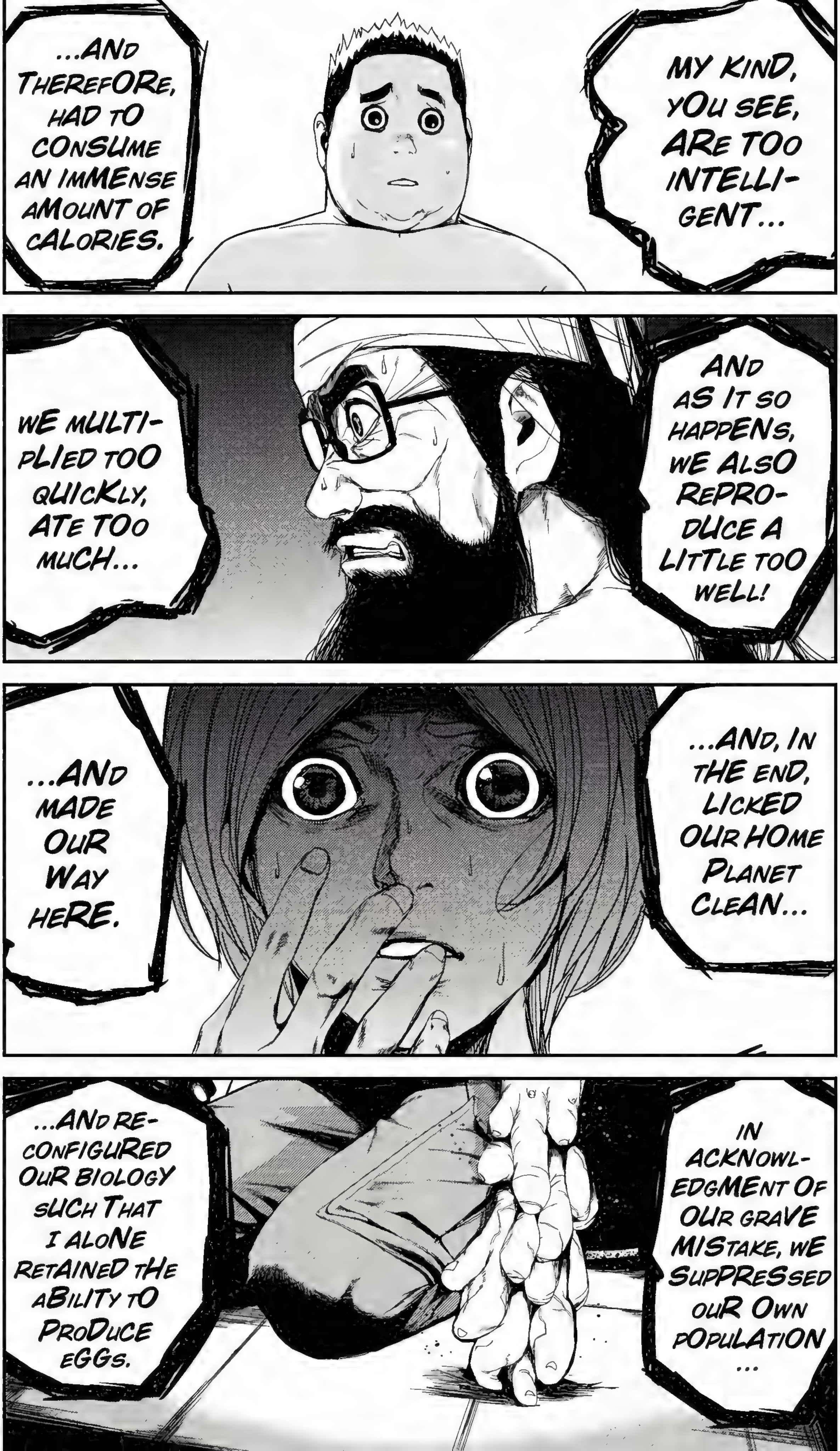

ORIGINALLY, MY KIND POSSESSED...
...EXTREME PROCREATIVE CAPABILITIES.
DOCTOR!!
ガバ
IT'S IKEDA-SAN! IN ROOM 301!
HUH?
FWAP
HE'S A JSDF SERVICEMAN, AGE 26.
パタ パタ パタ
TMP TMP TMP
HE WAS DRENCHED IN ONE OF THE UNIDENTIFIED CREATURES' BODILY FLUIDS DURING AN EXTERMINATION MISSION...
...AND THEY BROUGHT HIM IN FOR EXAMINATION AFTER HE DEVELOPED A HEADACHE, NAUSEA, AND MINOR FEVER.
TMP パタ TMP パタ TMP パタ

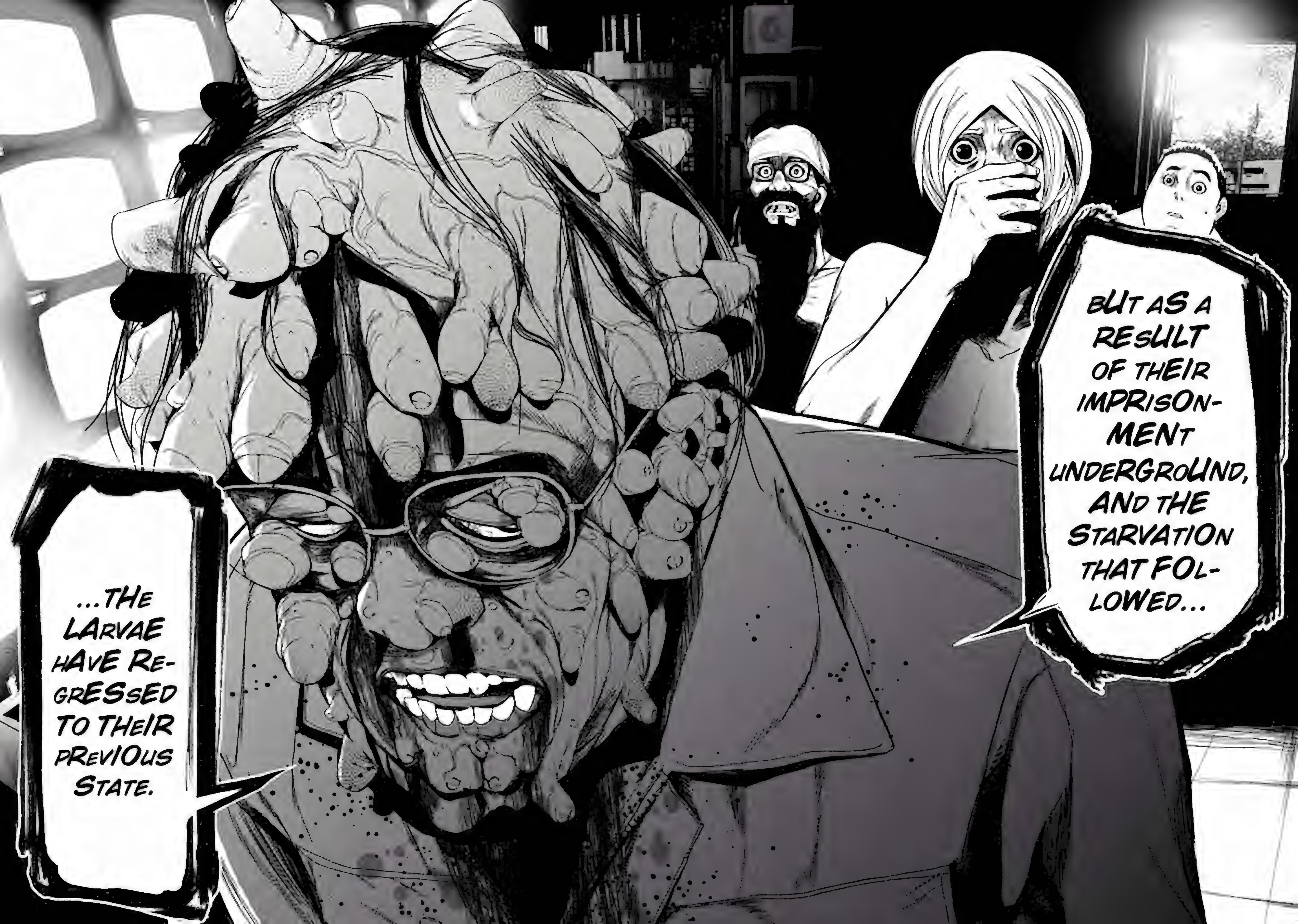

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
WHA...
HE'S GOT SEVERE ASCITES AND FULL-BODY EDEMA...
IKEDA-SAN? IKEDA-SAN?
PARDON ME, SIR! I JUST NEED TO HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR EYES!
WE'RE PULLING OPEN YOUR EYELIDS NOW, IKEDA-SAN!

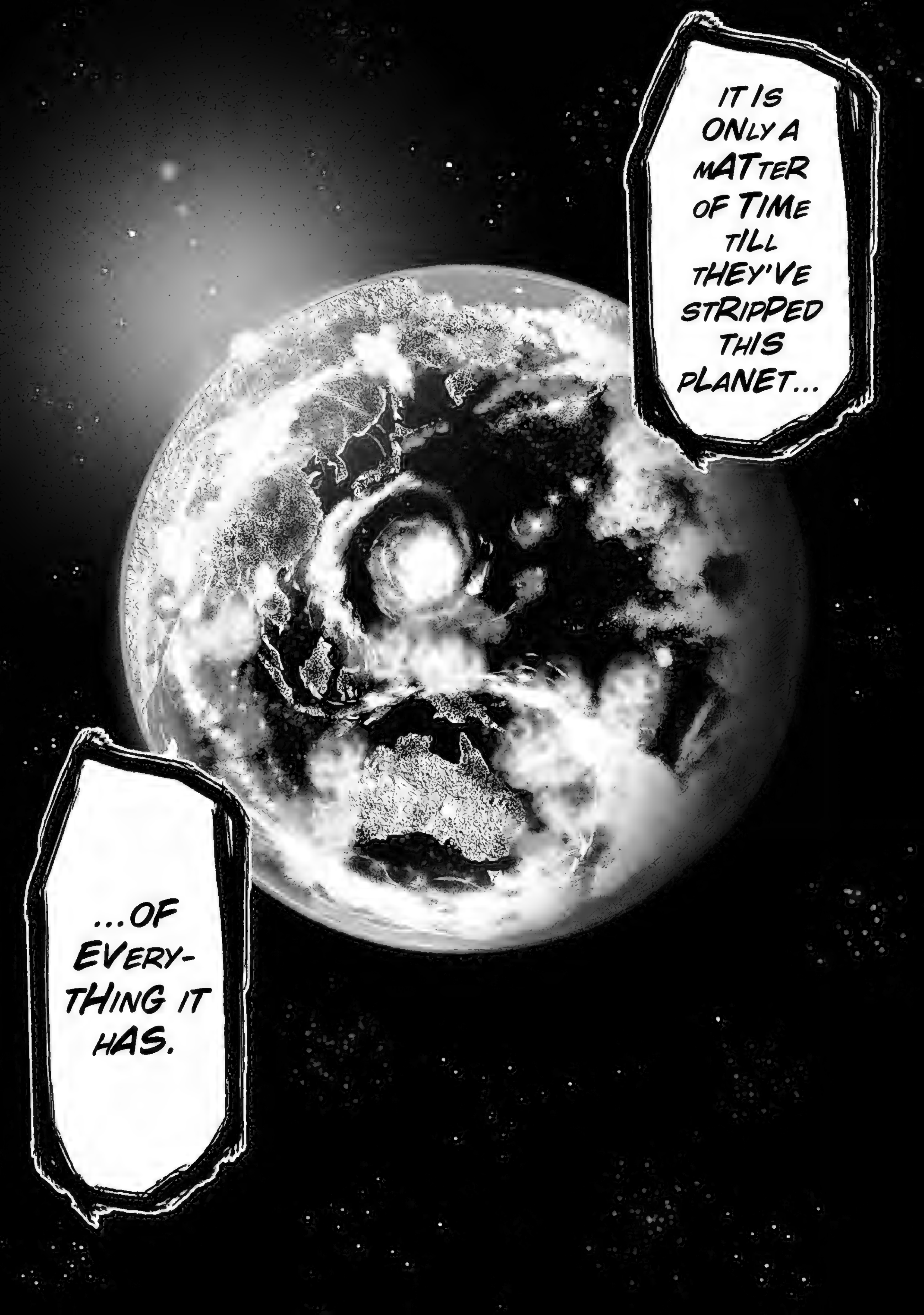

HUFF
NOW, I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TO RELAX...
HUFF
HUFF
GRRK
HUH?
GRRKT
GRRKT


WHA ...?!
BLRB...
PLUP
BLAAAAUGH!
EEEEK!
AAAAGH!!
GSHH
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
GSHH
FLAP

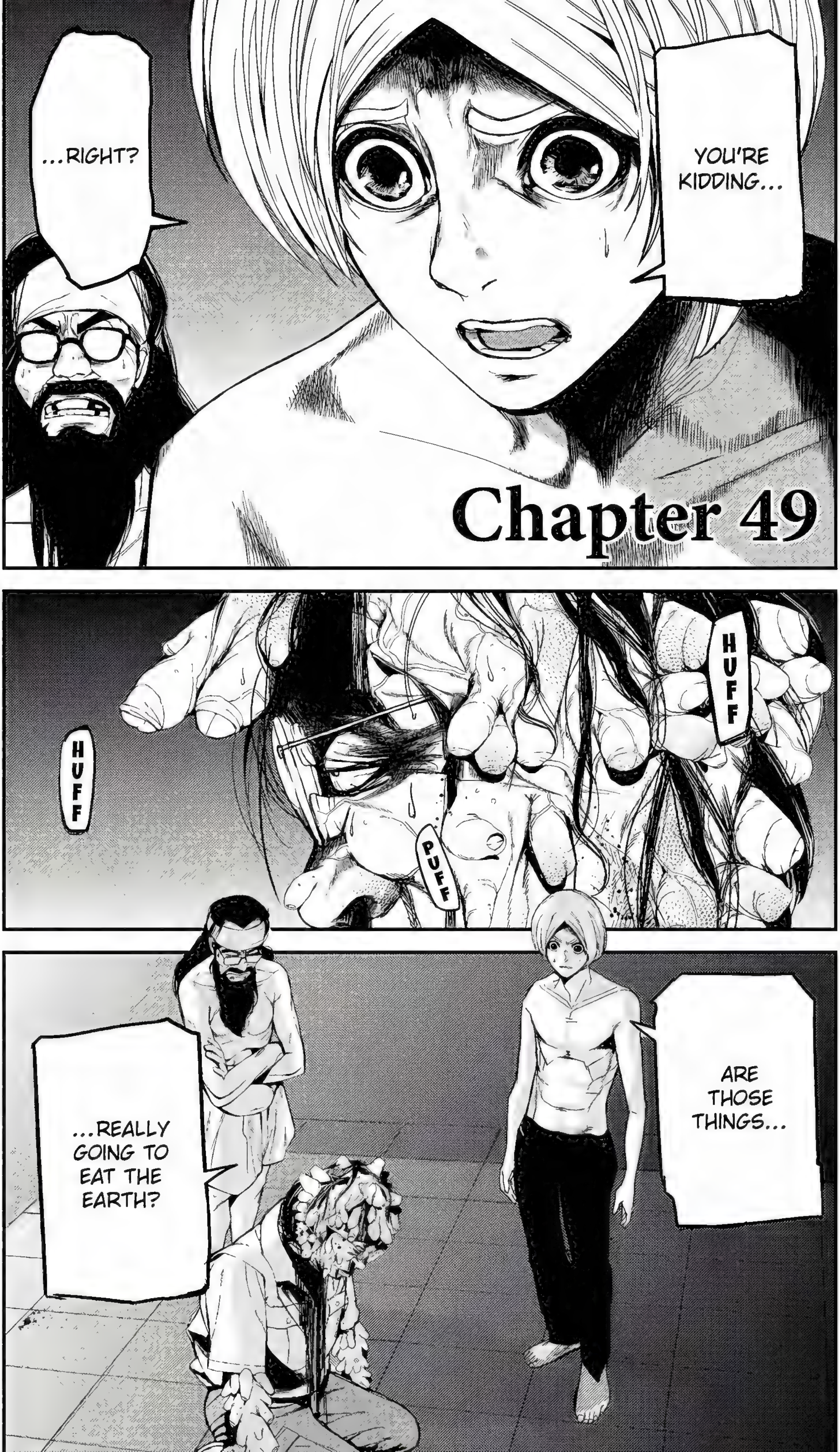

WH... WHAT THE HELL...
...JUST HAPPENED...?
BY NOW, I'M SURE MY CHILDREN...
...HAVE SPREAD ALL OVER THIS PLANET...
...MULTIPLYING ALL THE WHILE.
YOUR SPECIES CANNOT STOP THEM NOW!

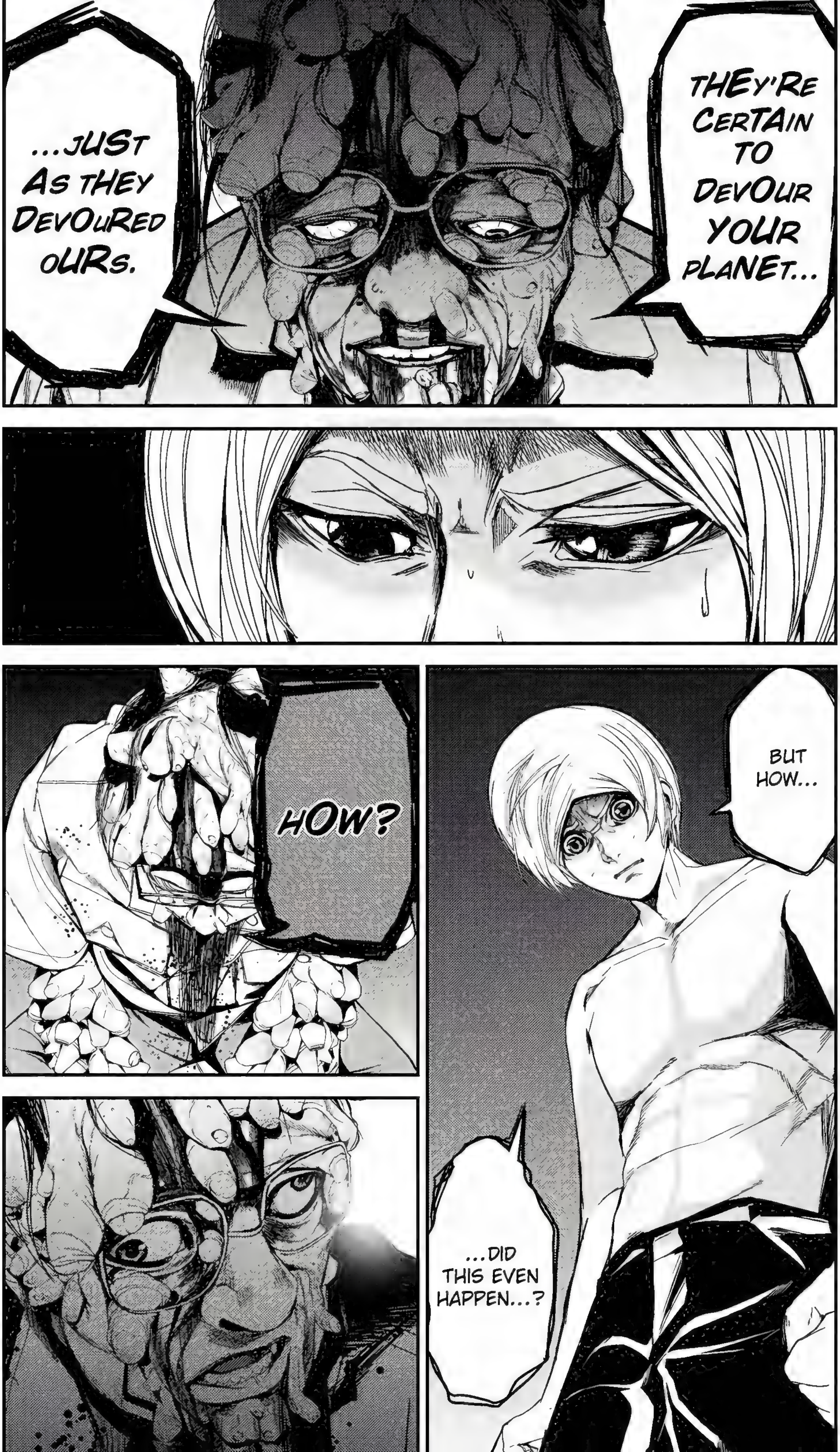

MY KIND, YOU SEE, ARE TOO INTELLIGENT...
...AND THEREFORE, HAD TO CONSUME AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF CALORIES.
AND AS IT SO HAPPENS, WE ALSO REPRODUCE A LITTLE TOO WELL!
WE MULTIPLIED TOO QUICKLY, ATE TOO MUCH...
...AND, IN THE END, LICKED OUR HOME PLANET CLEAN...
...AND MADE OUR WAY HERE.
IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF OUR GRAVE MISTAKE, WE SUPPRESSED OUR OWN POPULATION...
...AND RECONFIGURED OUR BIOLOGY SUCH THAT I ALONE RETAINED THE ABILITY TO PRODUCE EGGS.

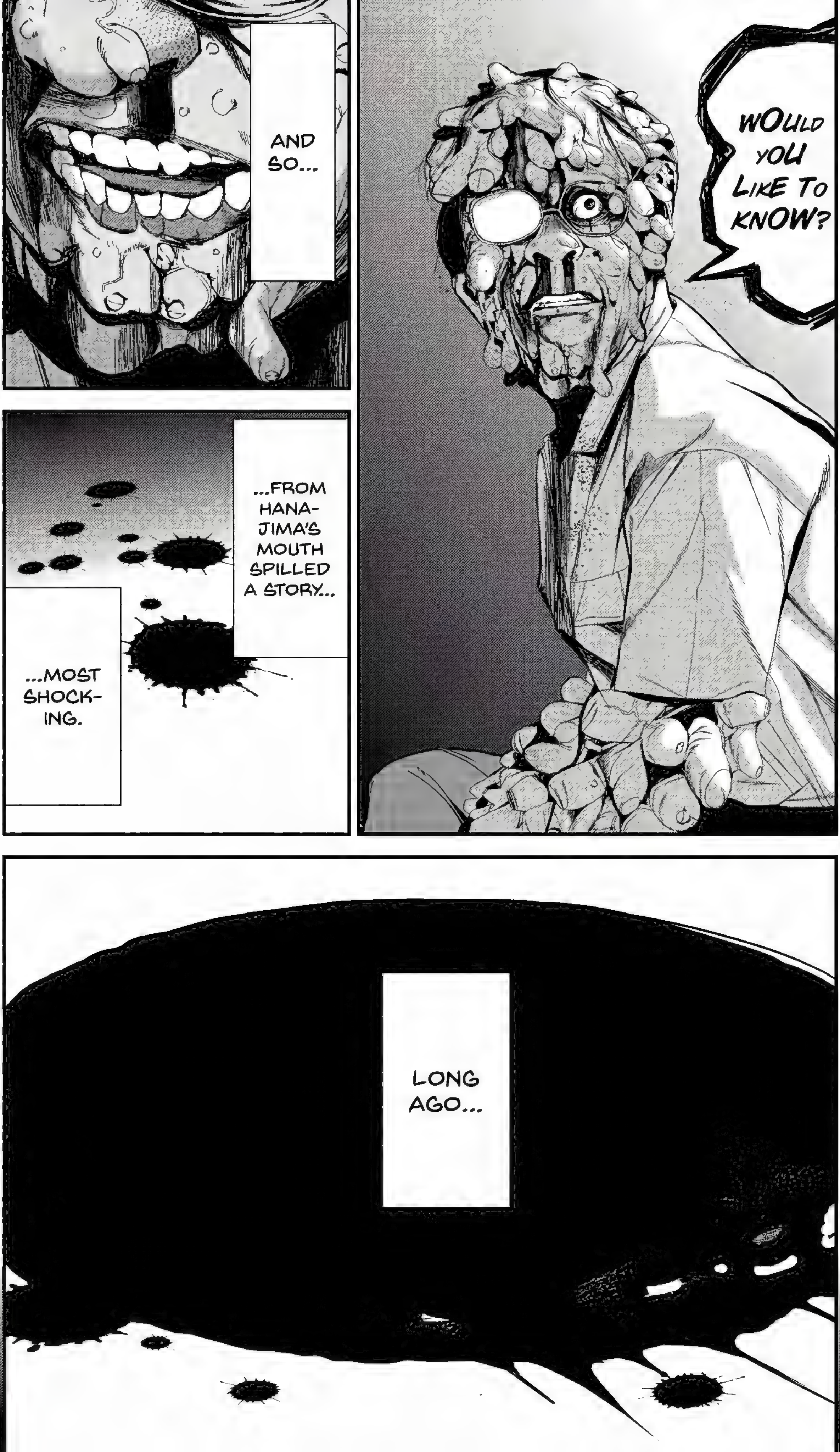

BUT AS A RESULT OF THEIR IMPRISONMENT UNDERGROUND, AND THE STARVATION THAT FOLLOWED...
...THE LARVAE HAVE REGRESSED TO THEIR PREVIOUS STATE.

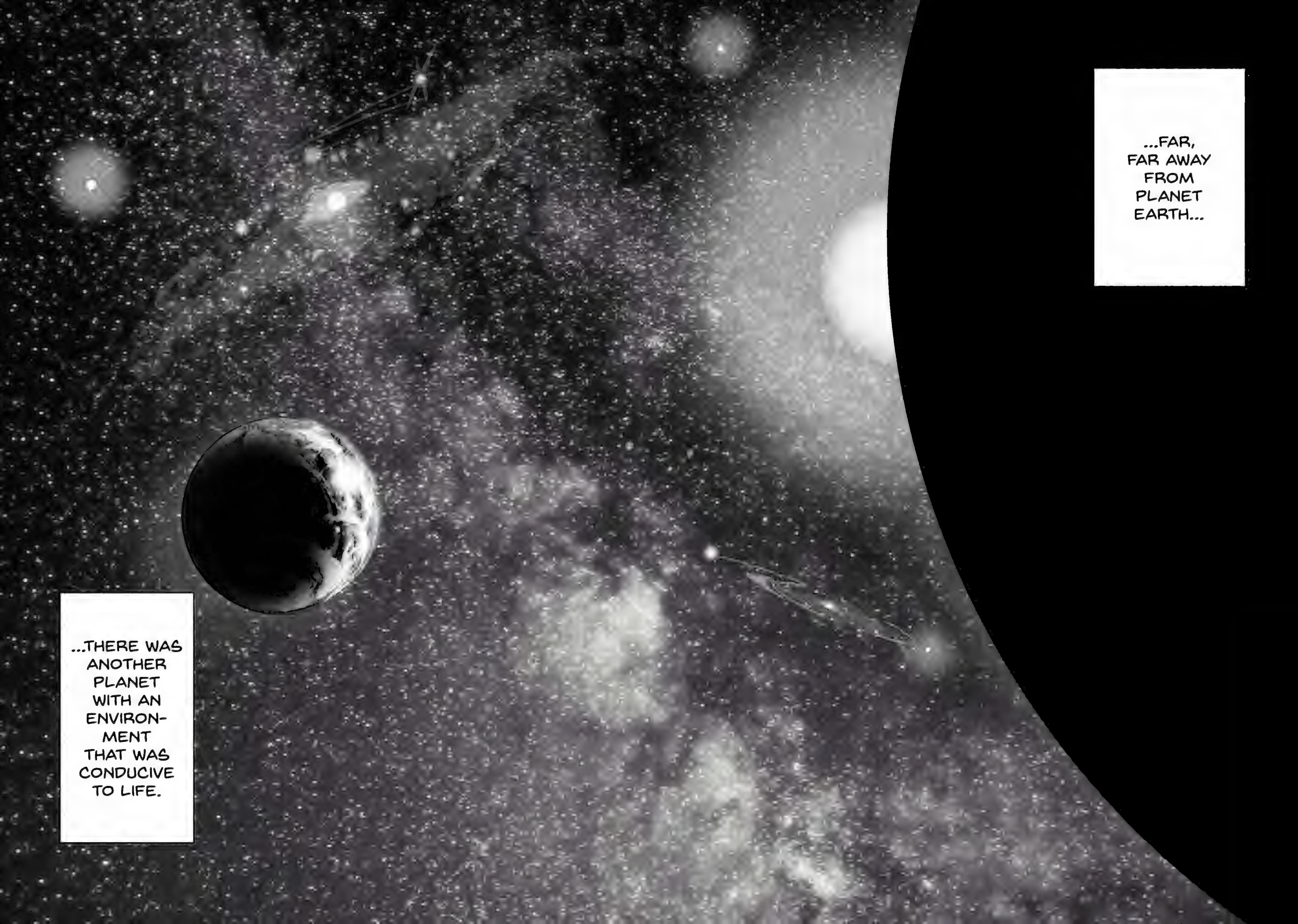

IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME TILL THEY'VE STRIPPED THIS PLANET...
...OF EVERYTHING IT HAS.

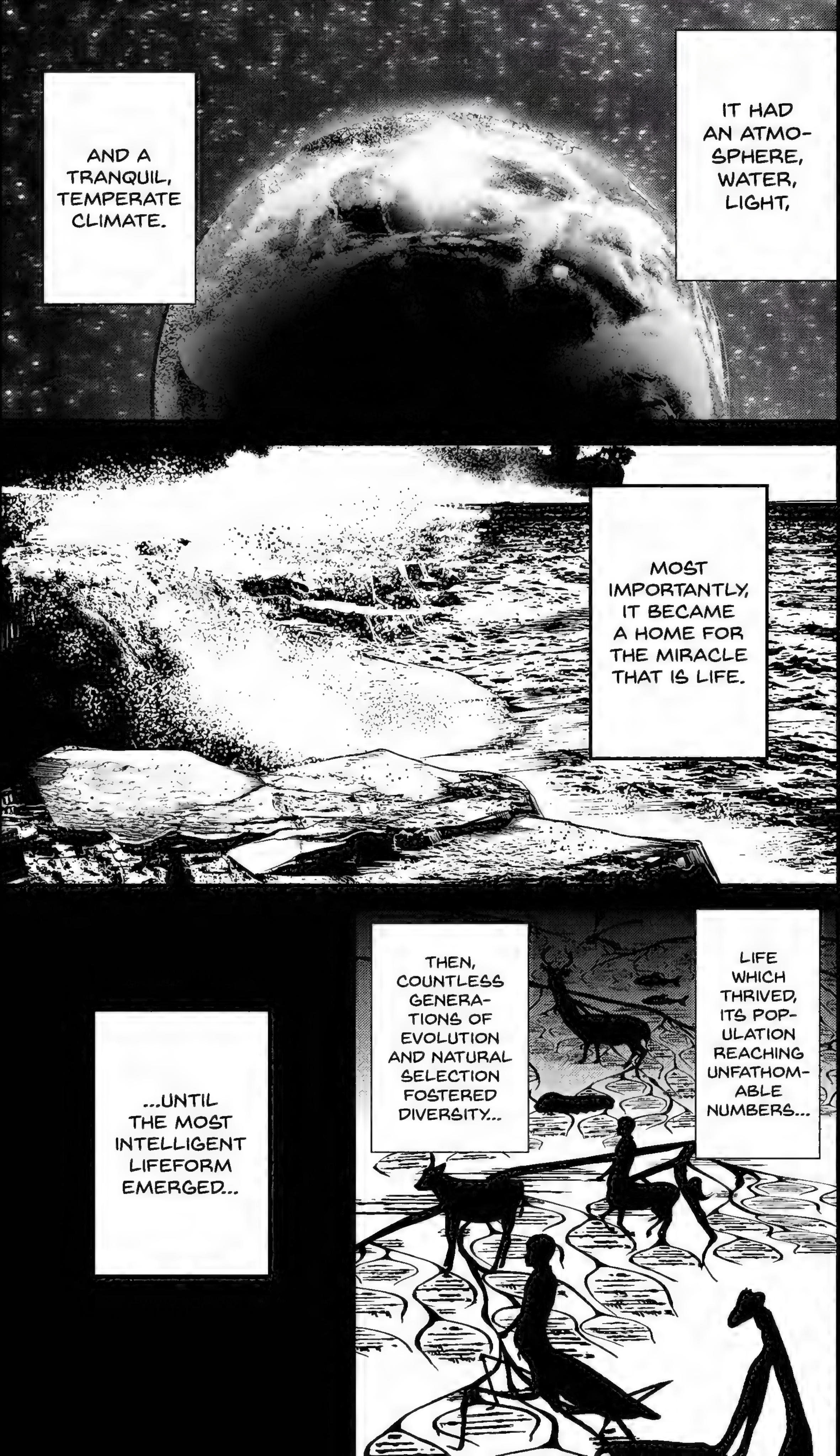
Chapter 49

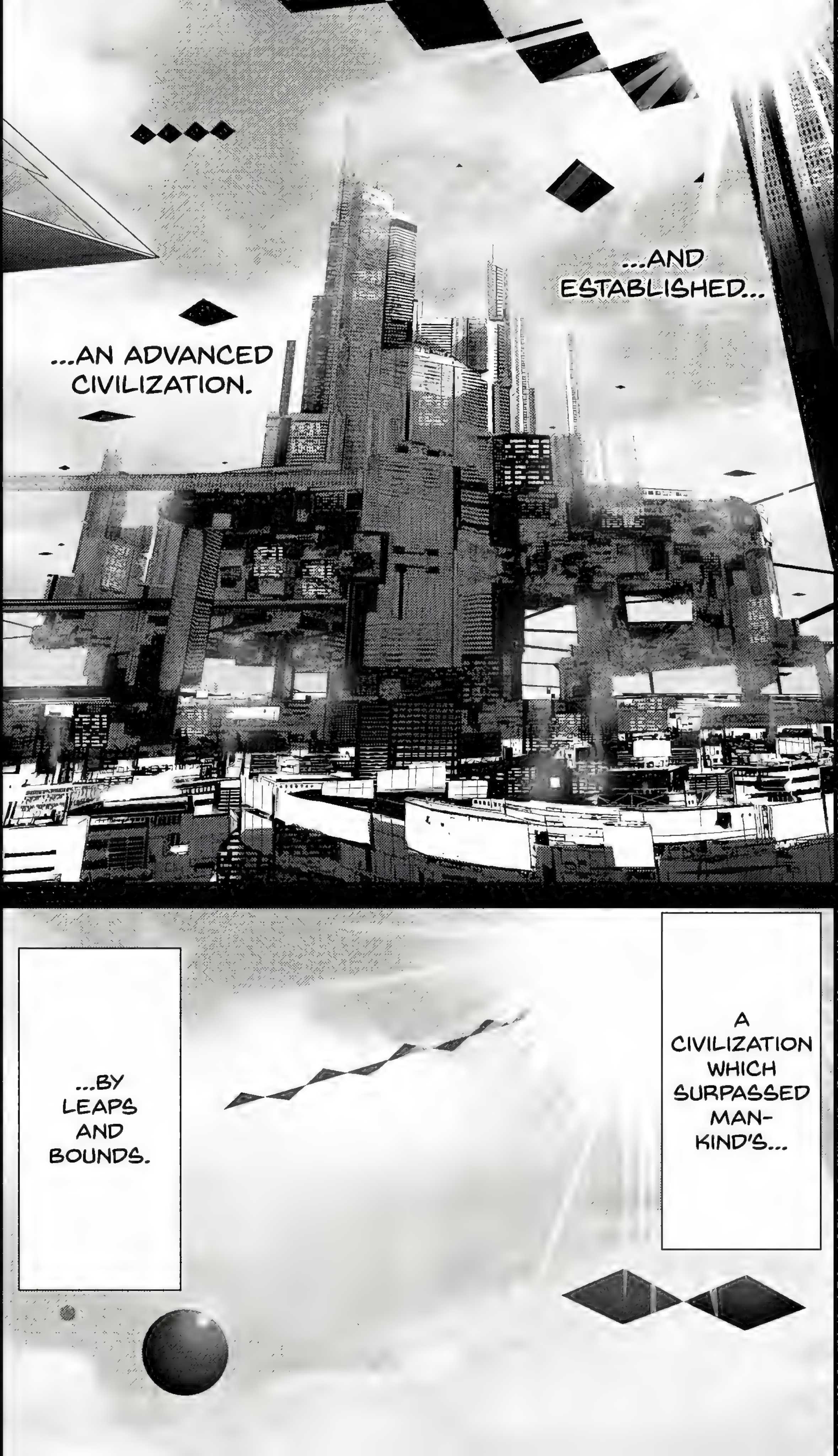

YOU'RE KIDDING…
…RIGHT?
HUFF
HUFF
PUFF
ARE THOSE THINGS…
…REALLY GOING TO EAT THE EARTH?

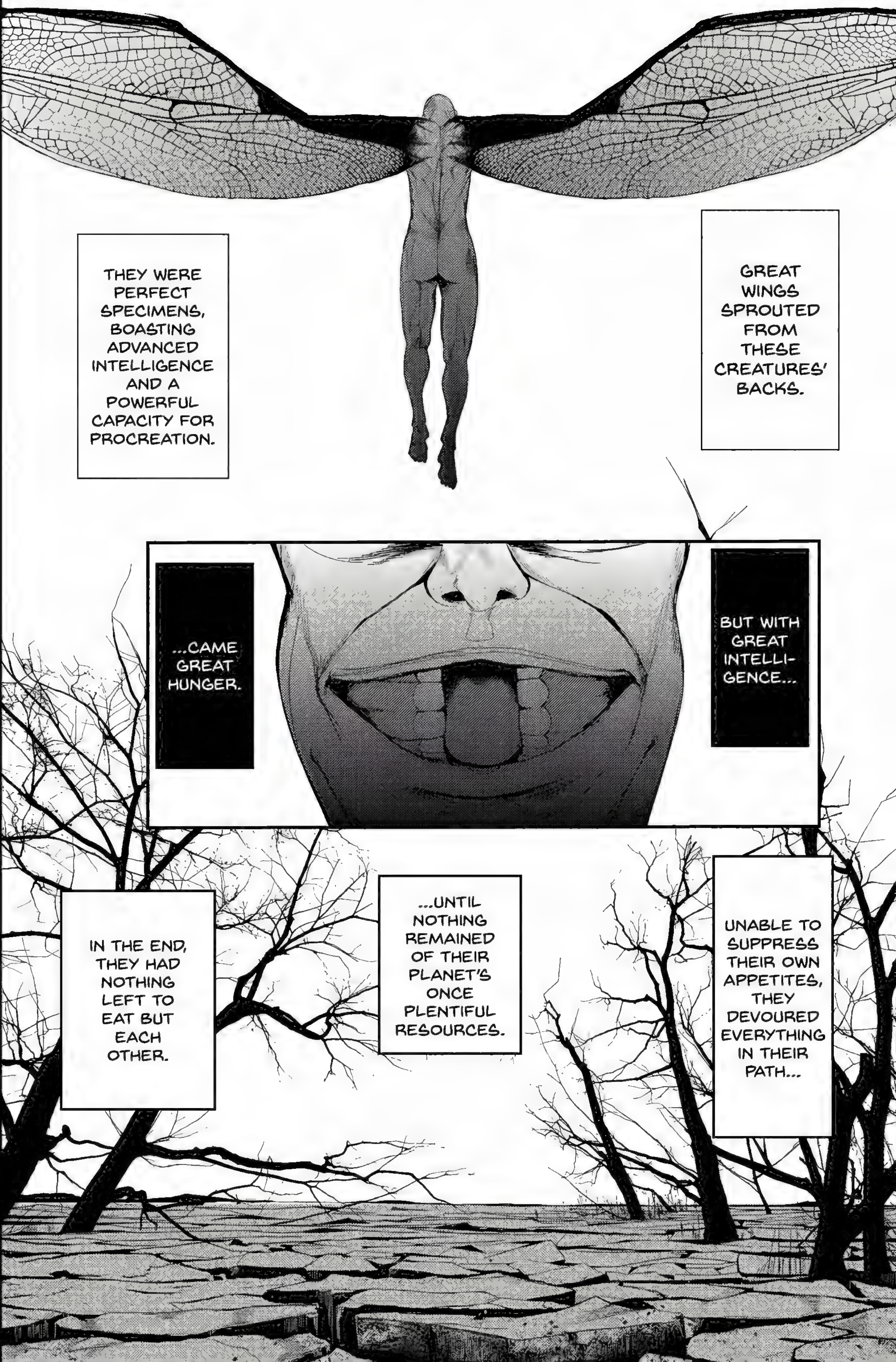

THEY'RE CERTAIN TO DEVOUR YOUR PLANET...
...JUST AS THEY DEVOURED OURS.
BUT HOW...
...DID THIS EVEN HAPPEN...?
HOW?

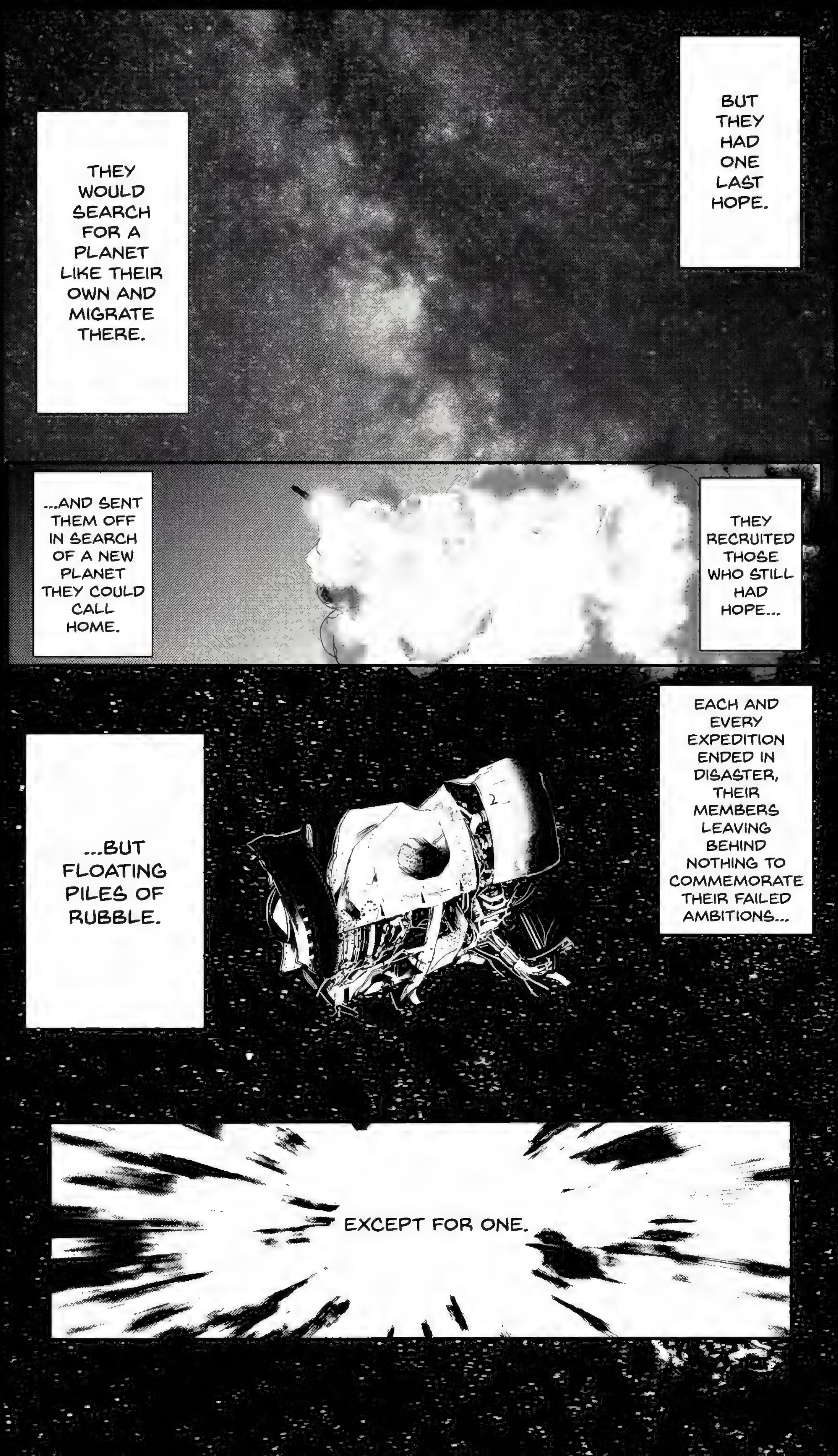

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW?
AND SO...
...FROM HANAJIMA'S MOUTH SPILLED A STORY...
...MOST SHOCKING.
LONG AGO...

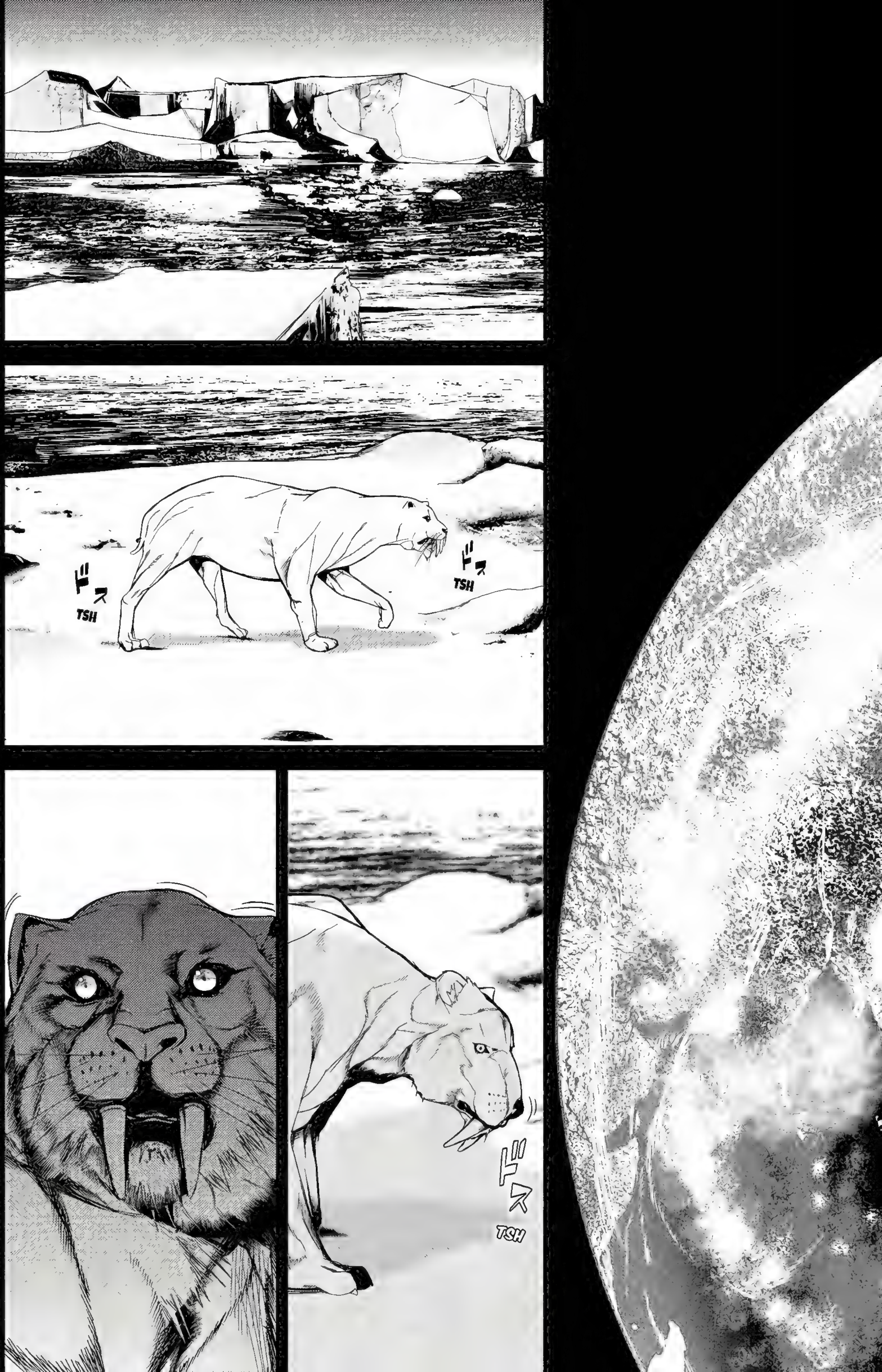

...FAR, FAR AWAY FROM PLANET EARTH...
...THERE WAS ANOTHER PLANET WITH AN ENVIRONMENT THAT WAS CONDUCIVE TO LIFE.

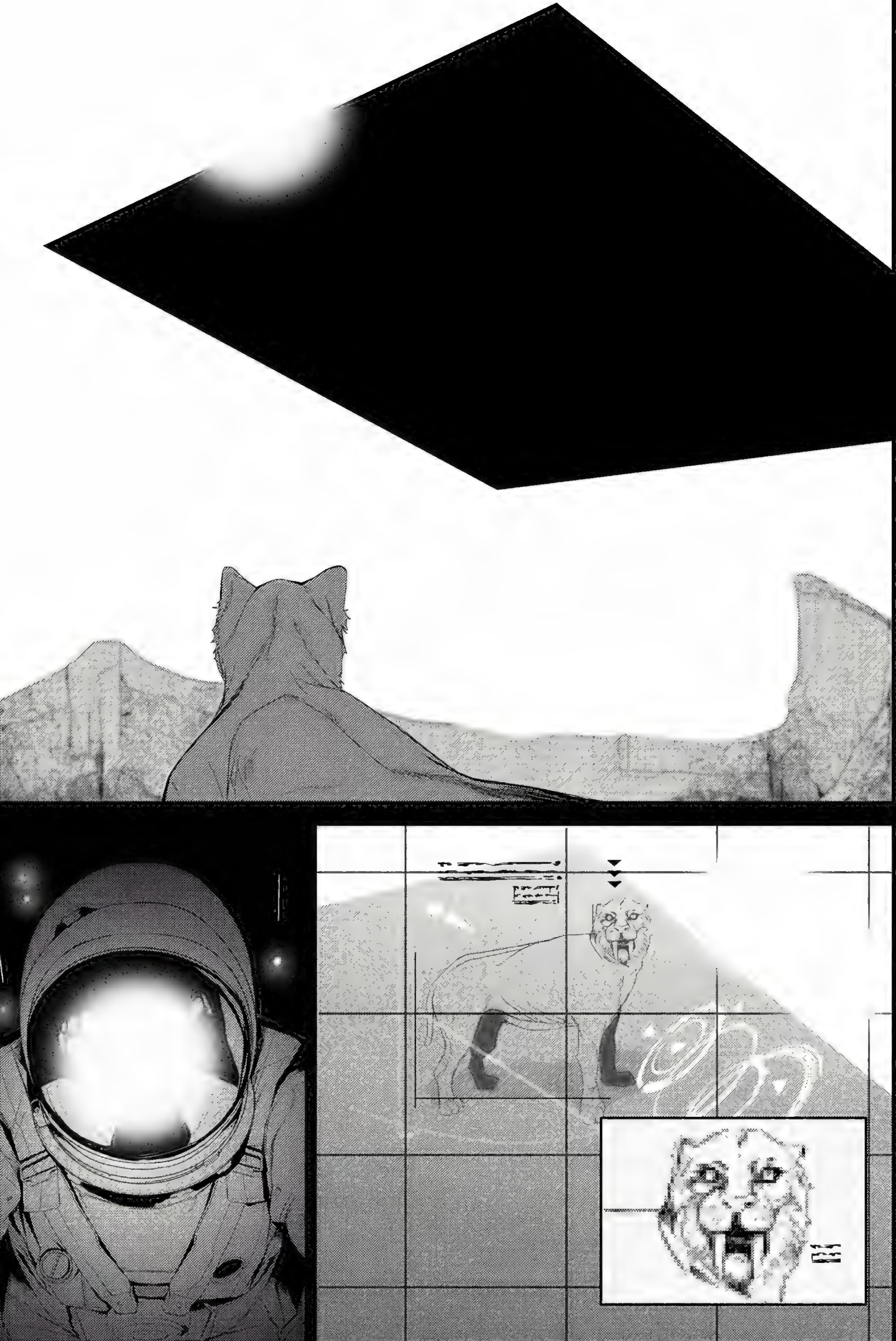

IT HAD AN ATMOSPHERE, WATER, LIGHT,
AND A TRANQUIL, TEMPERATE CLIMATE.
MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT BECAME A HOME FOR THE MIRACLE THAT IS LIFE.
LIFE WHICH THRIVED, ITS POPULATION REACHING UNFATHOMABLE NUMBERS...
THEN, COUNTLESS GENERATIONS OF EVOLUTION AND NATURAL SELECTION FOSTERED DIVERSITY...
...UNTIL THE MOST INTELLIGENT LIFEFORM EMERGED...

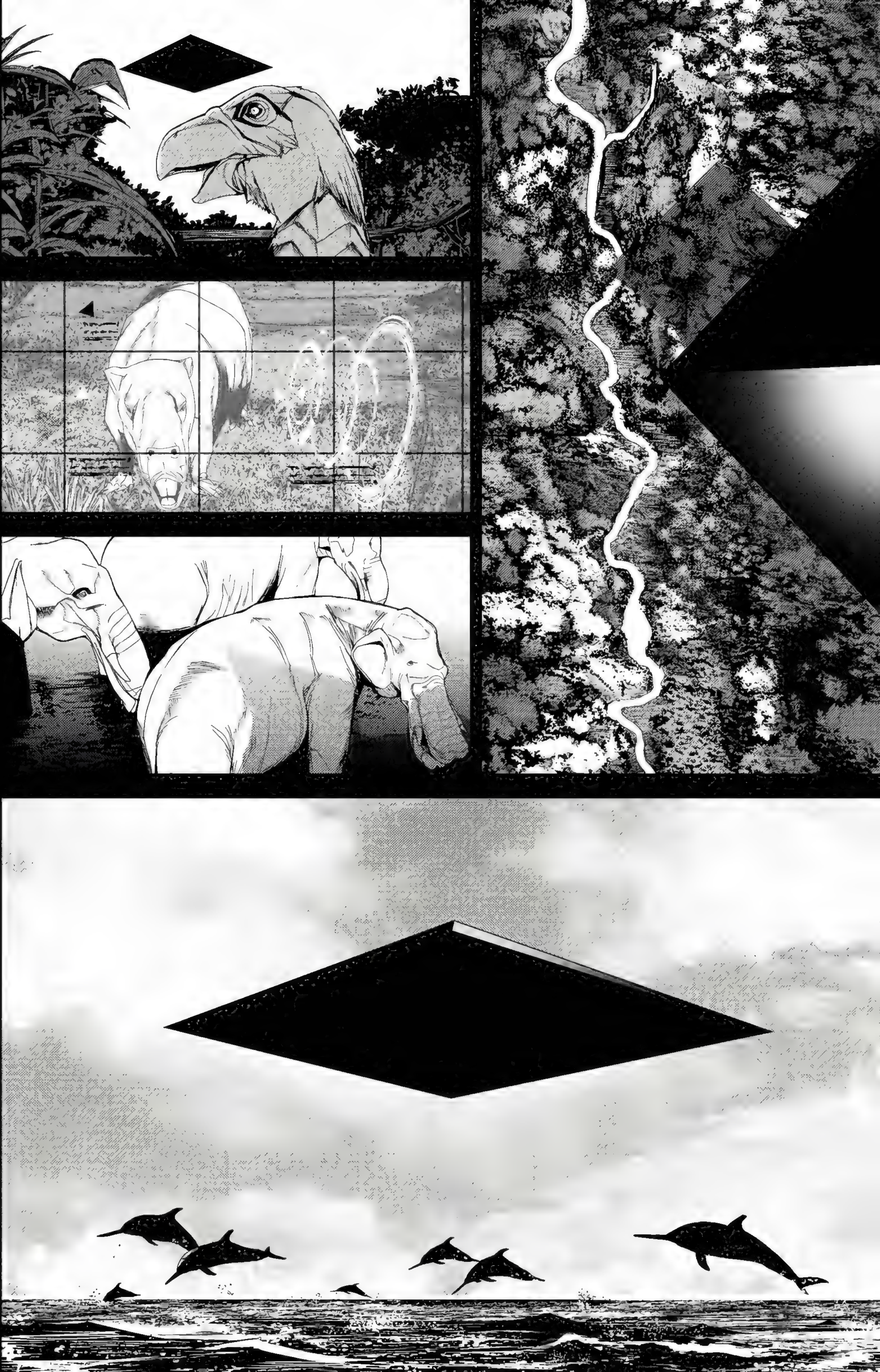

...AND ESTABLISHED...
...AN ADVANCED CIVILIZATION.
A CIVILIZATION WHICH SURPASSED MANKIND'S...
...BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS.

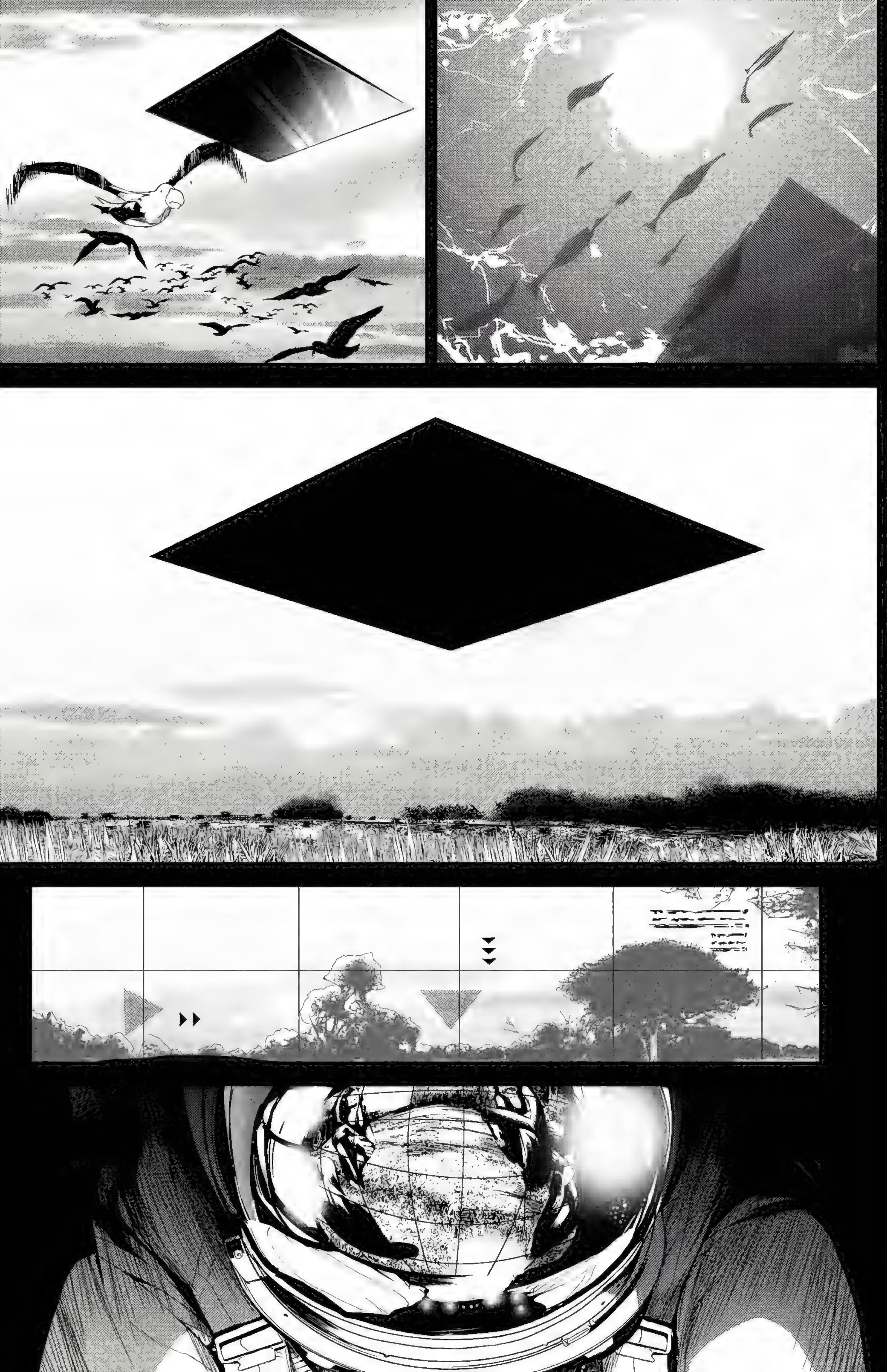

GREAT WINGS SPROUTED FROM THESE CREATURES' BACKS.
THEY WERE PERFECT SPECIMENS, BOASTING ADVANCED INTELLIGENCE AND A POWERFUL CAPACITY FOR PROCREATION.
BUT WITH GREAT INTELLIGENCE...
...CAME GREAT HUNGER.
UNABLE TO SUPPRESS THEIR OWN APPETITES, THEY DEVOURED EVERYTHING IN THEIR PATH...
...UNTIL NOTHING REMAINED OF THEIR PLANET'S ONCE PLENTIFUL RESOURCES.
IN THE END, THEY HAD NOTHING LEFT TO EAT BUT EACH OTHER.

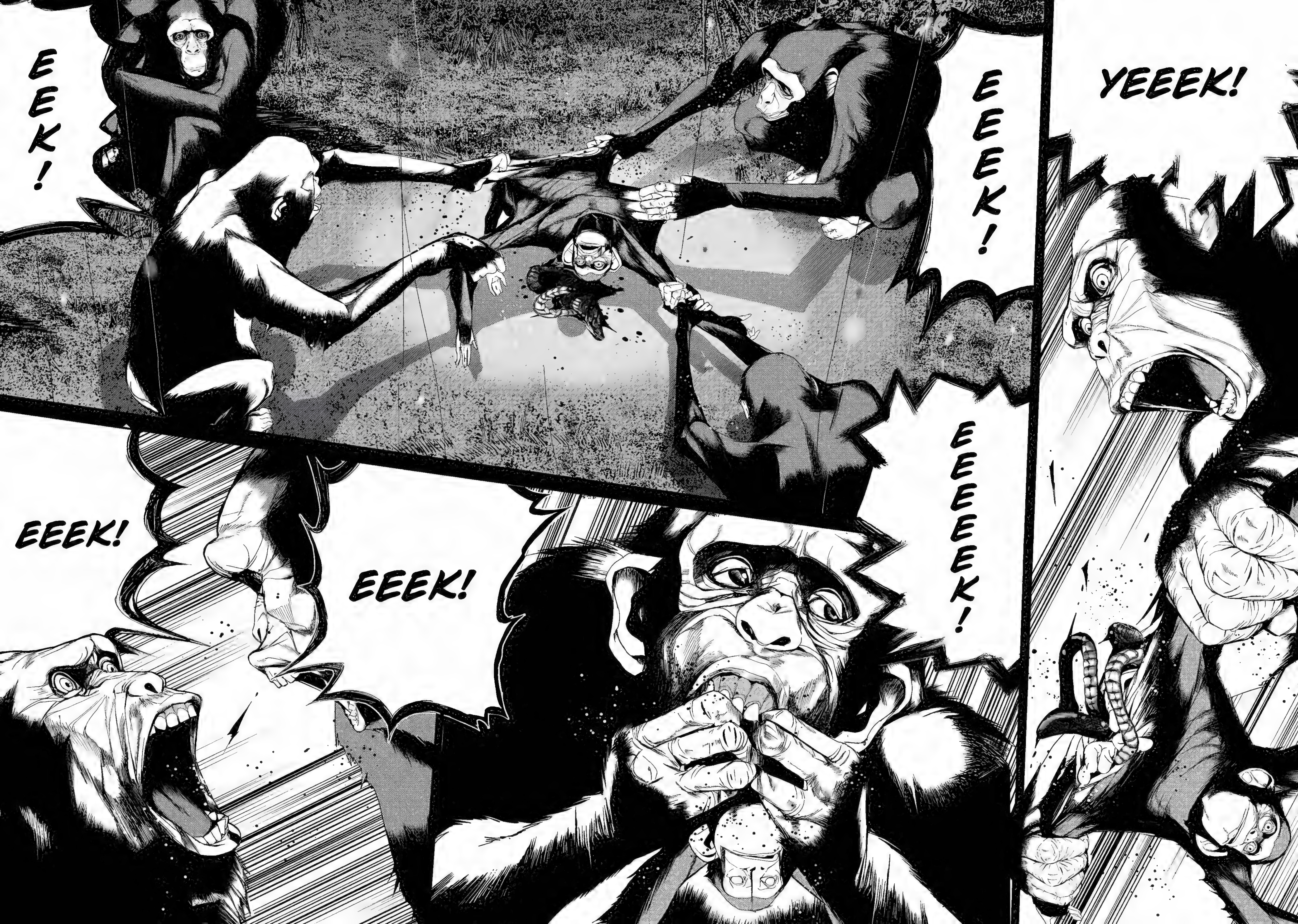

BUT THEY HAD ONE LAST HOPE.
THEY WOULD SEARCH FOR A PLANET LIKE THEIR OWN AND MIGRATE THERE.
THEY RECRUITED THOSE WHO STILL HAD HOPE...
...AND SENT THEM OFF IN SEARCH OF A NEW PLANET THEY COULD CALL HOME.
EACH AND EVERY EXPEDITION ENDED IN DISASTER, THEIR MEMBERS LEAVING BEHIND NOTHING TO COMMEMORATE THEIR FAILED AMBITIONS...
...BUT FLOATING PILES OF RUBBLE.
EXCEPT FOR ONE.

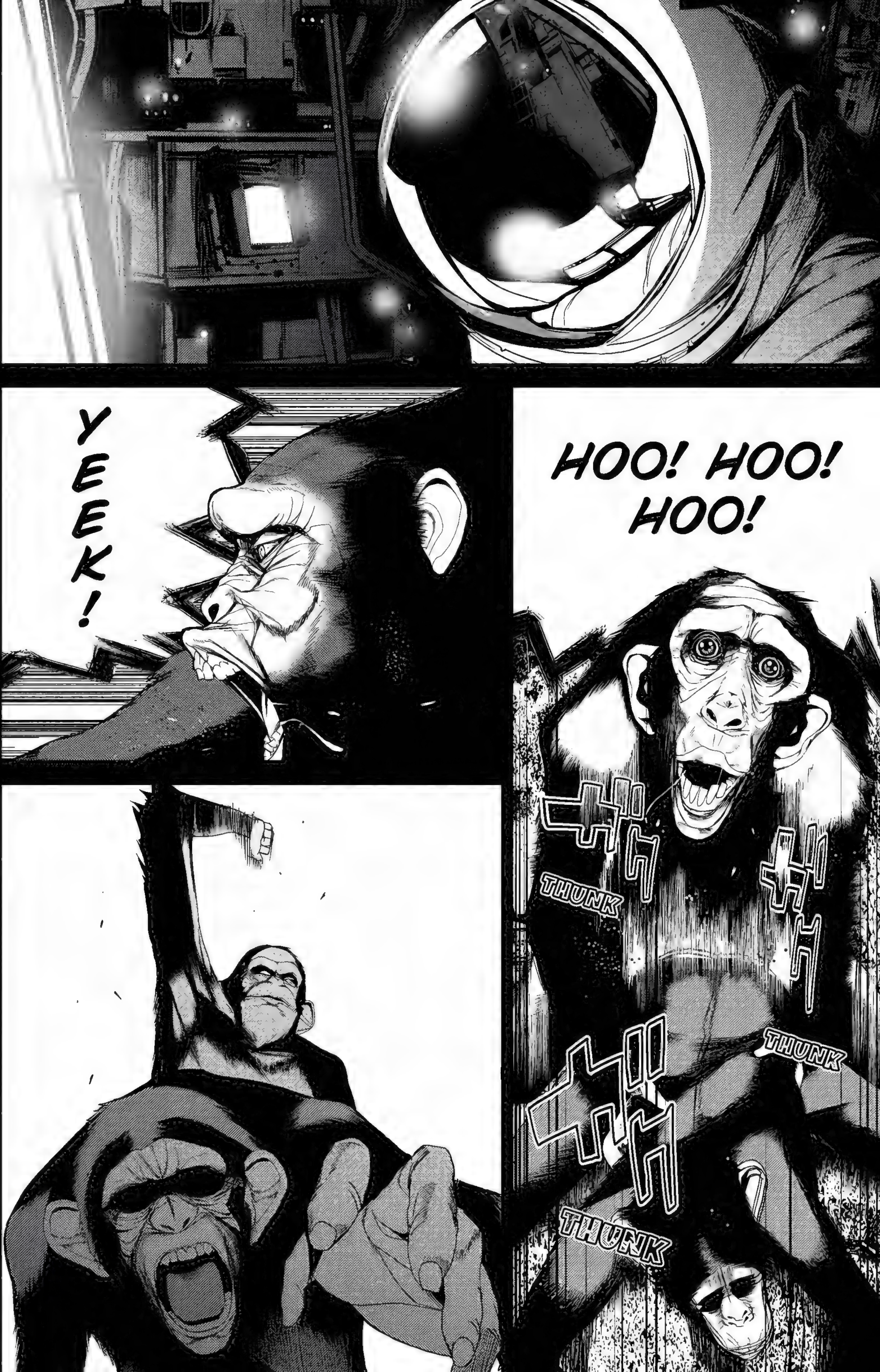

ドス
TSH
ドス
TSH
ドス
TSH

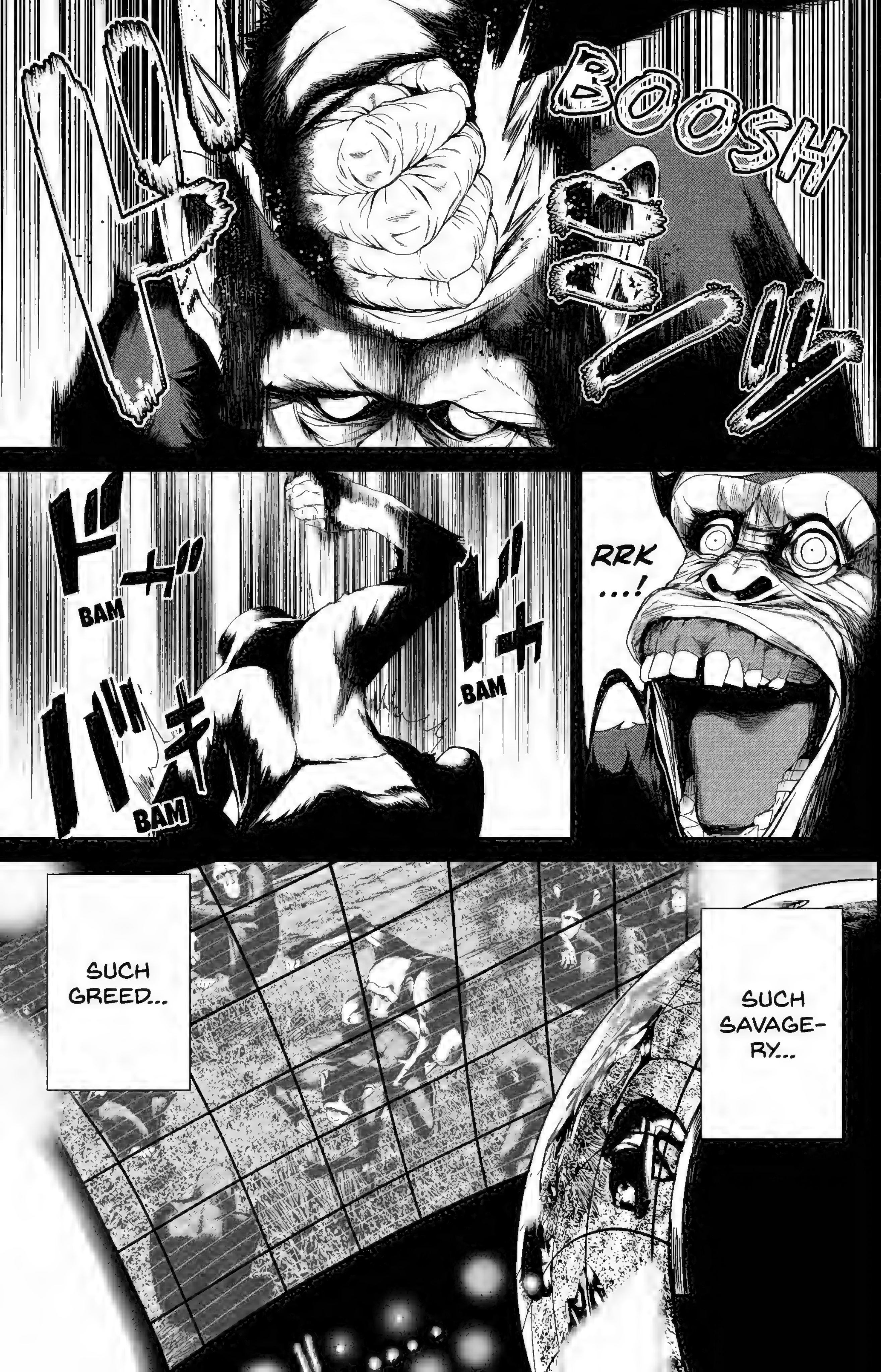


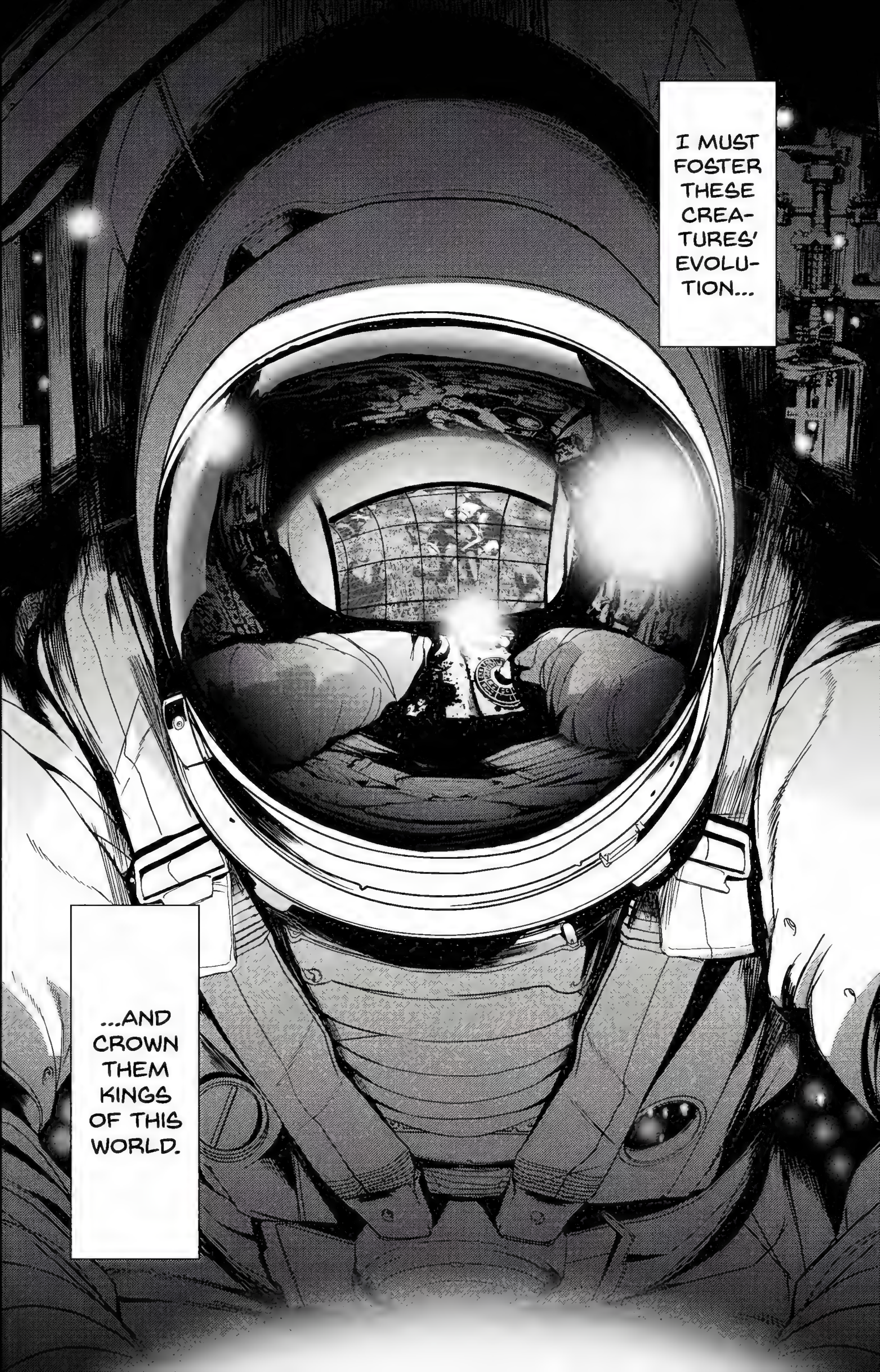





YEEEK!
EEEEK!
EEK!
EEEEEEK!
EEEK!
EEEK!

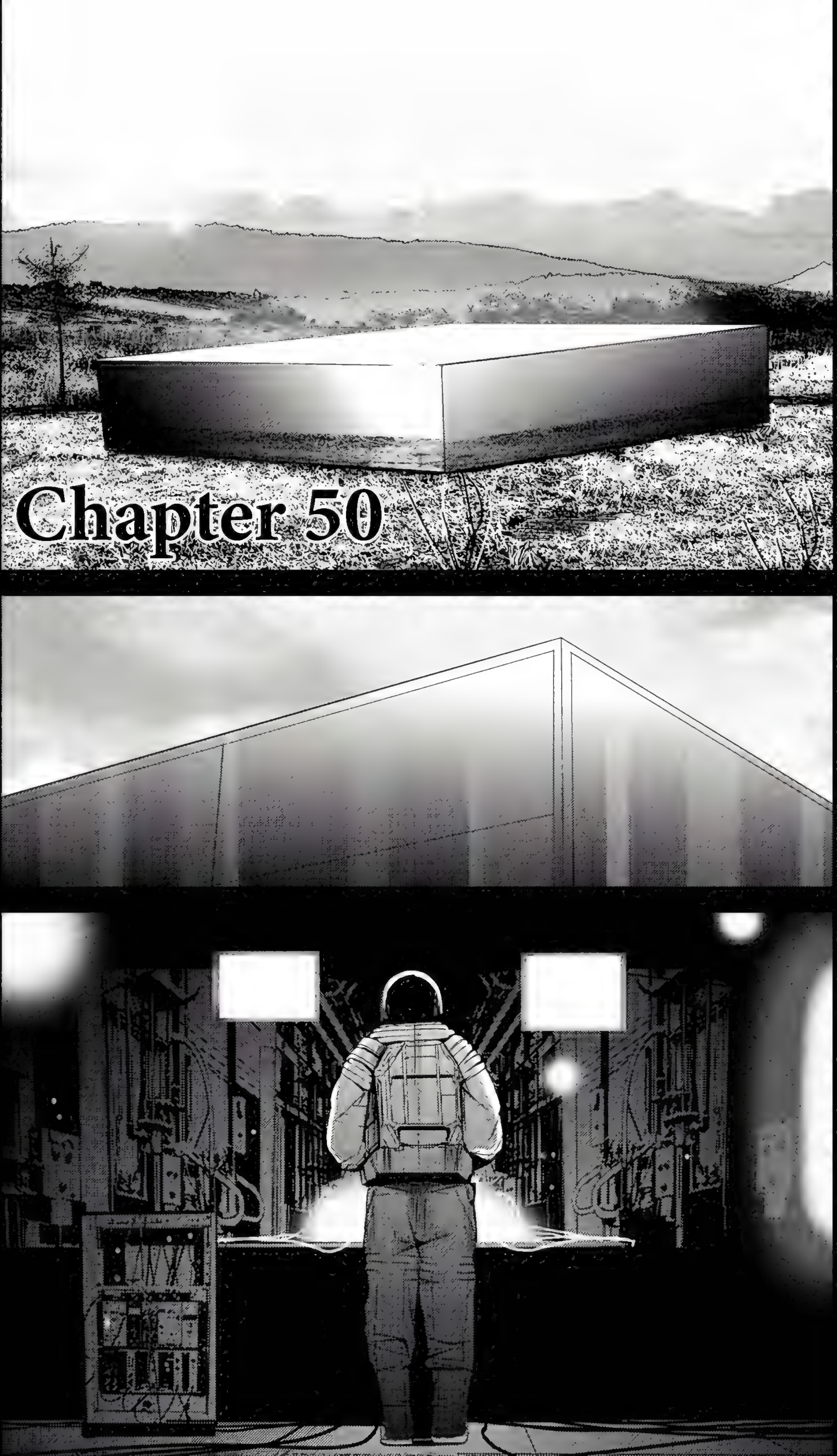

HOO! HOO! HOO!
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
YEEK!

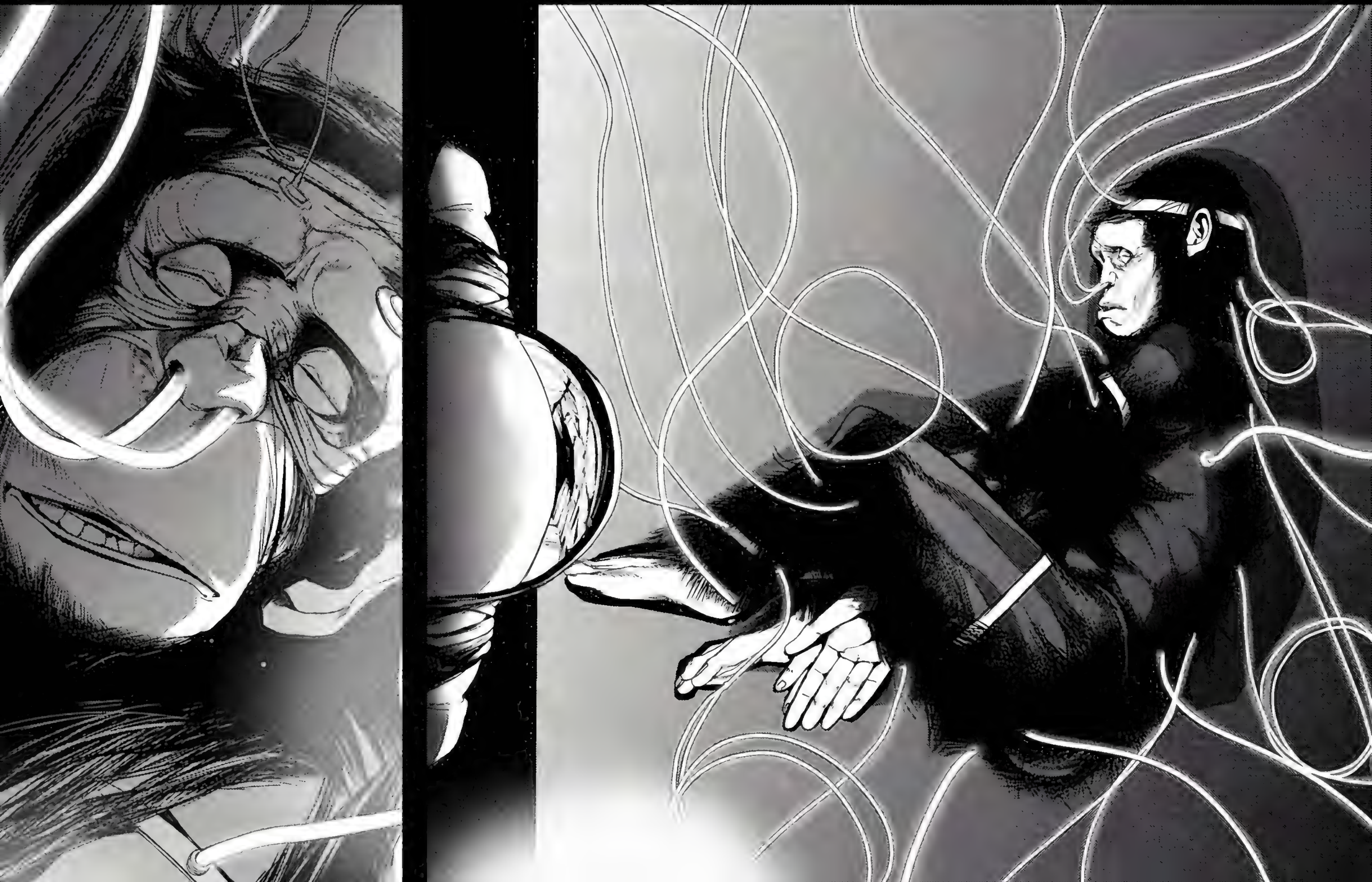

BOOSH
RRK ...!
ドガ
BAM
ドガ
BAM
バキ
BAM
SUCH GREED...
SUCH SAVAGE-RY...

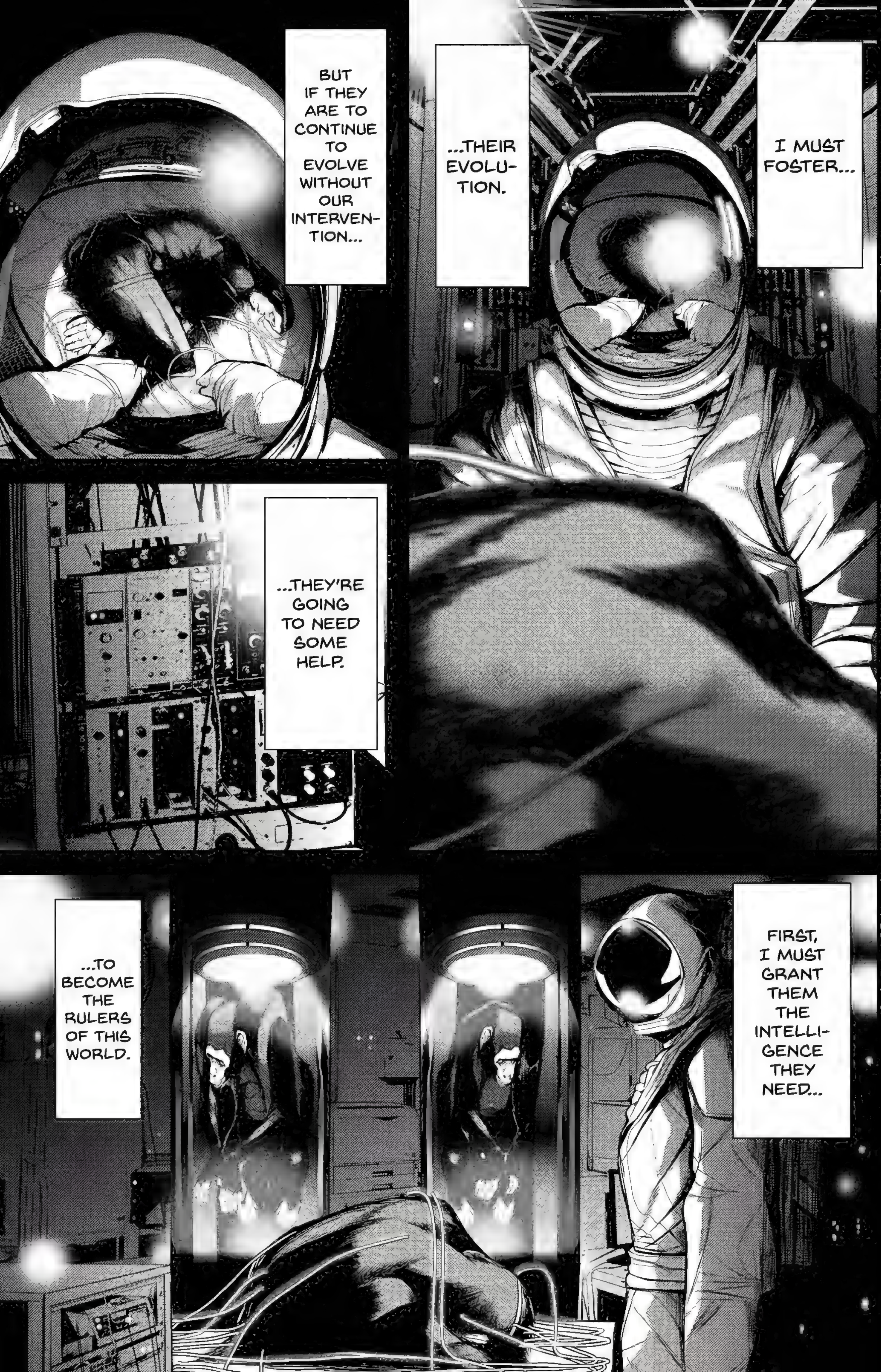

I MUST FOSTER THESE CREATURES' EVOLUTION...
...AND CROWN THEM KINGS OF THIS WORLD.

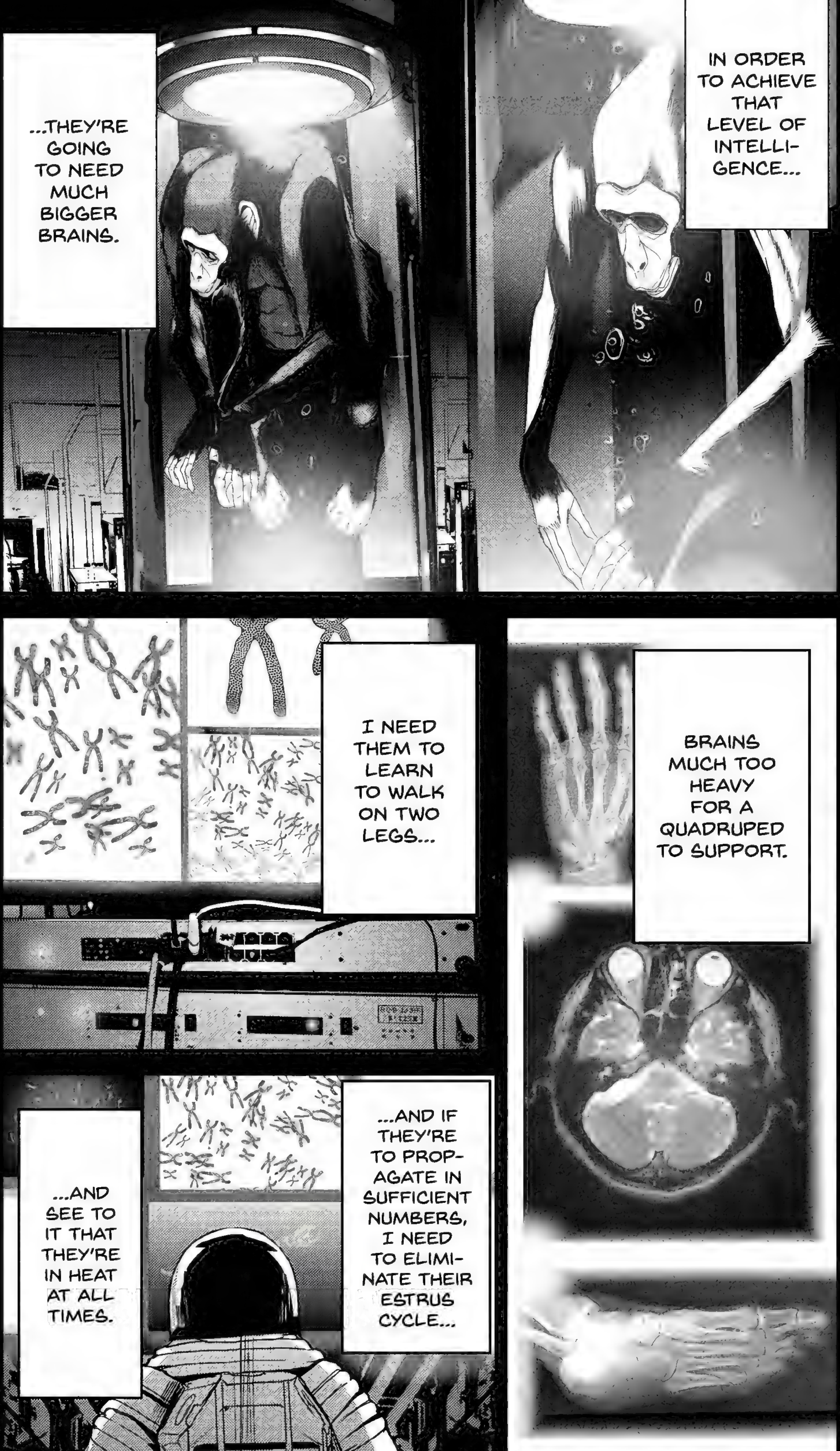
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

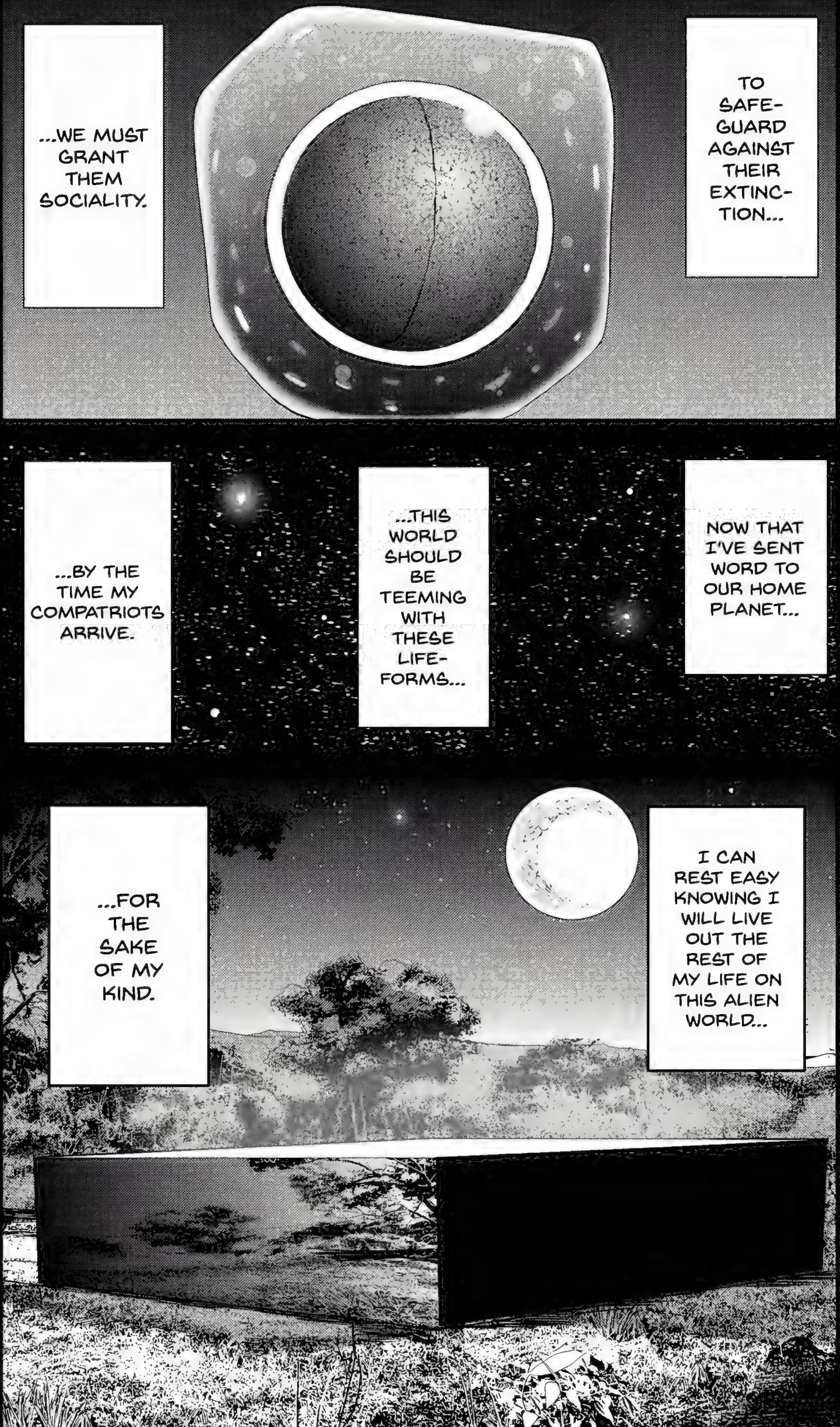
Chapter 50

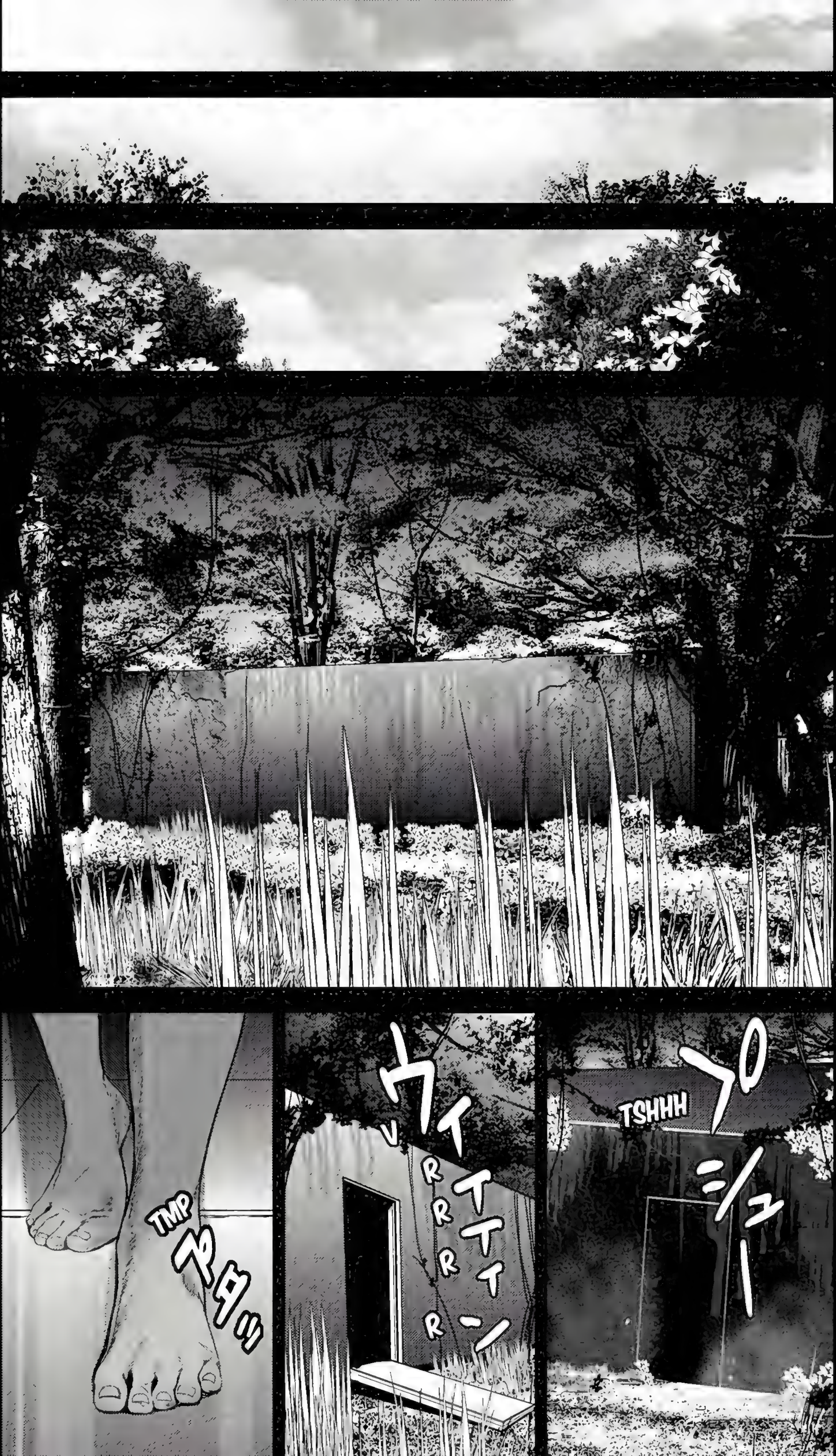


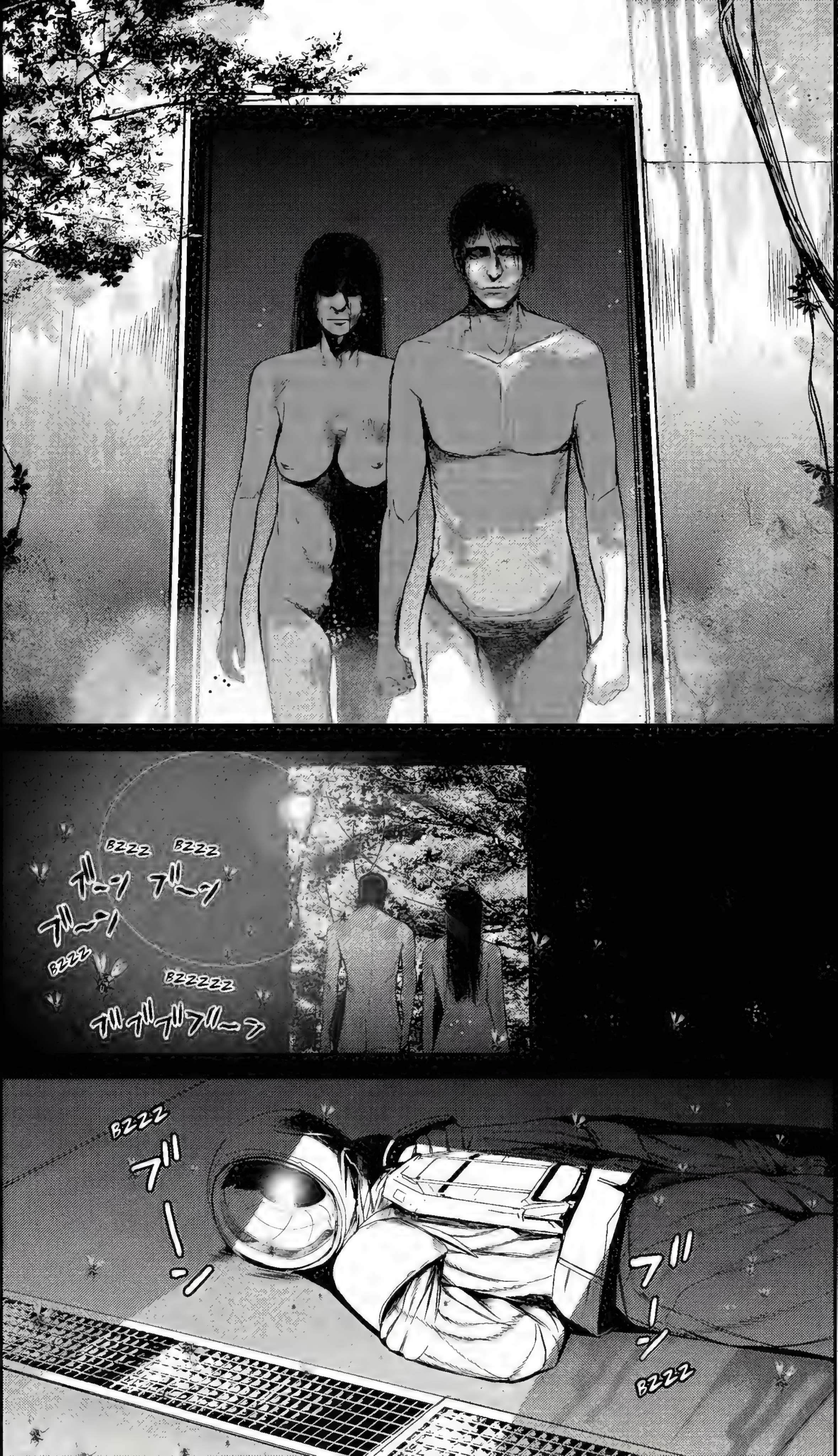


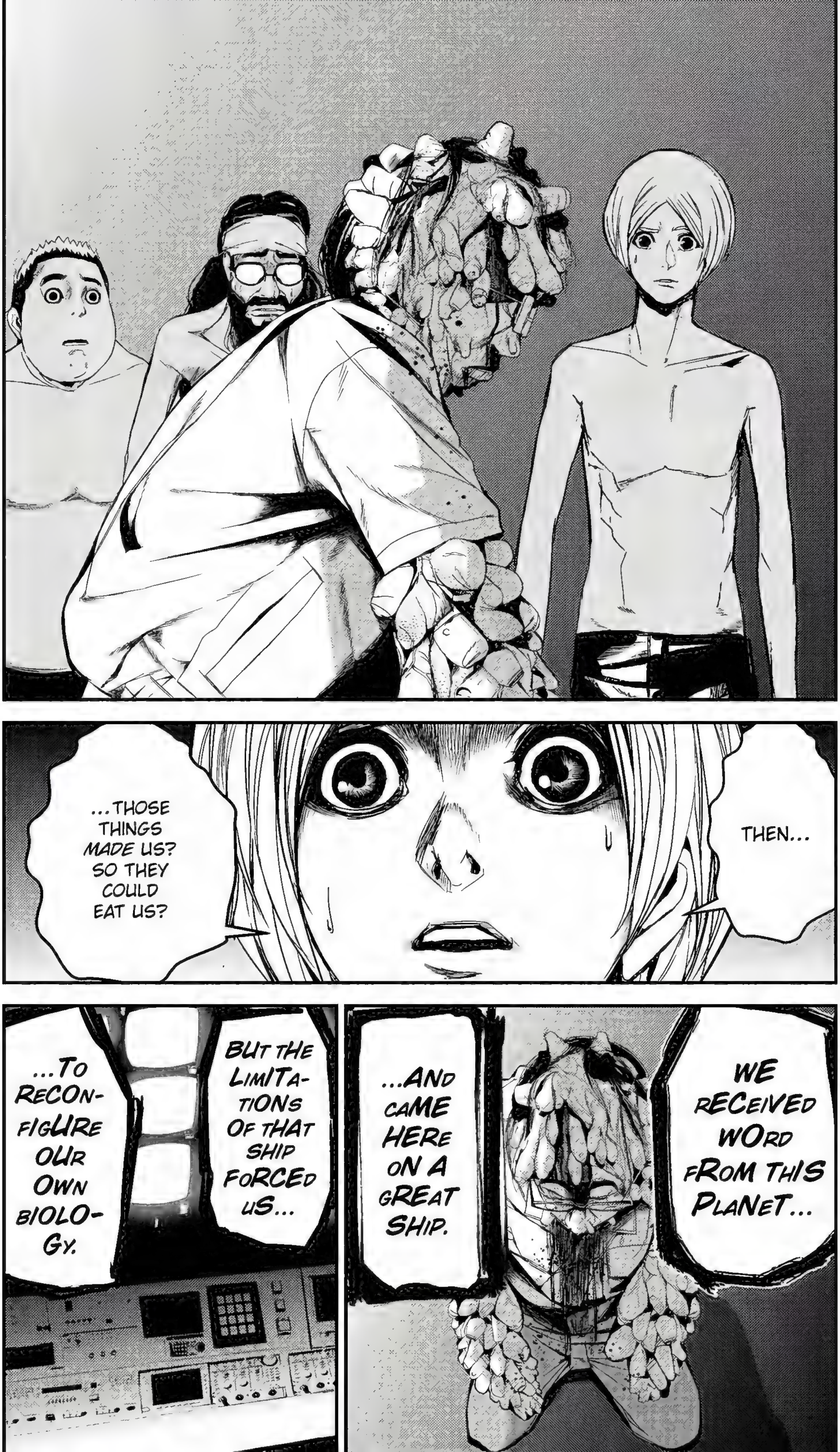

I MUST FOSTER...
...THEIR EVOLUTION.
BUT IF THEY ARE TO CONTINUE TO EVOLVE WITHOUT OUR INTERVENTION...
...THEY'RE GOING TO NEED SOME HELP.
FIRST, I MUST GRANT THEM THE INTELLIGENCE THEY NEED...
...TO BECOME THE RULERS OF THIS WORLD.

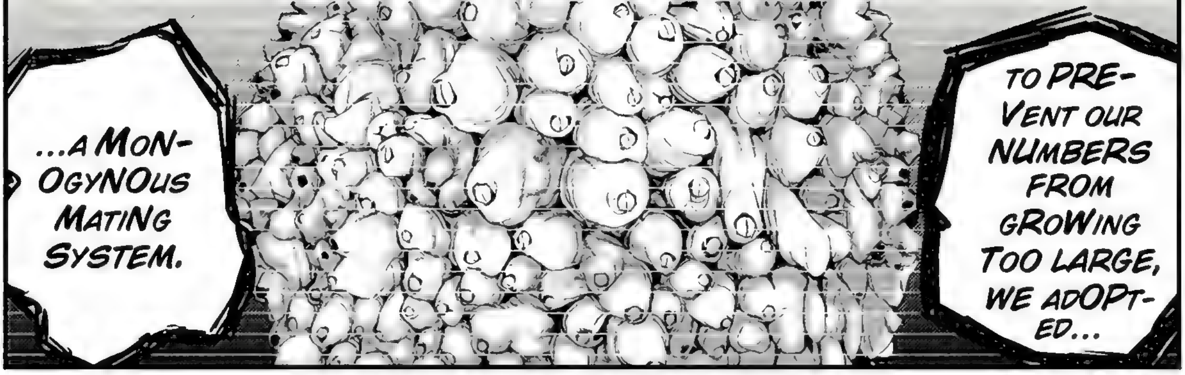

IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THAT LEVEL OF INTELLIGENCE...
...THEY'RE GOING TO NEED MUCH BIGGER BRAINS.
BRAINS MUCH TOO HEAVY FOR A QUADRUPED TO SUPPORT.
I NEED THEM TO LEARN TO WALK ON TWO LEGS...
...AND IF THEY'RE TO PROPAGATE IN SUFFICIENT NUMBERS, I NEED TO ELIMINATE THEIR ESTRUS CYCLE...
...AND SEE TO IT THAT THEY'RE IN HEAT AT ALL TIMES.

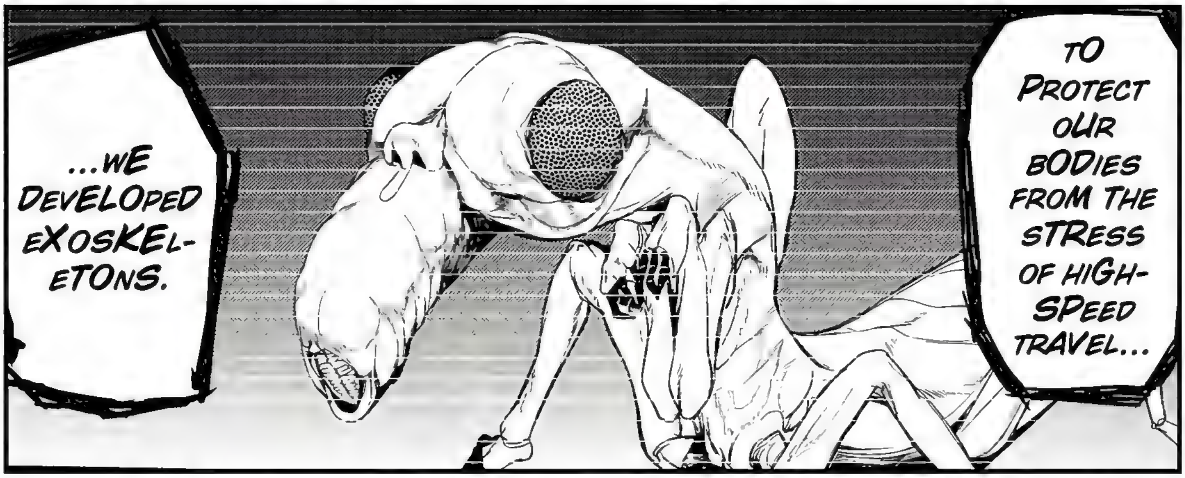

TO SAFEGUARD AGAINST THEIR EXTINCTION...
...WE MUST GRANT THEM SOCIALITY.
NOW THAT I'VE SENT WORD TO OUR HOME PLANET...
...THIS WORLD SHOULD BE TEEMING WITH THESE LIFE-FORMS...
...BY THE TIME MY COMPATRIOTS ARRIVE.
I CAN REST EASY KNOWING I WILL LIVE OUT THE REST OF MY LIFE ON THIS ALIEN WORLD...
...FOR THE SAKE OF MY KIND.

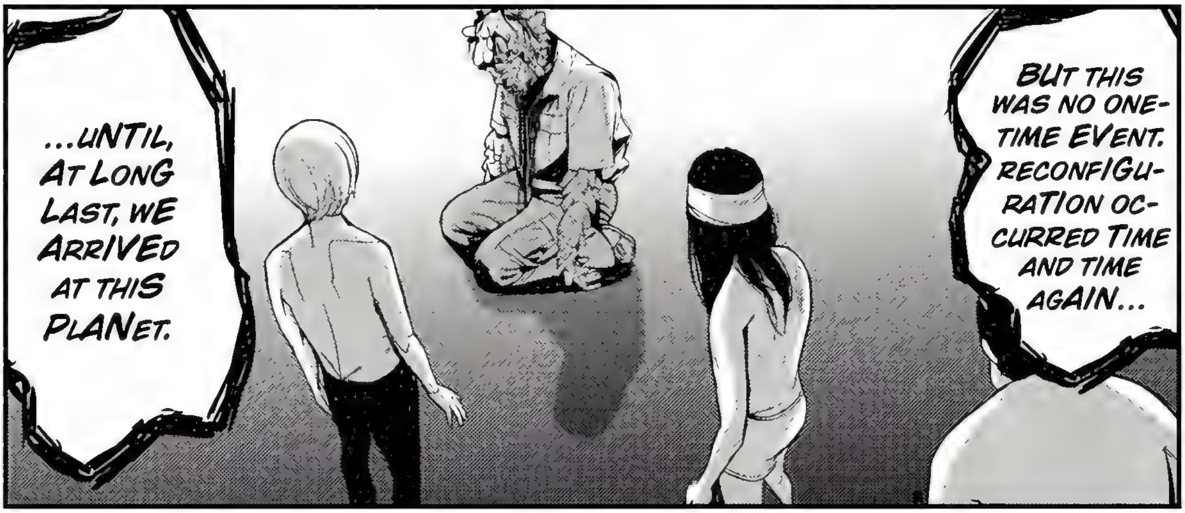

プシュー
TSHHH
ウィイイイイーン
VRRRRR
ペタッ
TMP

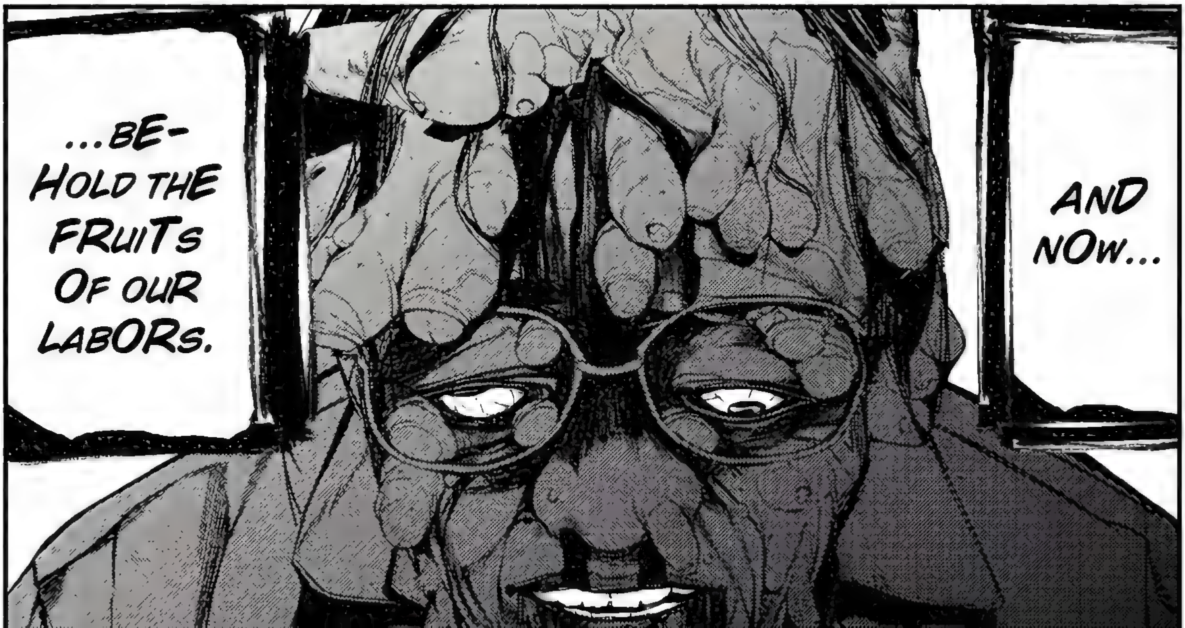

BZZZ
ブーン
BZZZ
ブーン
ブーン
BZZZ
BZZZZZ
ブブブブーン
BZZZ
ブーン
ブーン
BZZZ

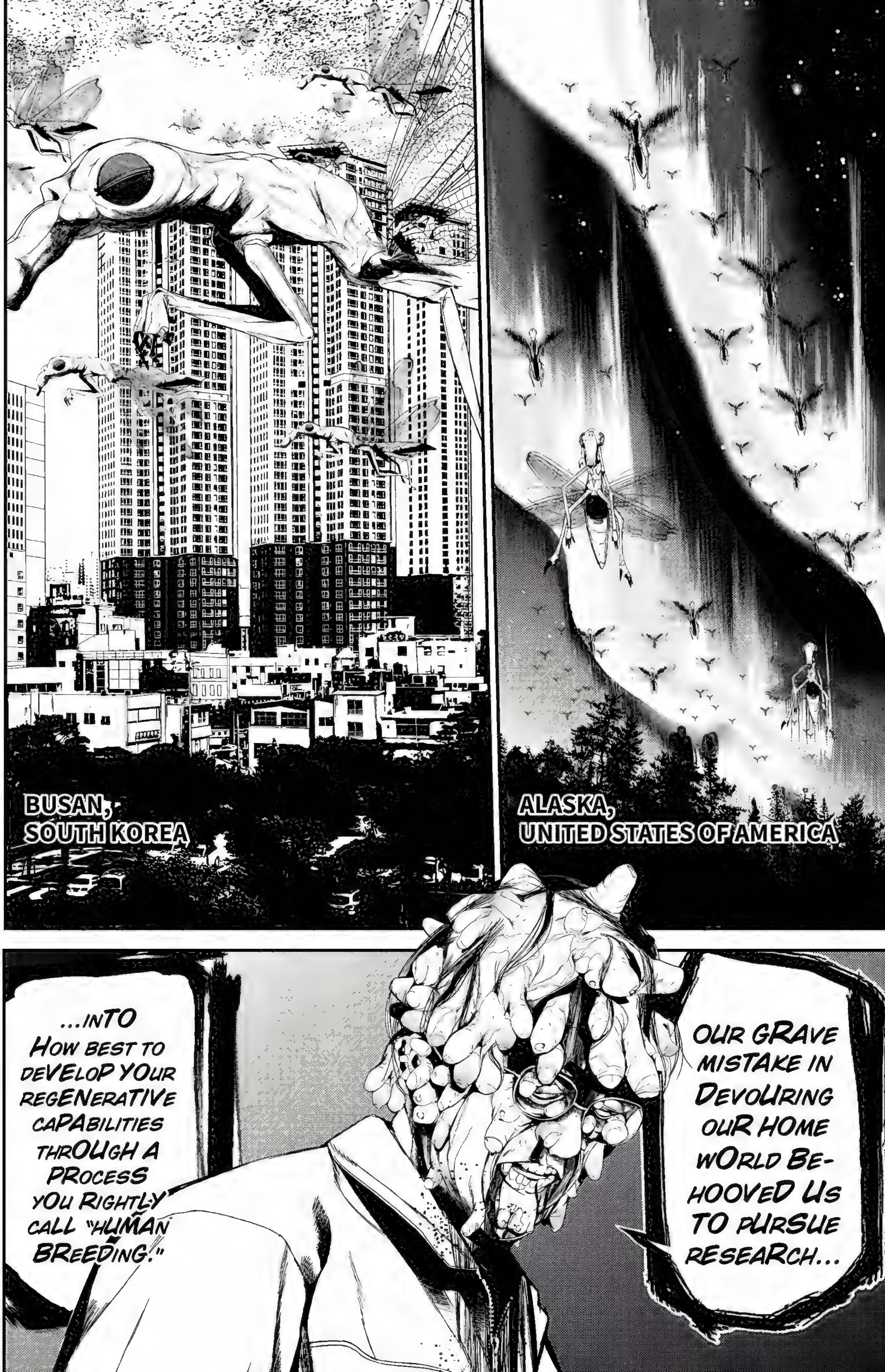

THEN...
...THOSE THINGS *MADE* US? SO THEY COULD EAT US?
WE RECEIVED WORD FROM THIS PLANET...
...AND CAME HERE ON A GREAT SHIP.
BUT THE LIMITATIONS OF THAT SHIP FORCED US...
...TO RECONFIGURE OUR OWN BIOLOGY.

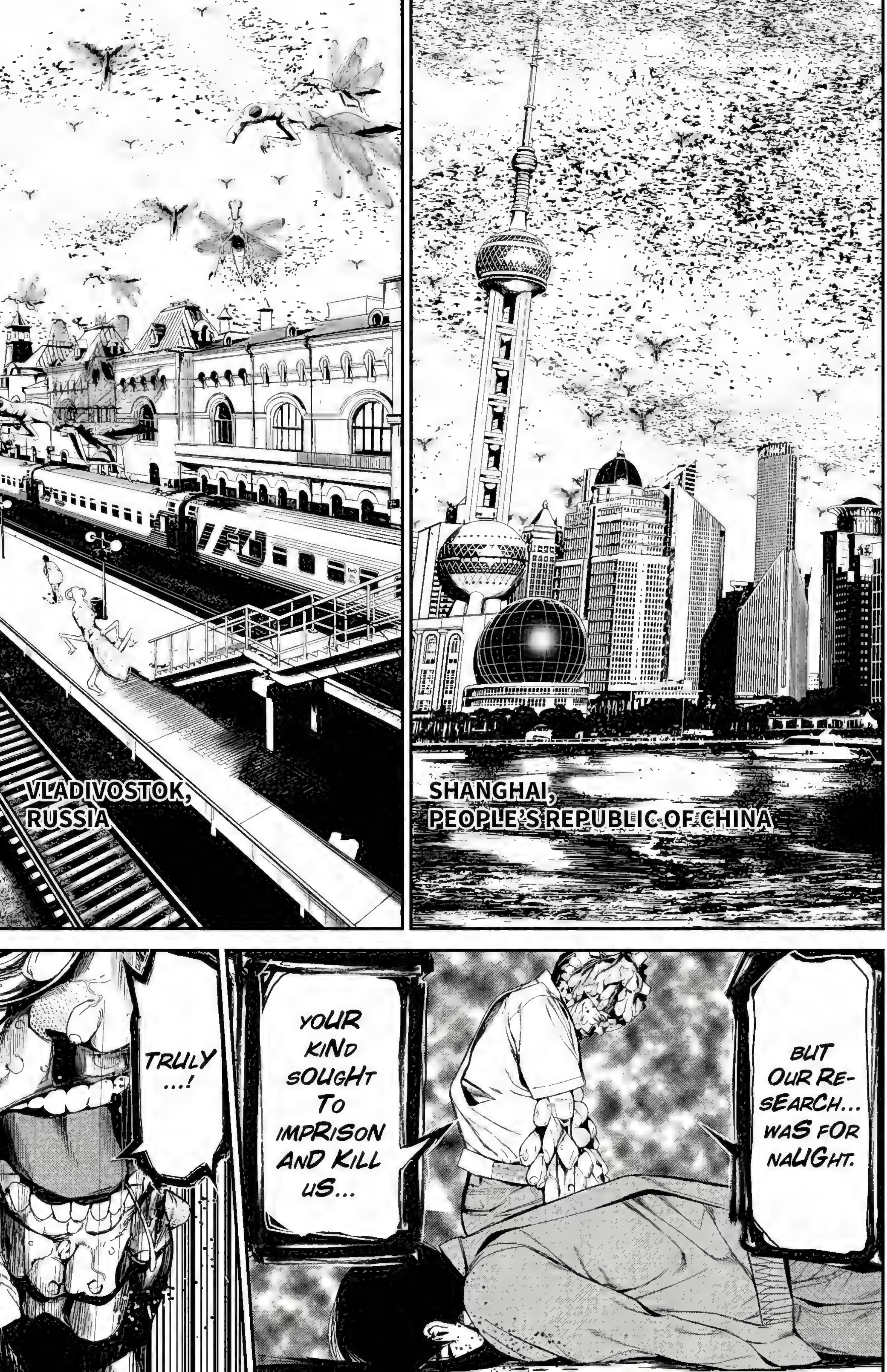

TO PREVENT OUR NUMBERS FROM GROWING TOO LARGE, WE ADOPTED...
...A MONOGYNOUS MATING SYSTEM.

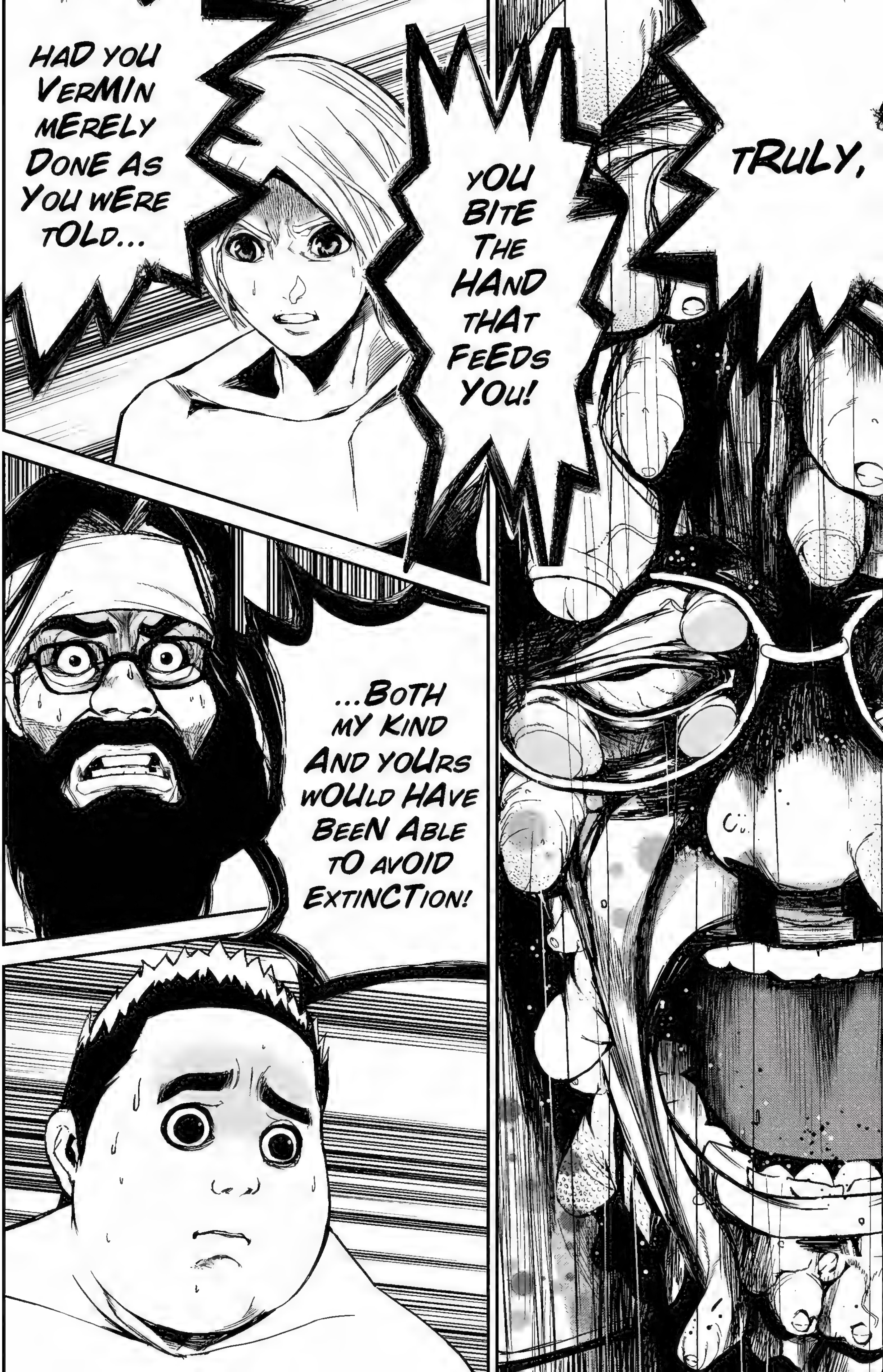

TO PROTECT OUR BODIES FROM THE STRESS OF HIGH-SPEED TRAVEL...
...WE DEVELOPED EXOSKELETONS.

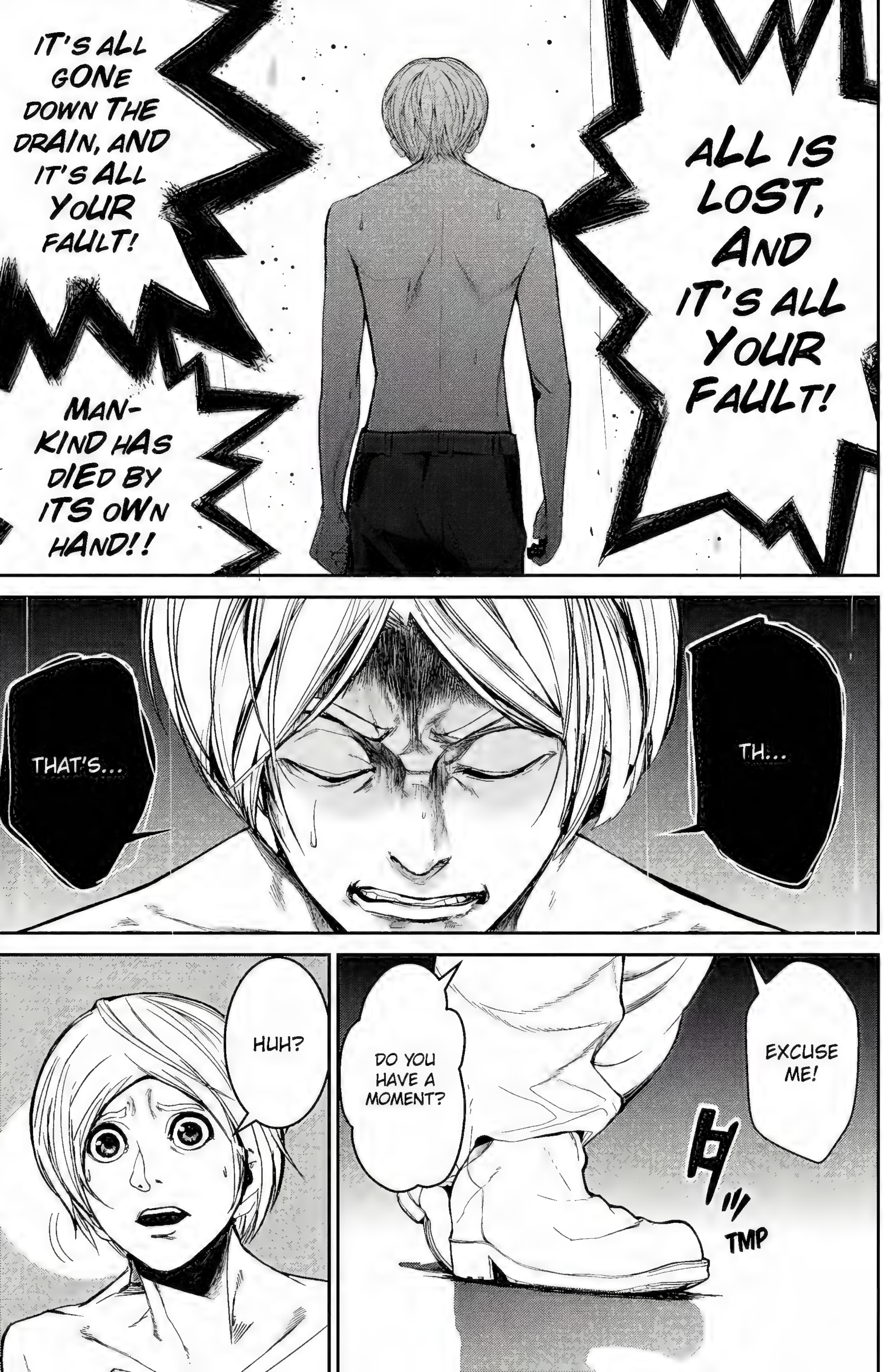

BUT THIS WAS NO ONE-TIME EVENT. RECONFIGURATION OCCURRED TIME AND TIME AGAIN...
...UNTIL, AT LONG LAST, WE ARRIVED AT THIS PLANET.

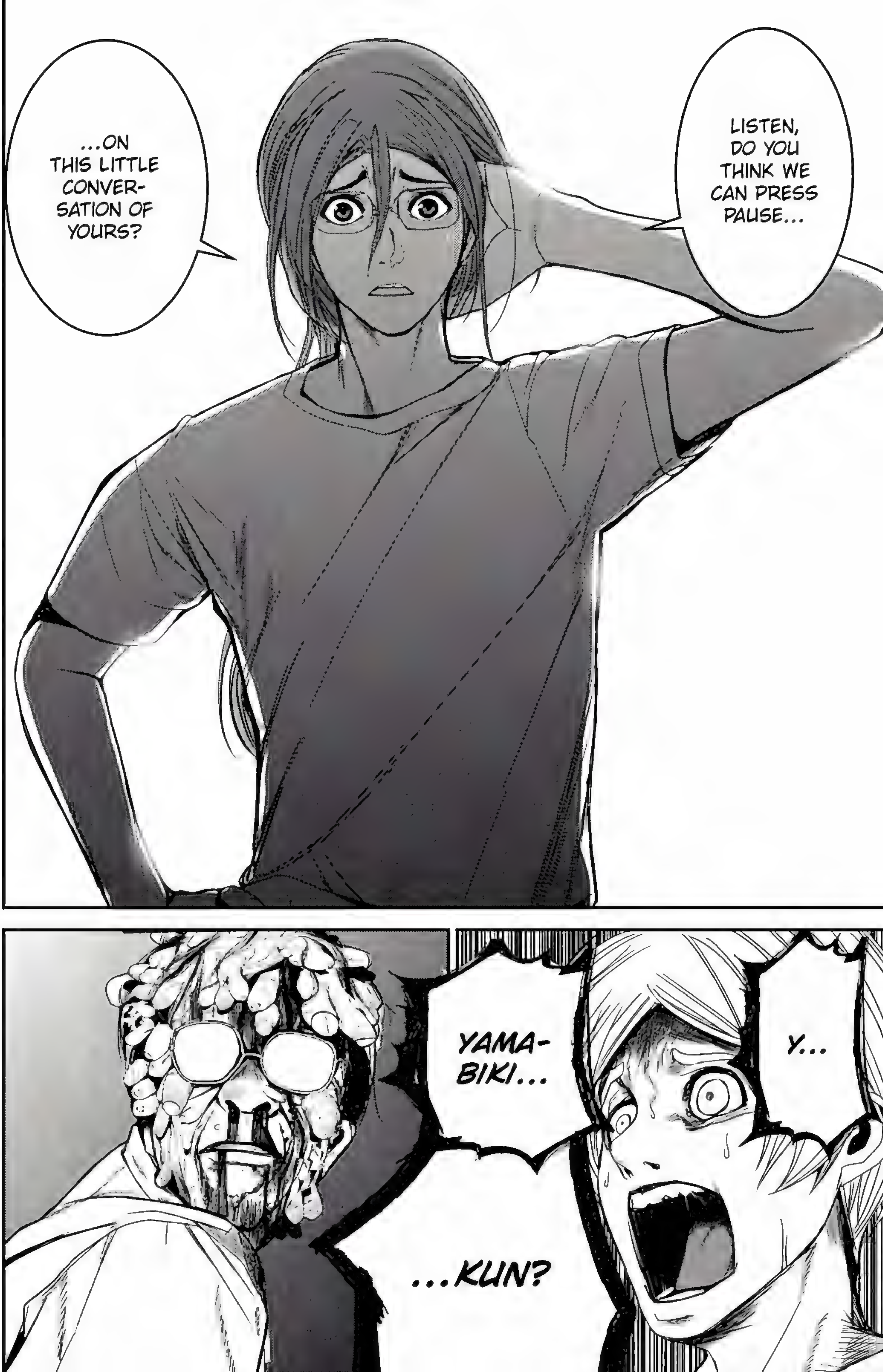

AND NOW...
...BEHOLD THE FRUITS OF OUR LABORS.

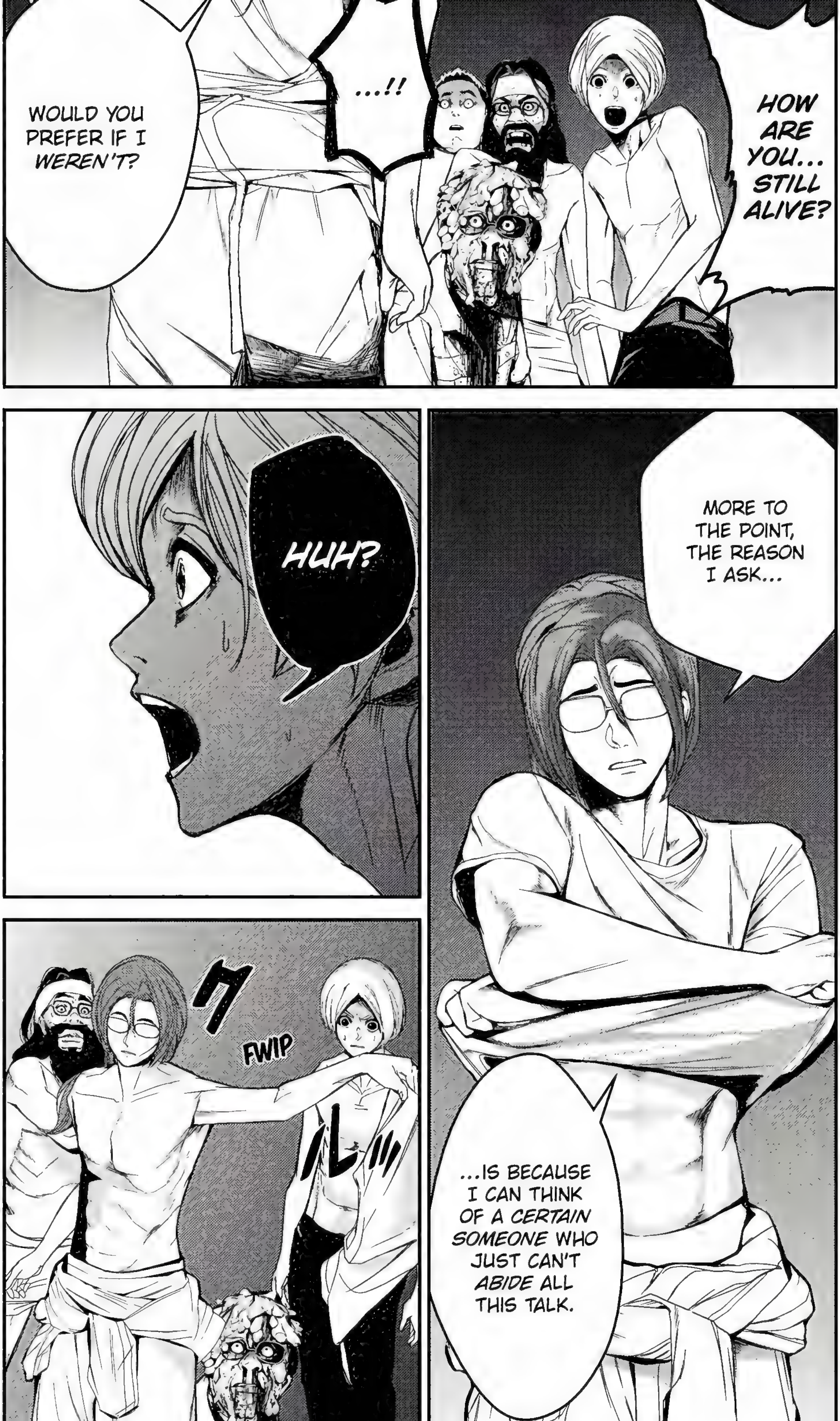

ALASKA,
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BUSAN,
SOUTH KOREA
OUR GRAVE MISTAKE IN DEVOURING OUR HOME WORLD BEHOOVED US TO PURSUE RESEARCH...
...INTO HOW BEST TO DEVELOP YOUR REGENERATIVE CAPABILITIES THROUGH A PROCESS YOU RIGHTLY CALL "HUMAN BREEDING."

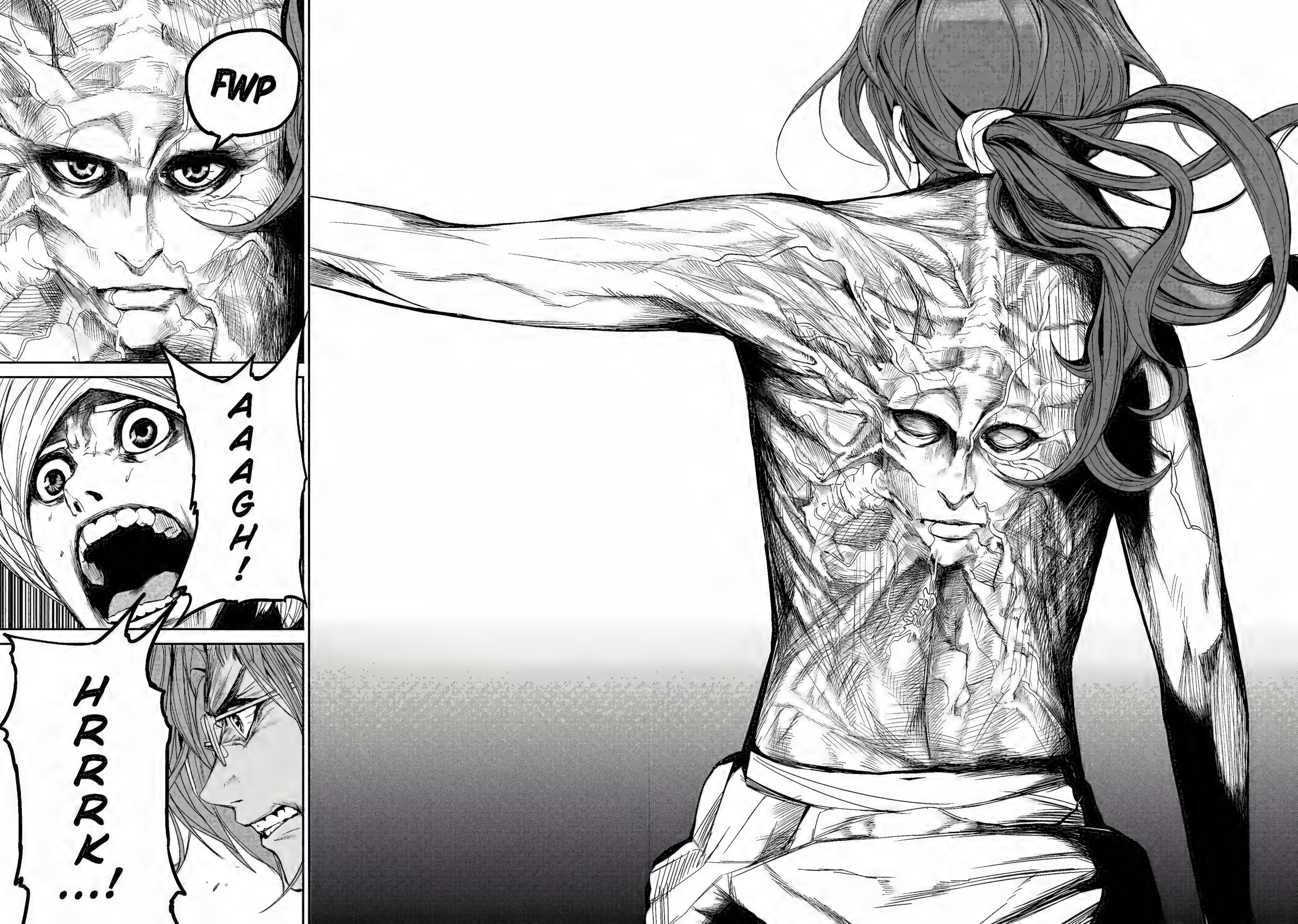

SHANGHAI,
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
VLADIVOSTOK,
RUSSIA
BUT OUR RESEARCH... WAS FOR NAUGHT.
YOUR KIND SOUGHT TO IMPRISON AND KILL US...
TRULY...!

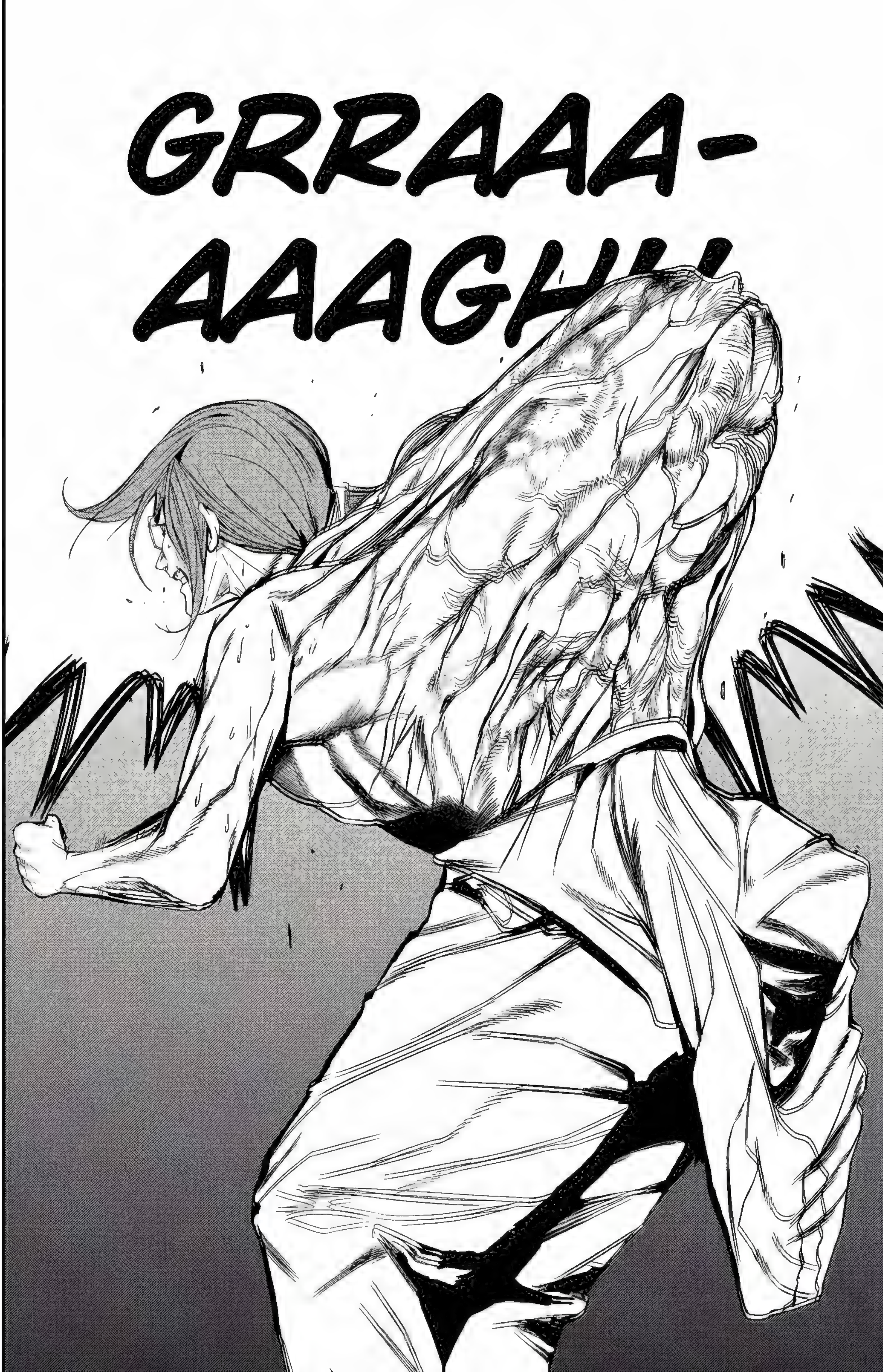

TRULY,
YOU BITE THE HAND THAT FEEDS YOU!
HAD YOU VERMIN MERELY DONE AS YOU WERE TOLD...
...BOTH MY KIND AND YOURS WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO AVOID EXTINCTION!

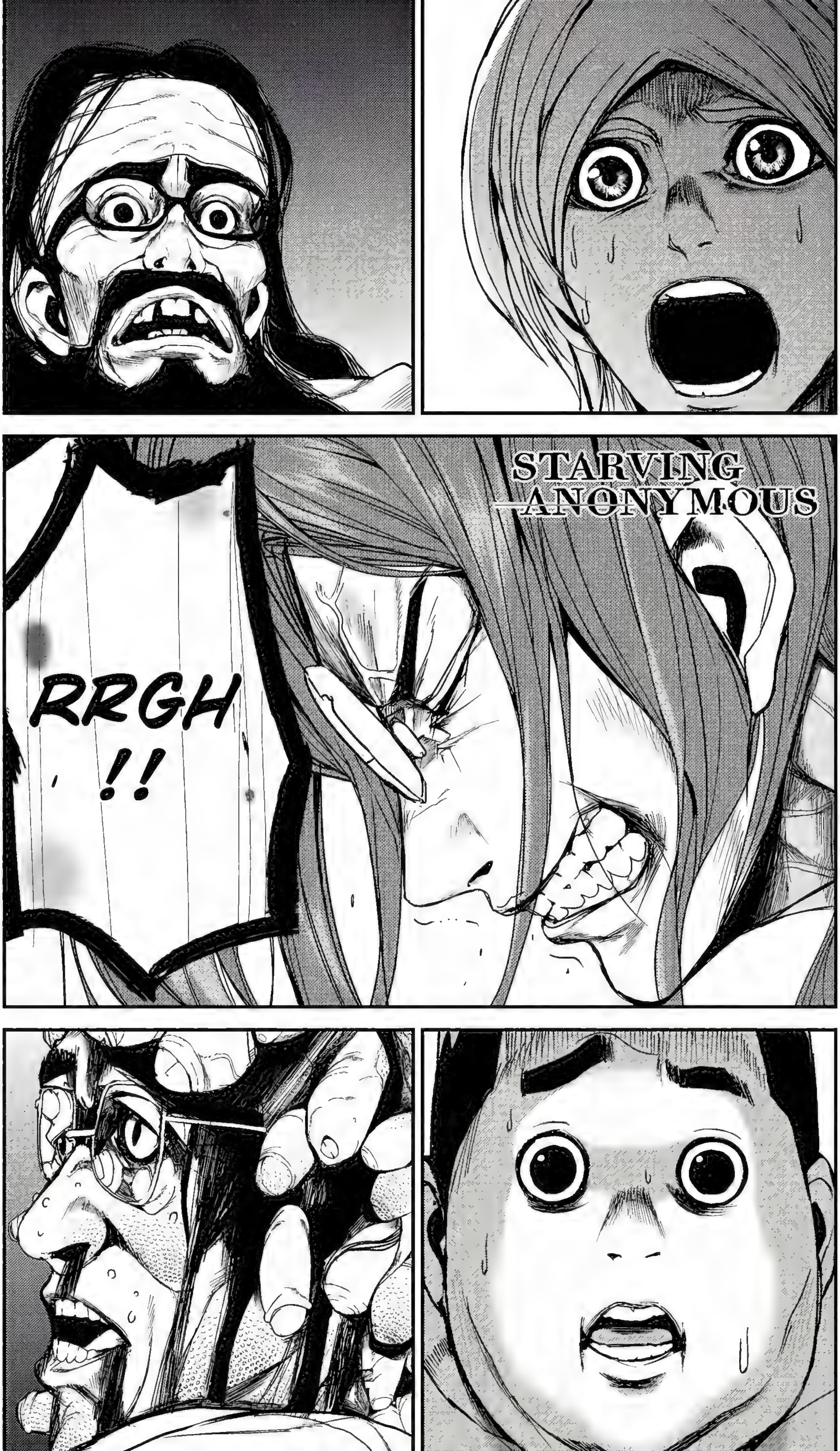

ALL IS LOST, AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
IT'S ALL GONE DOWN THE DRAIN, AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
MANKIND HAS DIED BY ITS OWN HAND!!
TH...
THAT'S...
EXCUSE ME!
TMP
DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?
HUH?


LISTEN, DO YOU THINK WE CAN PRESS PAUSE...
...ON THIS LITTLE CONVERSATION OF YOURS?
Y...
YAMABIKI...
...KUN?

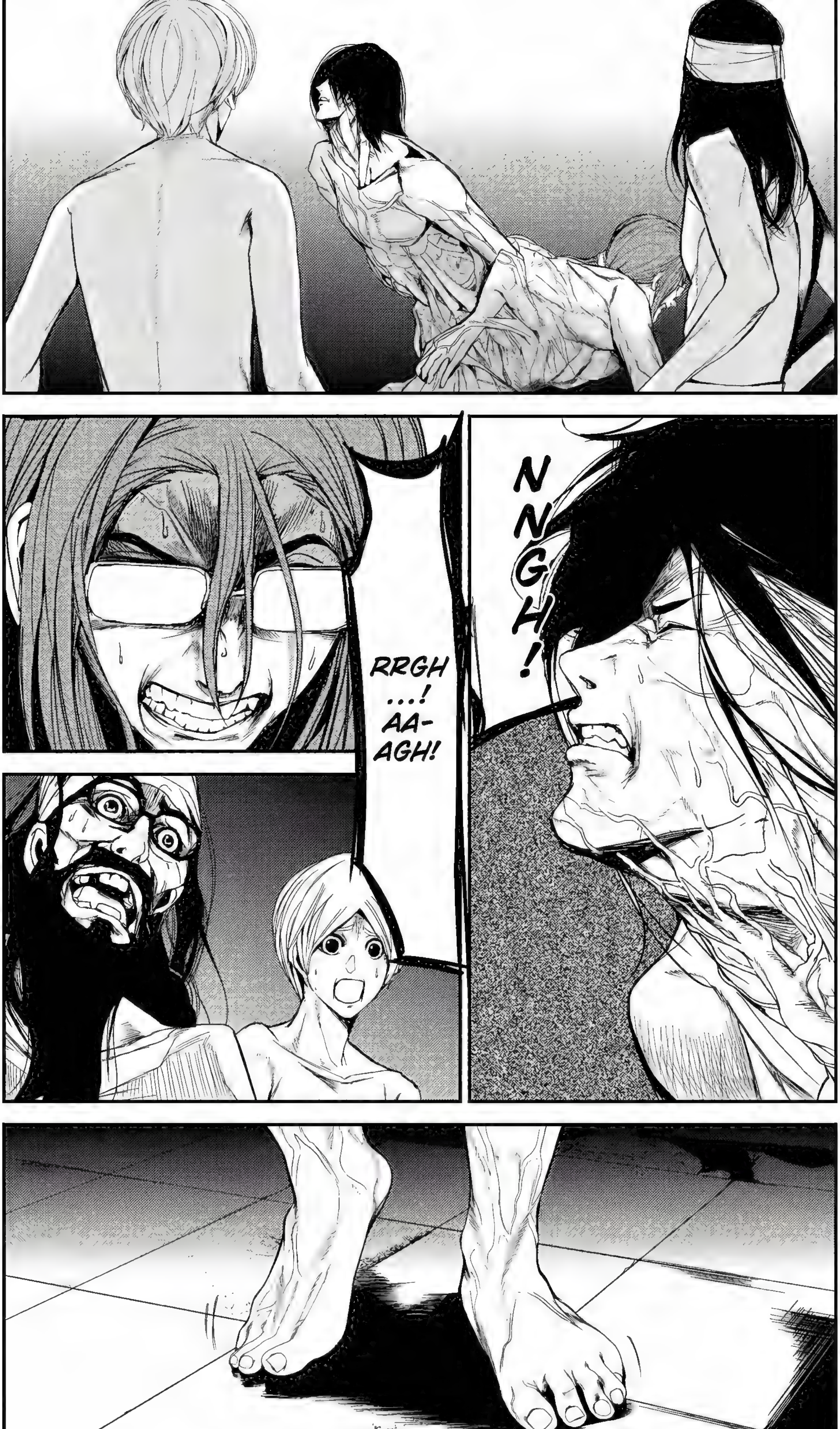

HOW ARE YOU... STILL ALIVE?
...!!
WOULD YOU PREFER IF I WEREN'T?
MORE TO THE POINT, THE REASON I ASK...
HUH?
...IS BECAUSE I CAN THINK OF A *CERTAIN SOMEONE* WHO JUST CAN'T *ABIDE* ALL THIS TALK.
ク
FWIP


FWP
AAAAGH!
HRRRK...!

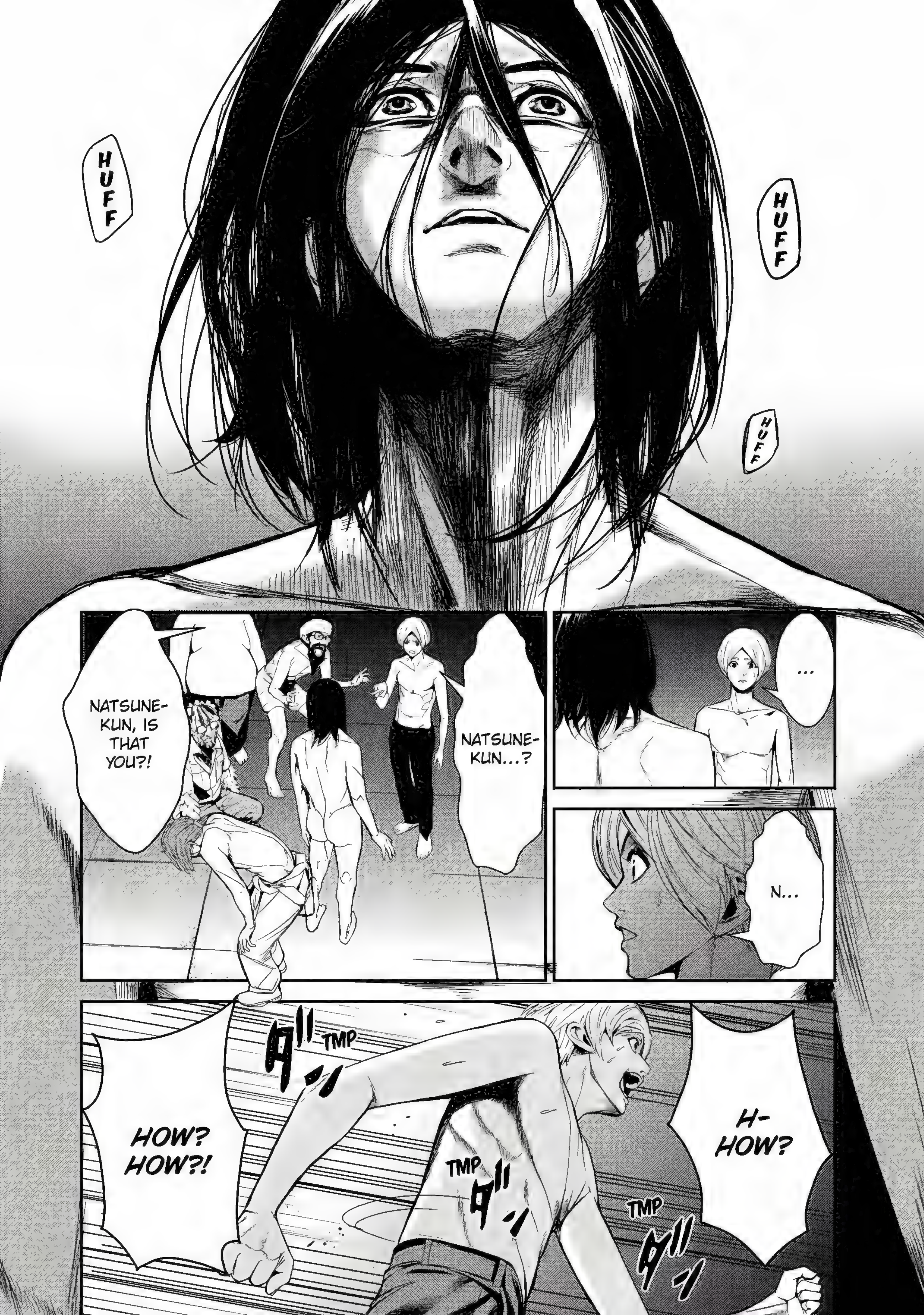

GRRAAA-
AAAGHH

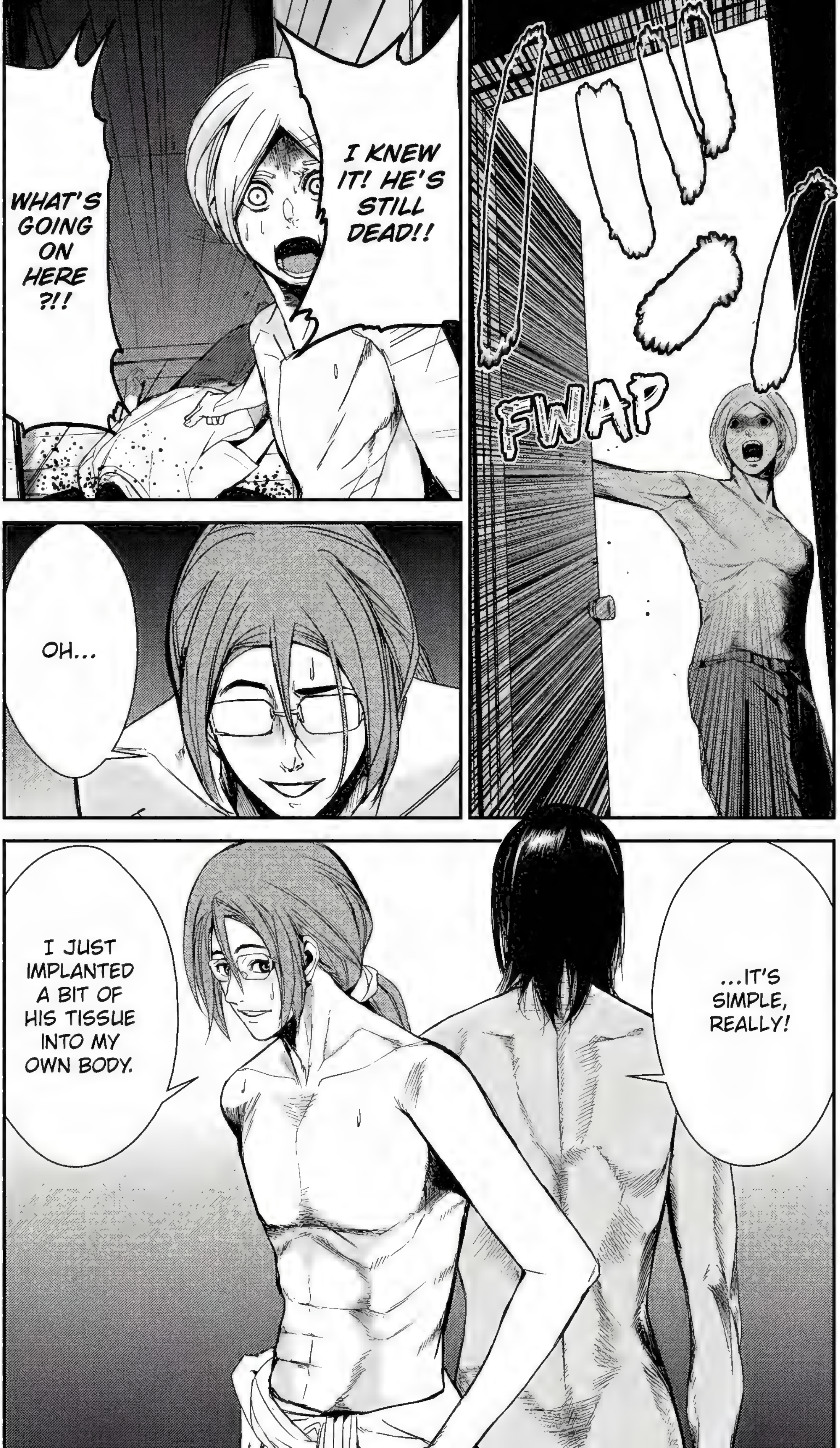

STARVING ANONYMOUS
RRGH !!

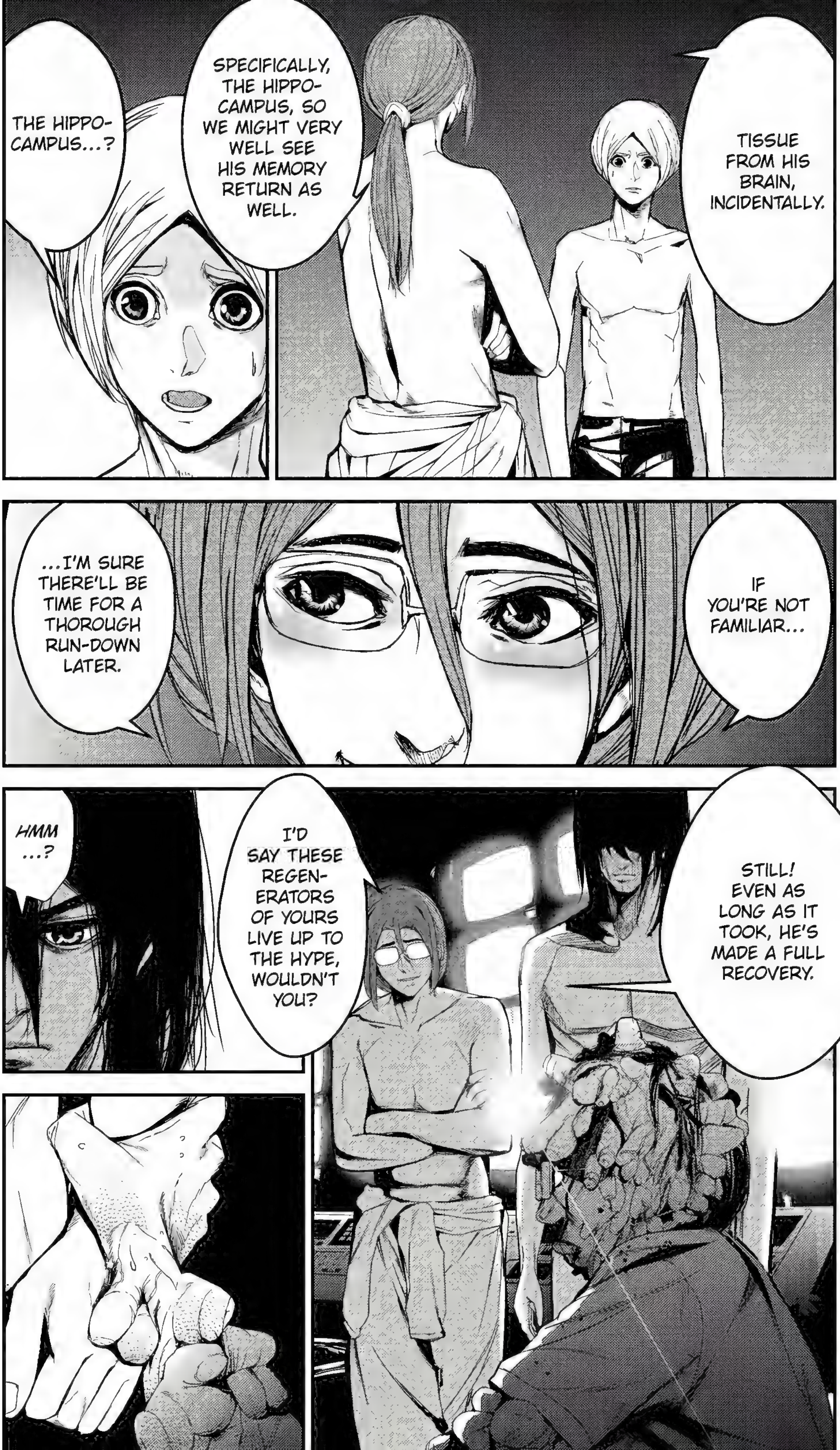
Chapter 51

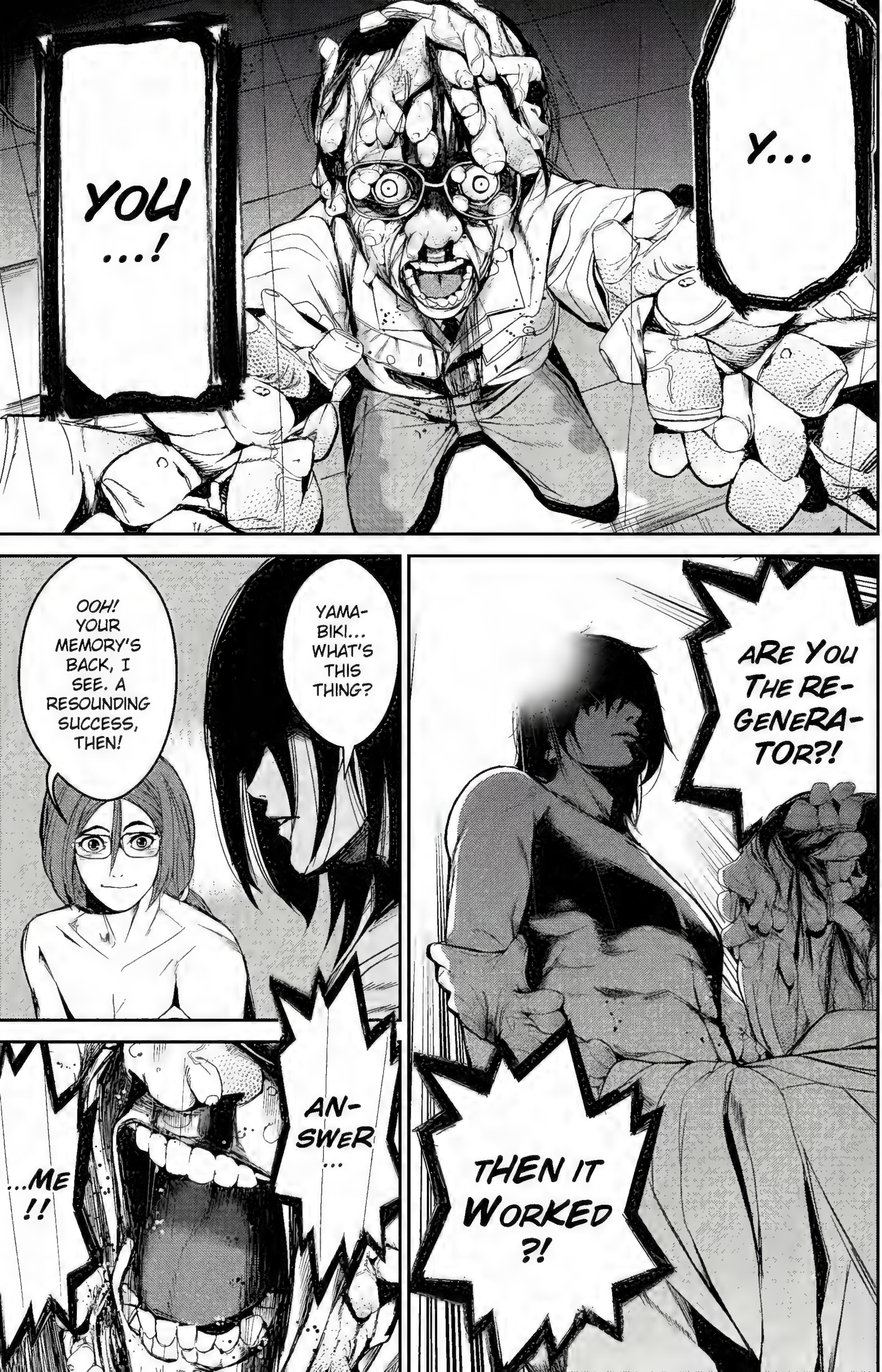

NNGH!
RRGH ...! AA-AGH!

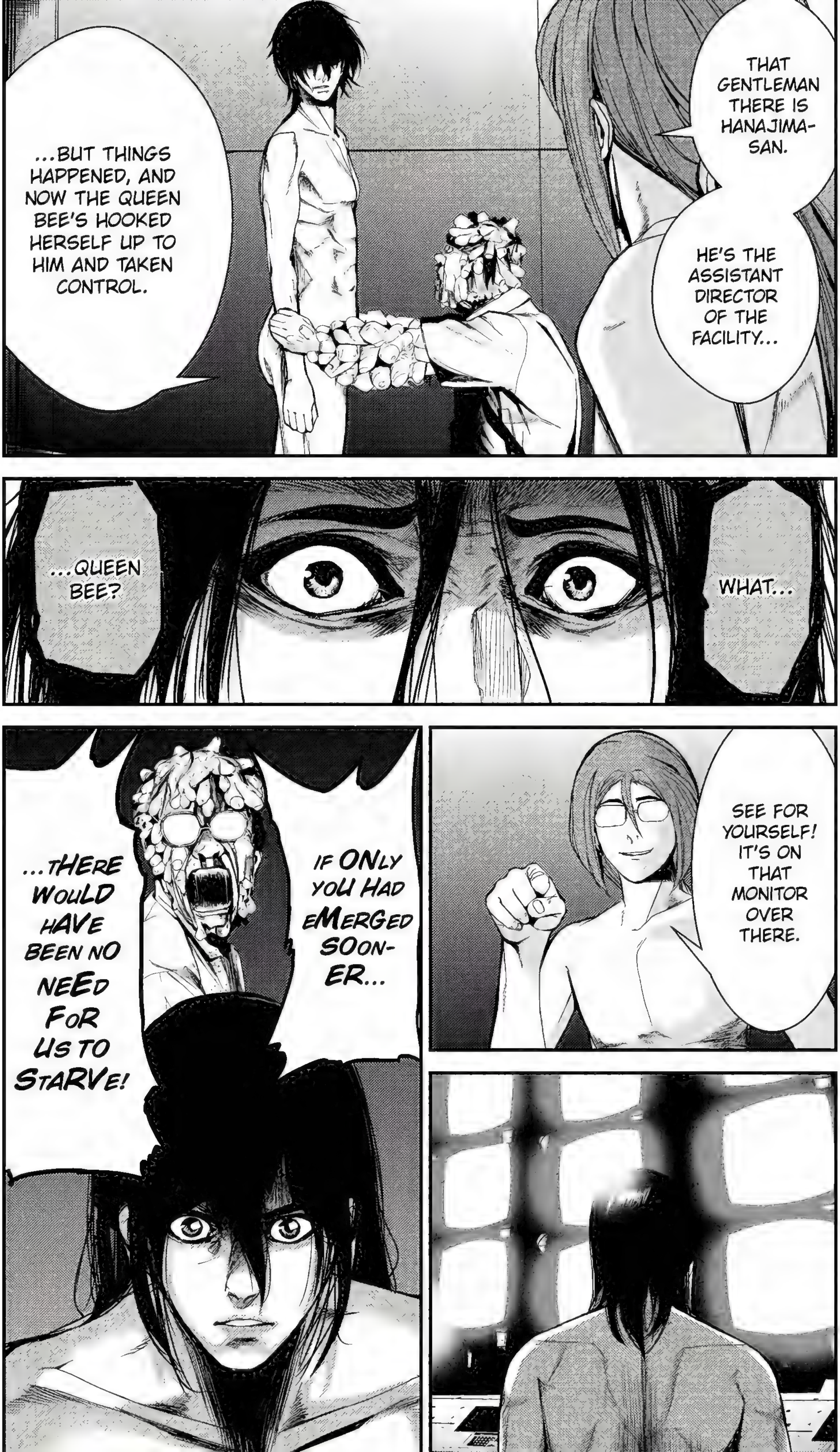
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

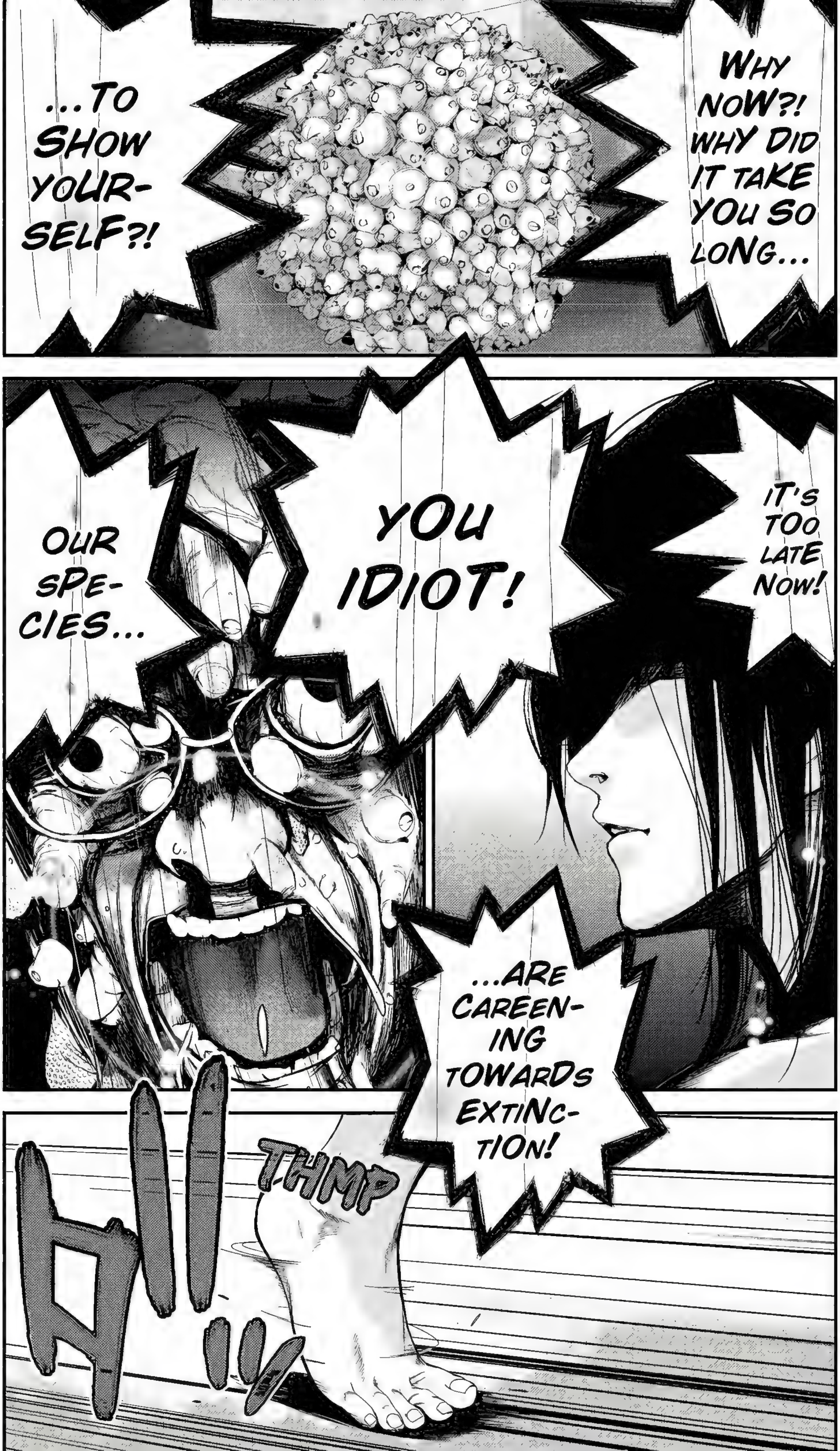

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
NATSUNE-KUN...?
NATSUNE-KUN, IS THAT YOU?!
...
N...
H-HOW?
HOW? HOW?!
TMP
TMP
TMP

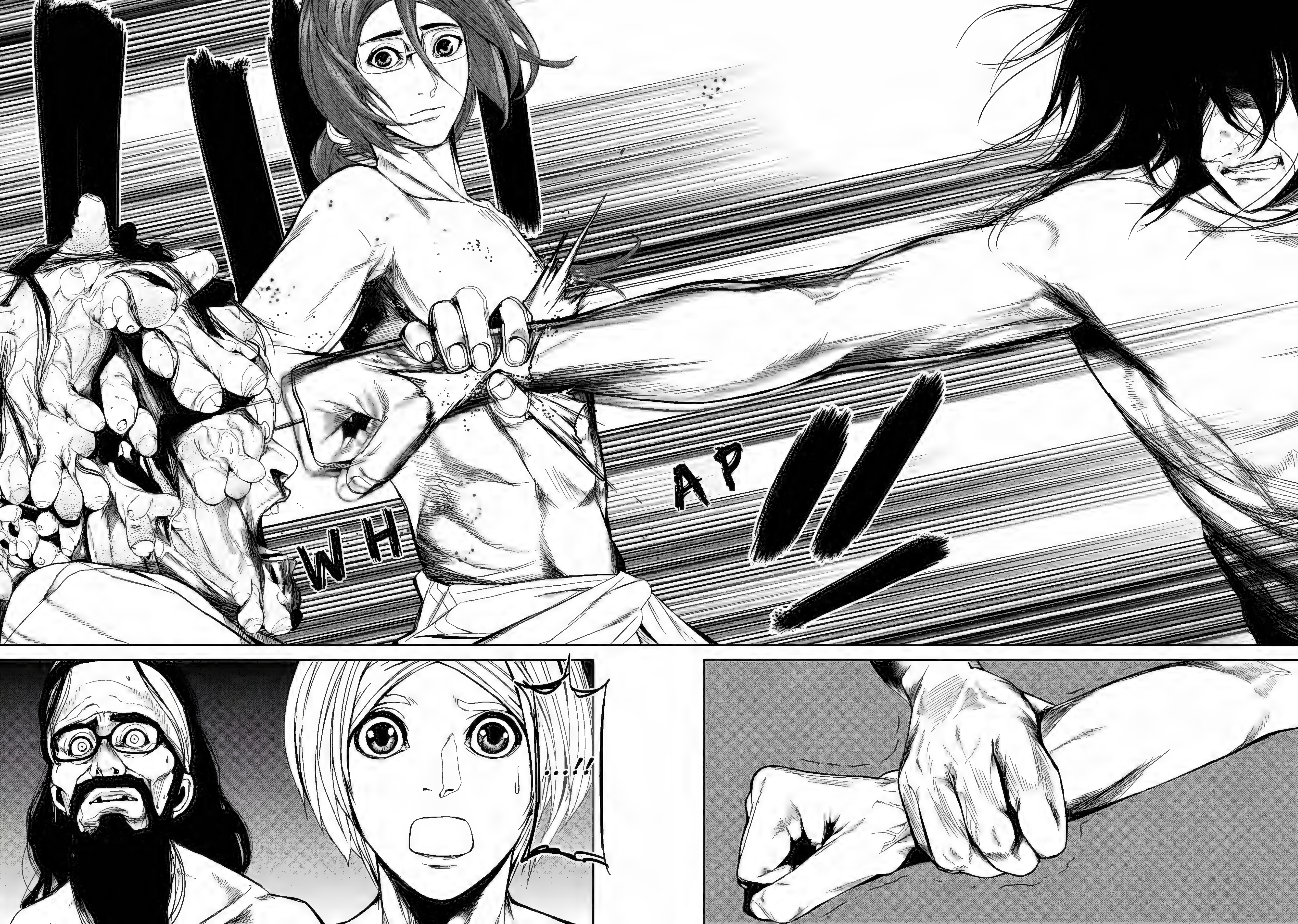

FWAP
I KNEW IT! HE'S STILL DEAD!!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!!
OH...
...IT'S SIMPLE, REALLY!
I JUST IMPLANTED A BIT OF HIS TISSUE INTO MY OWN BODY.

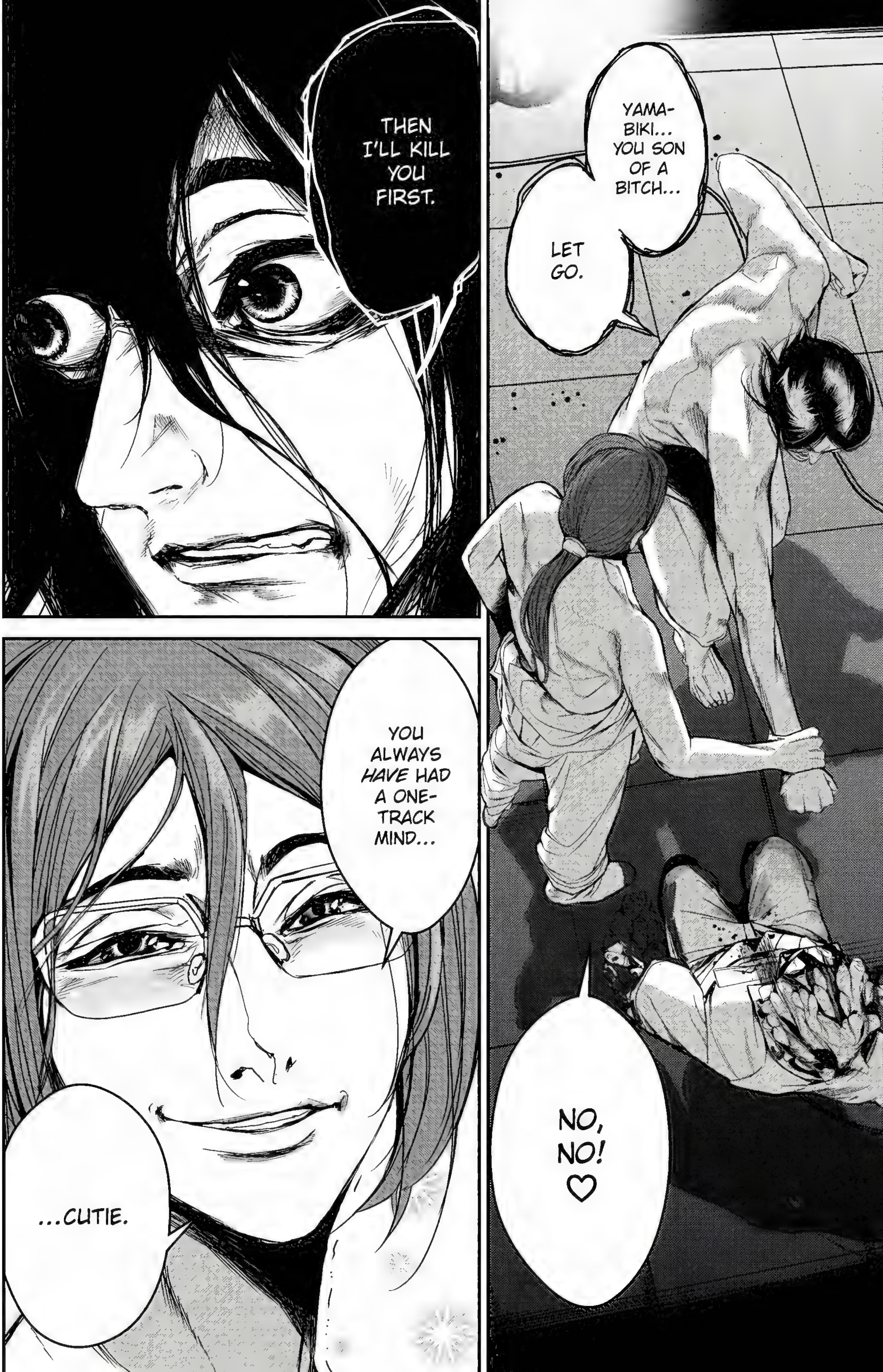

TISSUE FROM HIS BRAIN, INCIDENTALLY.
SPECIFICALLY, THE HIPPOCAMPUS, SO WE MIGHT VERY WELL SEE HIS MEMORY RETURN AS WELL.
THE HIPPOCAMPUS…?
IF YOU'RE NOT FAMILIAR…
…I'M SURE THERE'LL BE TIME FOR A THOROUGH RUN-DOWN LATER.
STILL! EVEN AS LONG AS IT TOOK, HE'S MADE A FULL RECOVERY.
I'D SAY THESE REGENERATORS OF YOURS LIVE UP TO THE HYPE, WOULDN'T YOU?
HMM…?

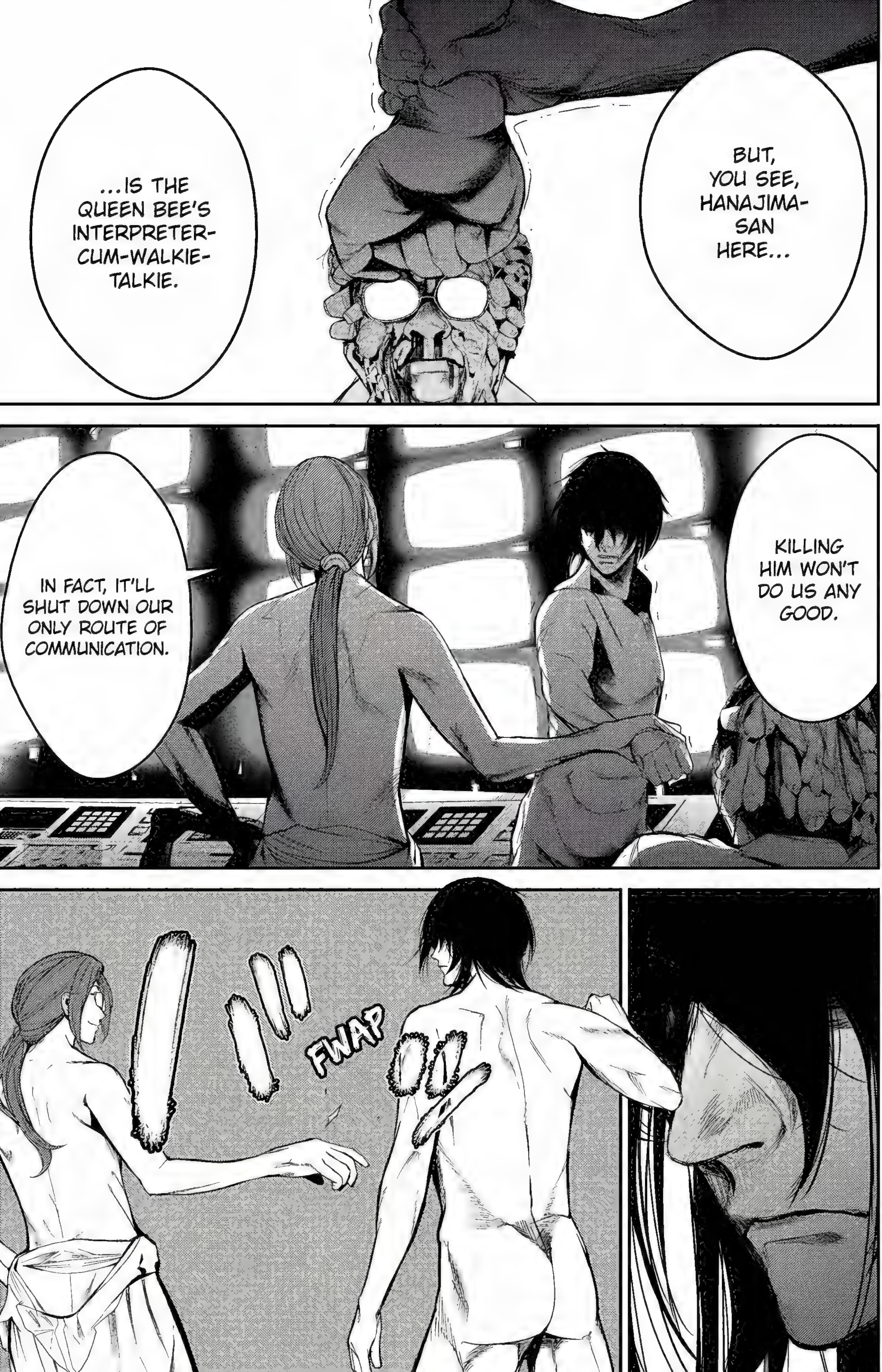

Y...
YOU ...!
ARE YOU THE REGENERATOR?!
THEN IT WORKED?!
YAMABIKI... WHAT'S THIS THING?
OOH! YOUR MEMORY'S BACK, I SEE. A RESOUNDING SUCCESS, THEN!
ANSWER...
...ME!!

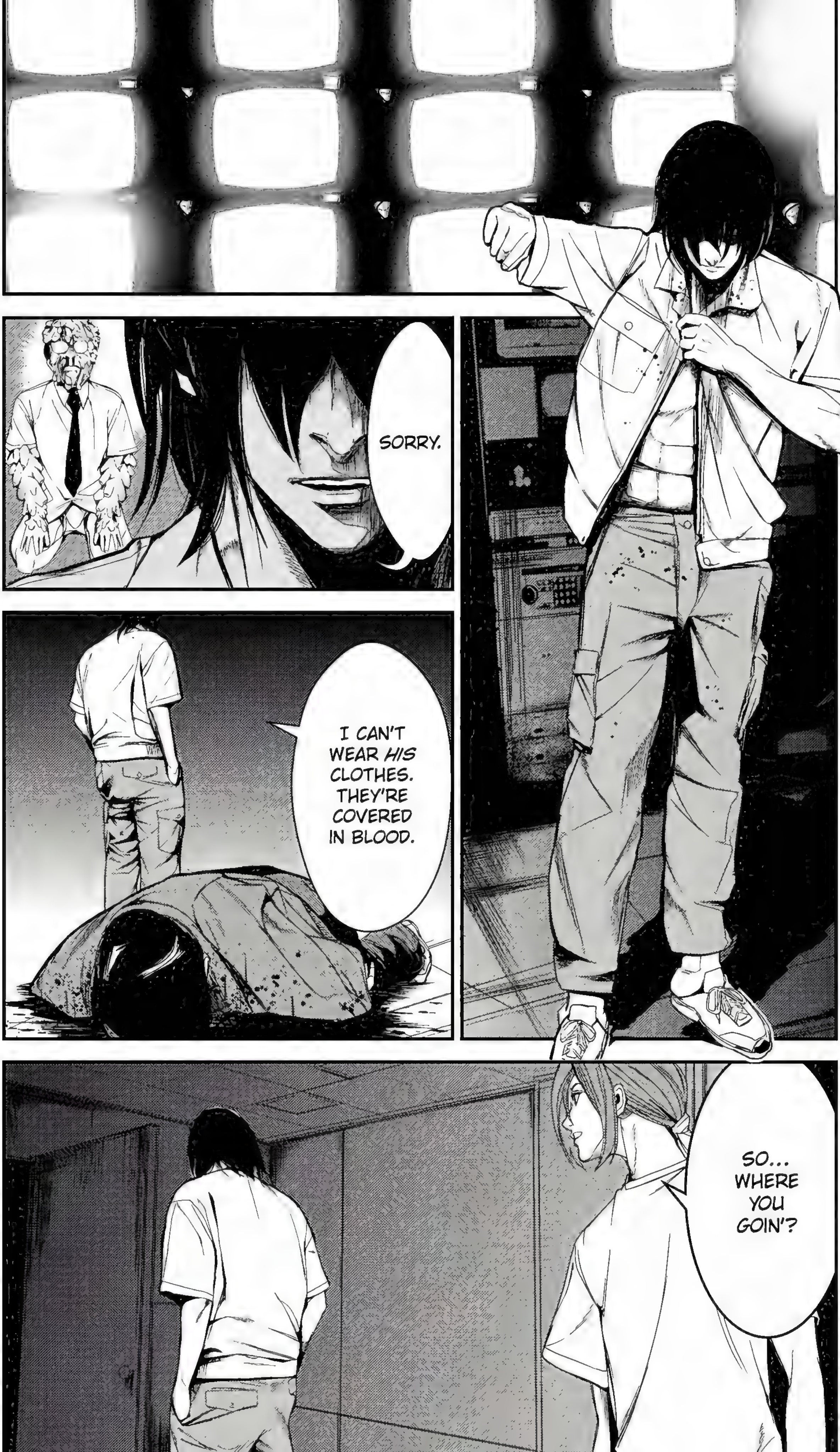

THAT GENTLEMAN THERE IS HANAJIMA-SAN.
HE'S THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE FACILITY...
...BUT THINGS HAPPENED, AND NOW THE QUEEN BEE'S HOOKED HERSELF UP TO HIM AND TAKEN CONTROL.
WHAT...
...QUEEN BEE?
SEE FOR YOURSELF! IT'S ON THAT MONITOR OVER THERE.
IF ONLY YOU HAD EMERGED SOONER...
...THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO NEED FOR US TO STARVE!

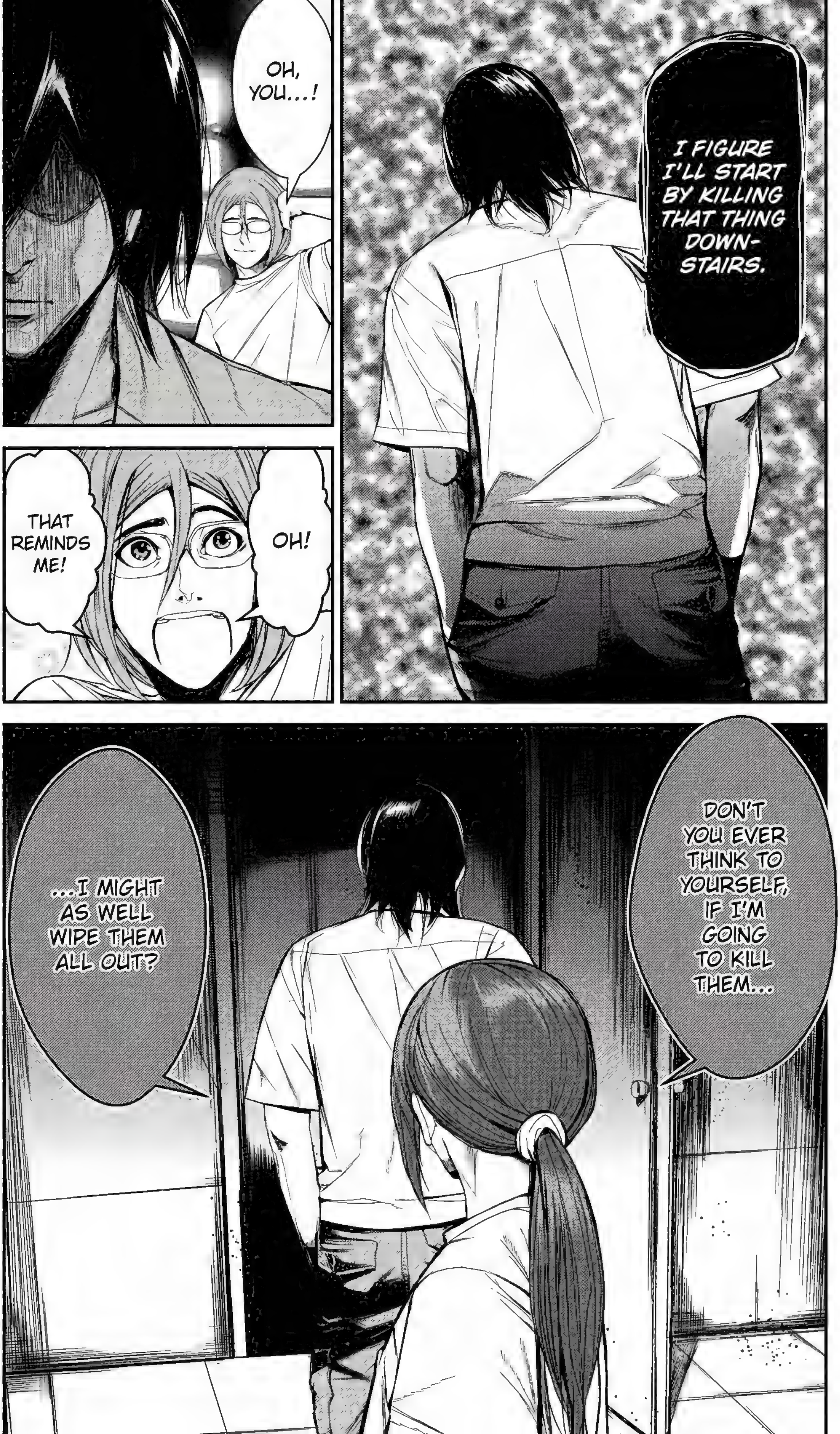

WHY NOW?! WHY DID IT TAKE YOU SO LONG...
...TO SHOW YOURSELF?!
IT'S TOO LATE NOW!
YOU IDIOT!
OUR SPECIES...
...ARE CAREENING TOWARDS EXTINCTION!
THMP

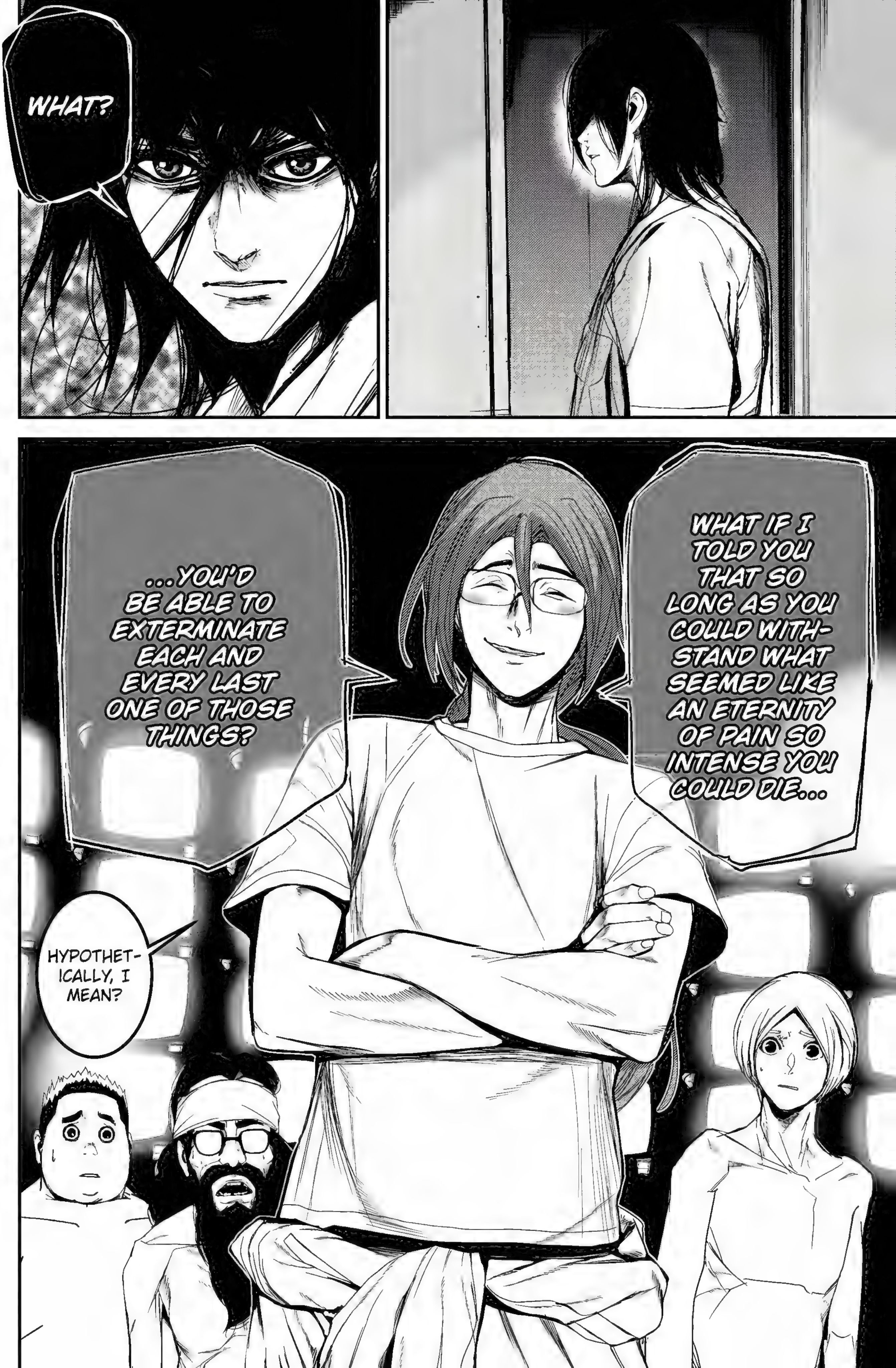

WHAP
...!!


YAMA-BIKI… YOU SON OF A BITCH…
LET GO.
THEN I'LL KILL YOU FIRST.
NO, NO! ♡
YOU ALWAYS *HAVE* HAD A ONE-TRACK MIND…
…CUTIE.


BUT, YOU SEE, HANAJIMA-SAN HERE...
...IS THE QUEEN BEE'S INTERPRETER-CUM-WALKIE-TALKIE.
KILLING HIM WON'T DO US ANY GOOD.
IN FACT, IT'LL SHUT DOWN OUR ONLY ROUTE OF COMMUNICATION.
FWAP

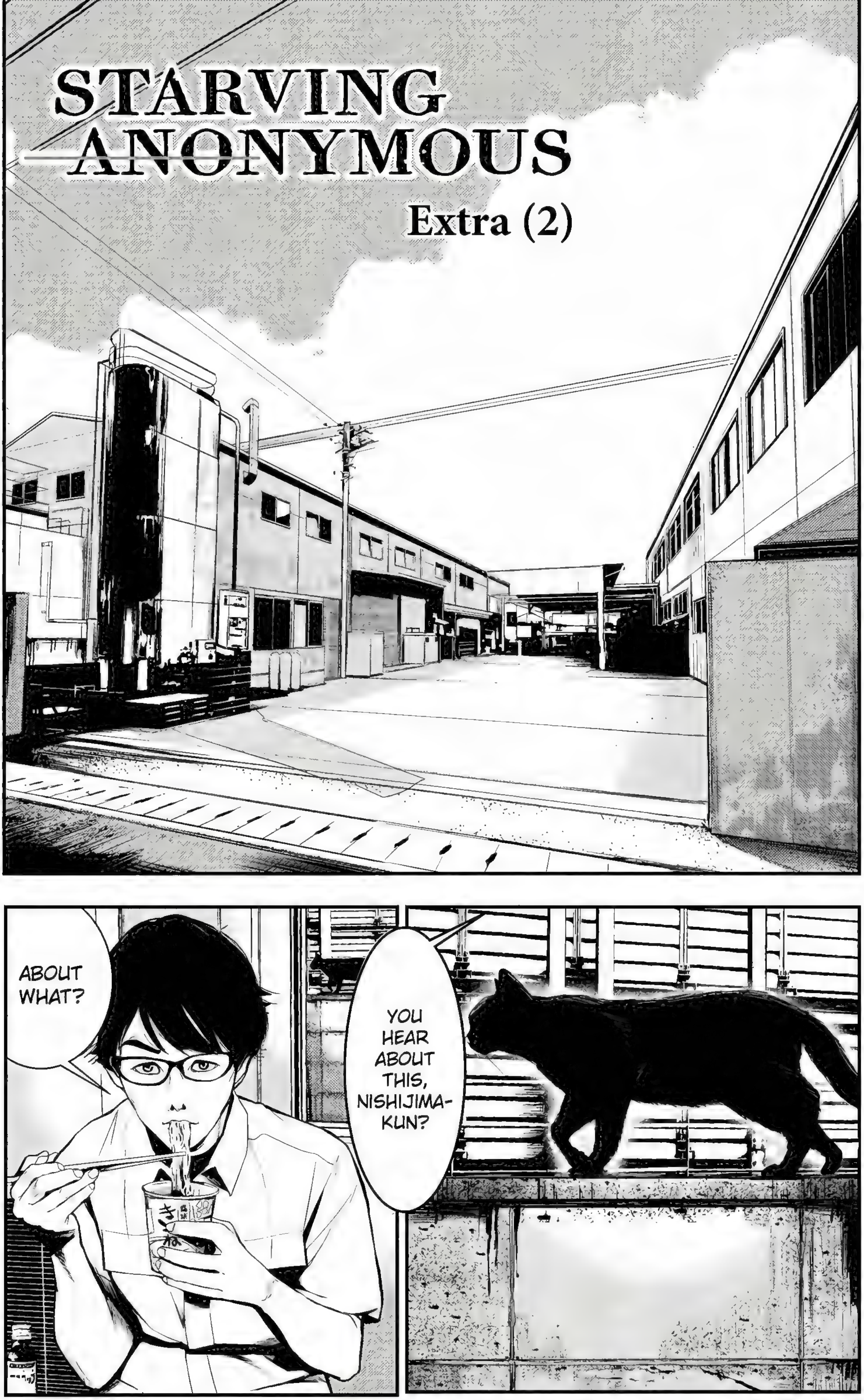

SORRY.
I CAN'T WEAR *HIS* CLOTHES. THEY'RE COVERED IN BLOOD.
SO... WHERE YOU GOIN'?

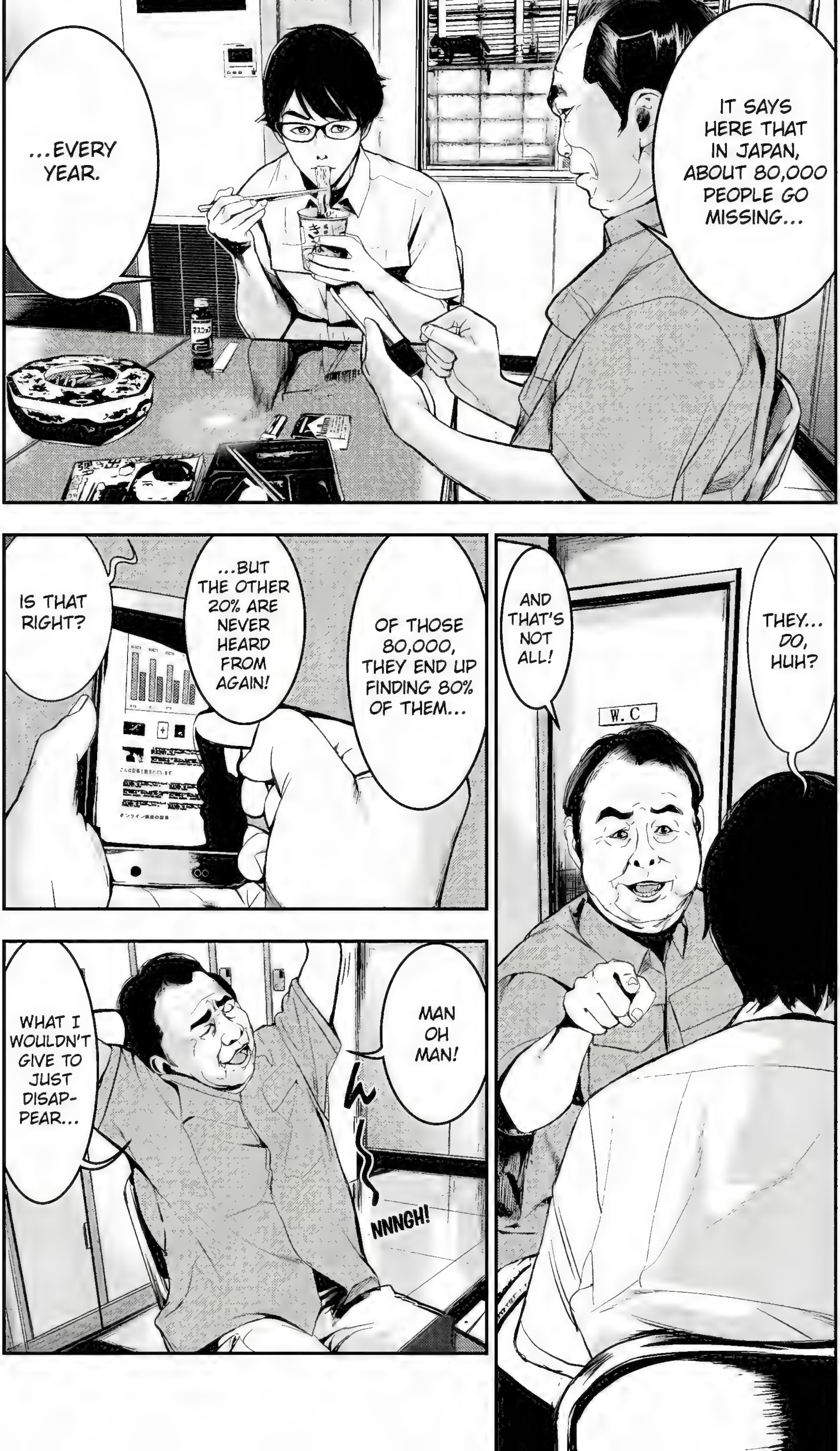

I FIGURE I'LL START BY KILLING THAT THING DOWNSTAIRS.
OH, YOU...!
OH!
THAT REMINDS ME!
DON'T YOU EVER THINK TO YOURSELF, IF I'M GOING TO KILL THEM...
...I MIGHT AS WELL WIPE THEM ALL OUT?

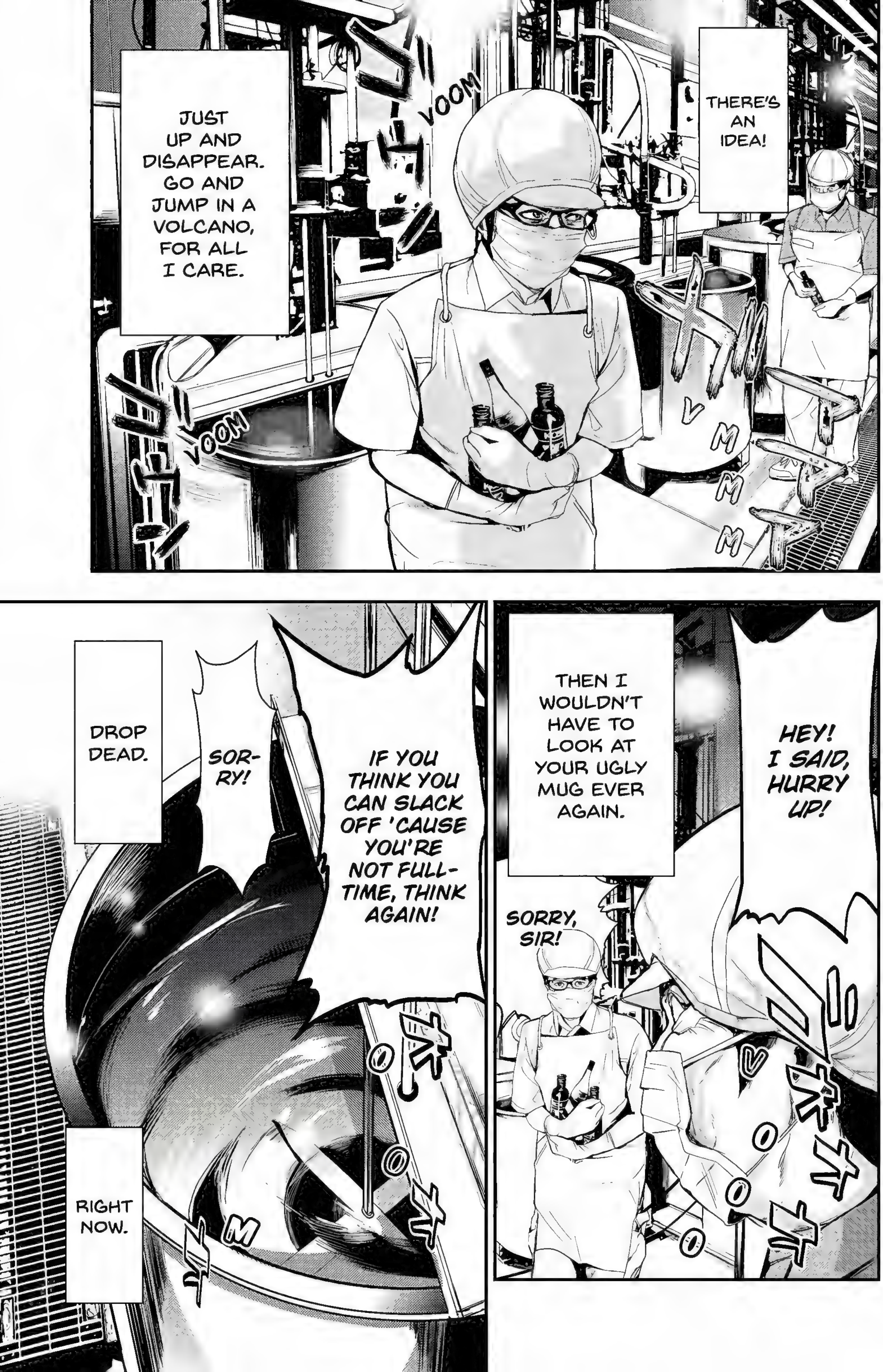

WHAT?
WHAT IF I TOLD YOU THAT SO LONG AS YOU COULD WITHSTAND WHAT SEEMED LIKE AN ETERNITY OF PAIN SO INTENSE YOU COULD DIE...
...YOU'D BE ABLE TO EXTERMINATE EACH AND EVERY LAST ONE OF THOSE THINGS?
HYPOTHETICALLY, I MEAN?

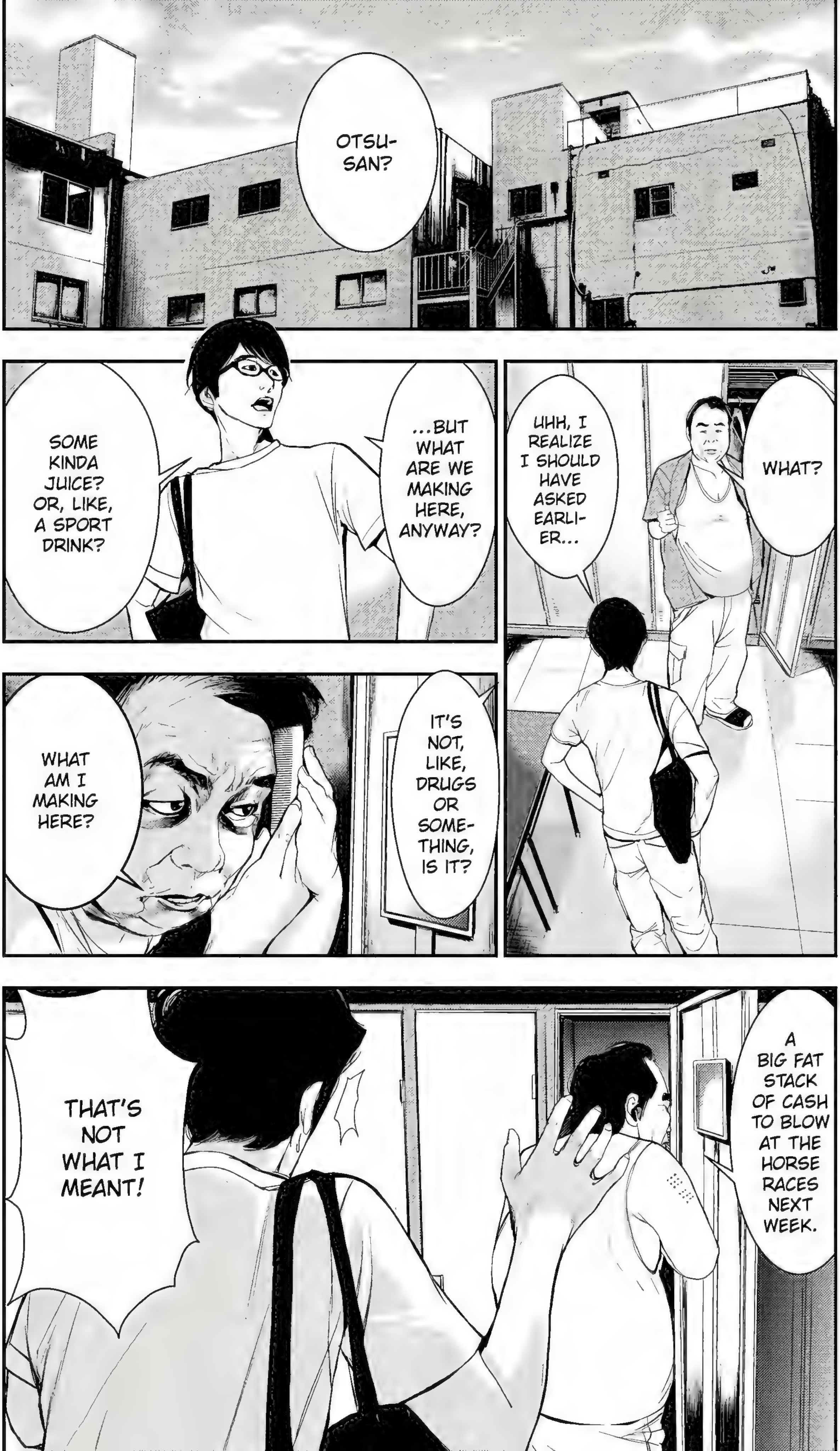
STARVING ANONYMOUS

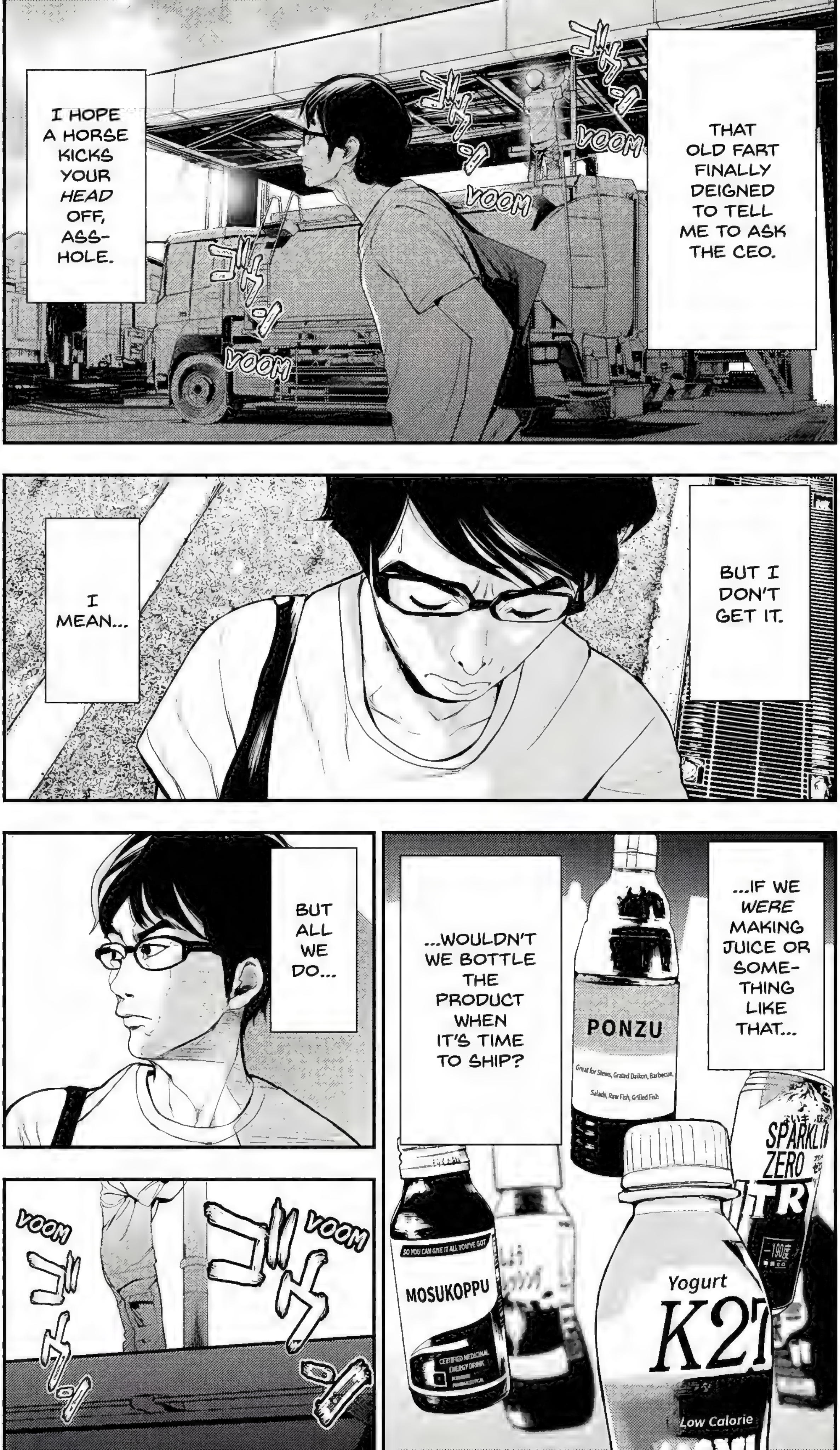
Extra (2)

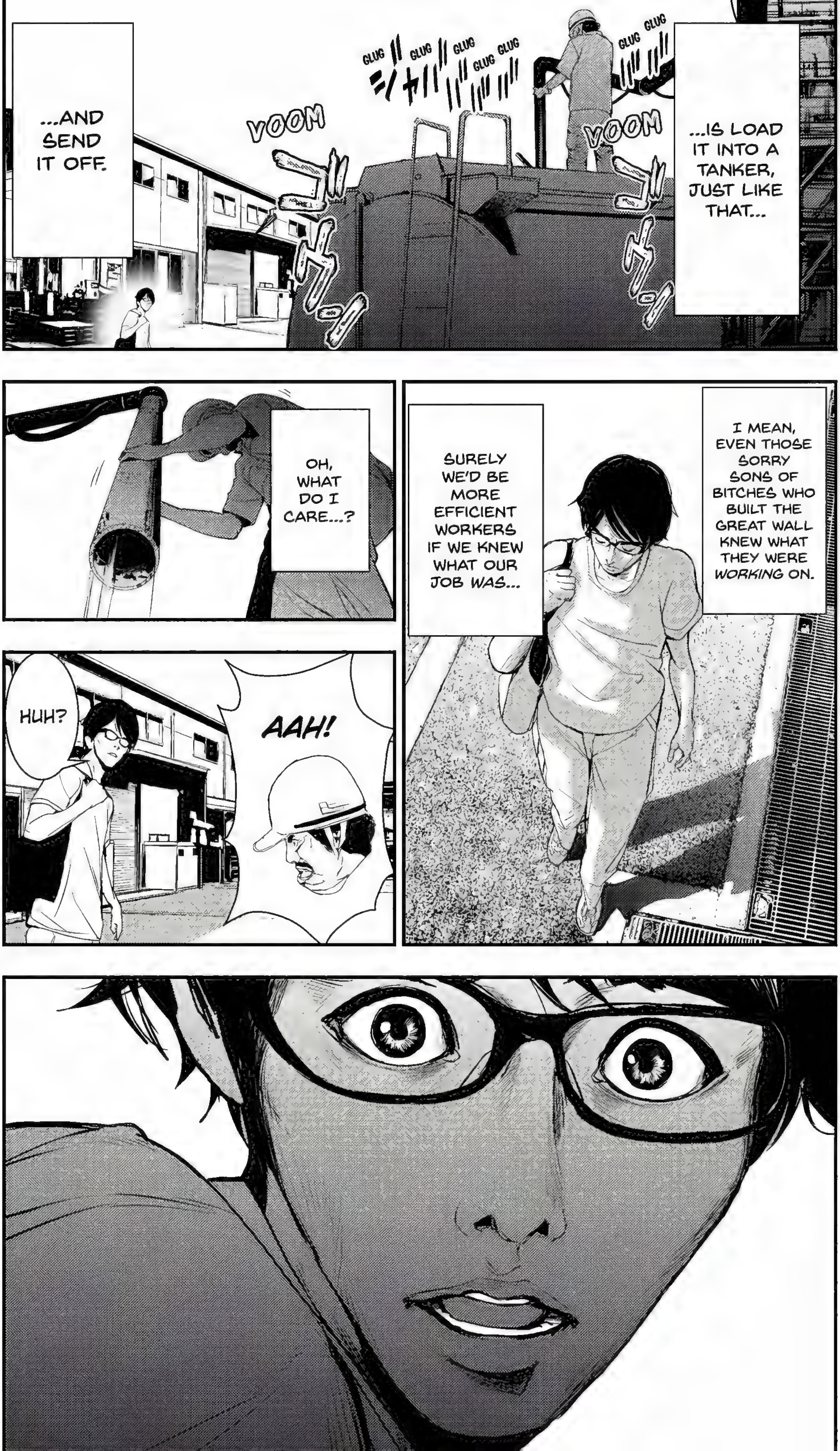

YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS, NISHIJIMA-KUN?
ABOUT WHAT?

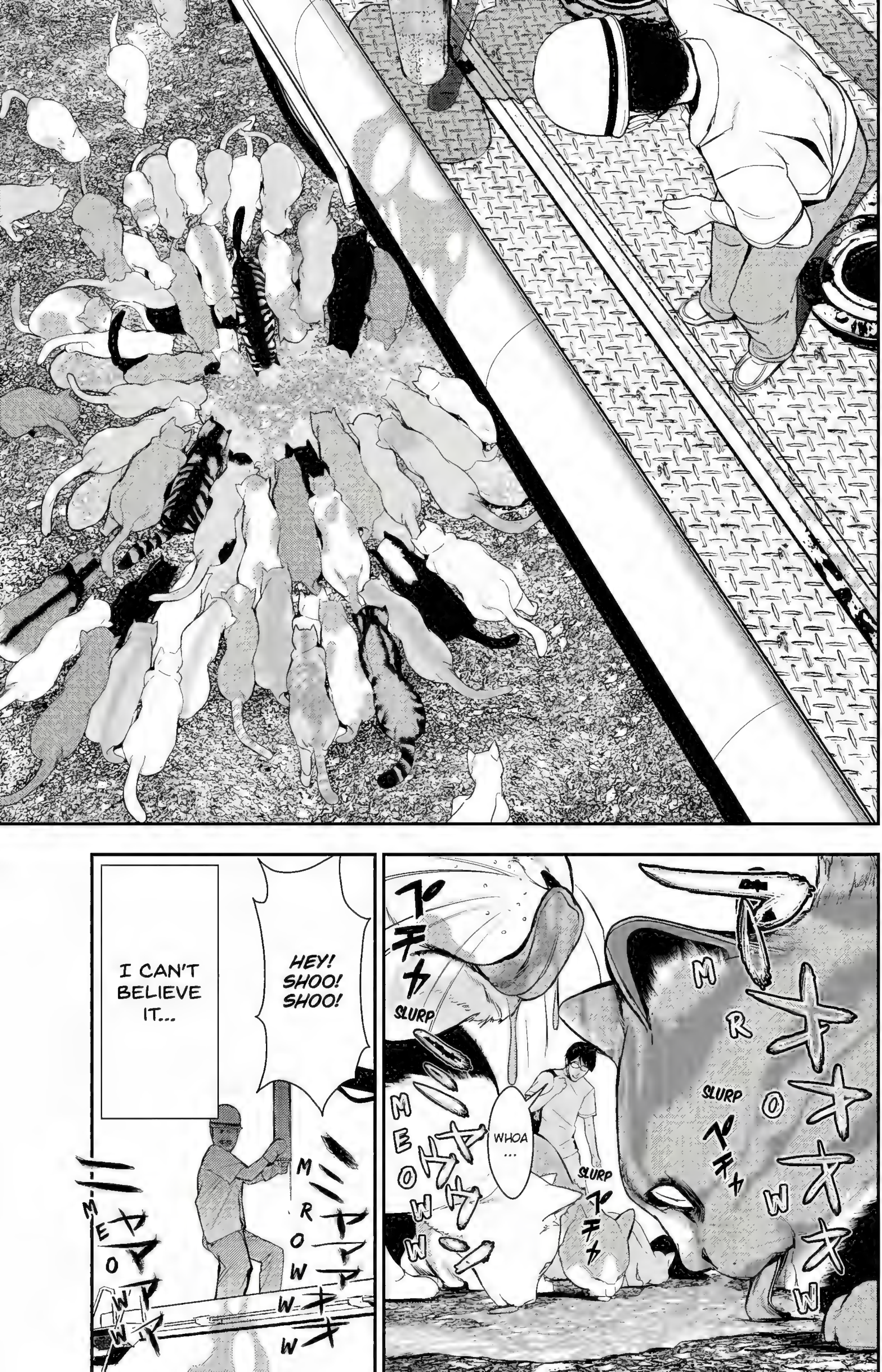

IT SAYS HERE THAT IN JAPAN, ABOUT 80,000 PEOPLE GO MISSING...
...EVERY YEAR.
THEY... DO, HUH?
AND THAT'S NOT ALL!
W.C
OF THOSE 80,000, THEY END UP FINDING 80% OF THEM...
...BUT THE OTHER 20% ARE NEVER HEARD FROM AGAIN!
IS THAT RIGHT?
MAN OH MAN!
NNNGH!
WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE TO JUST DISAPPEAR...

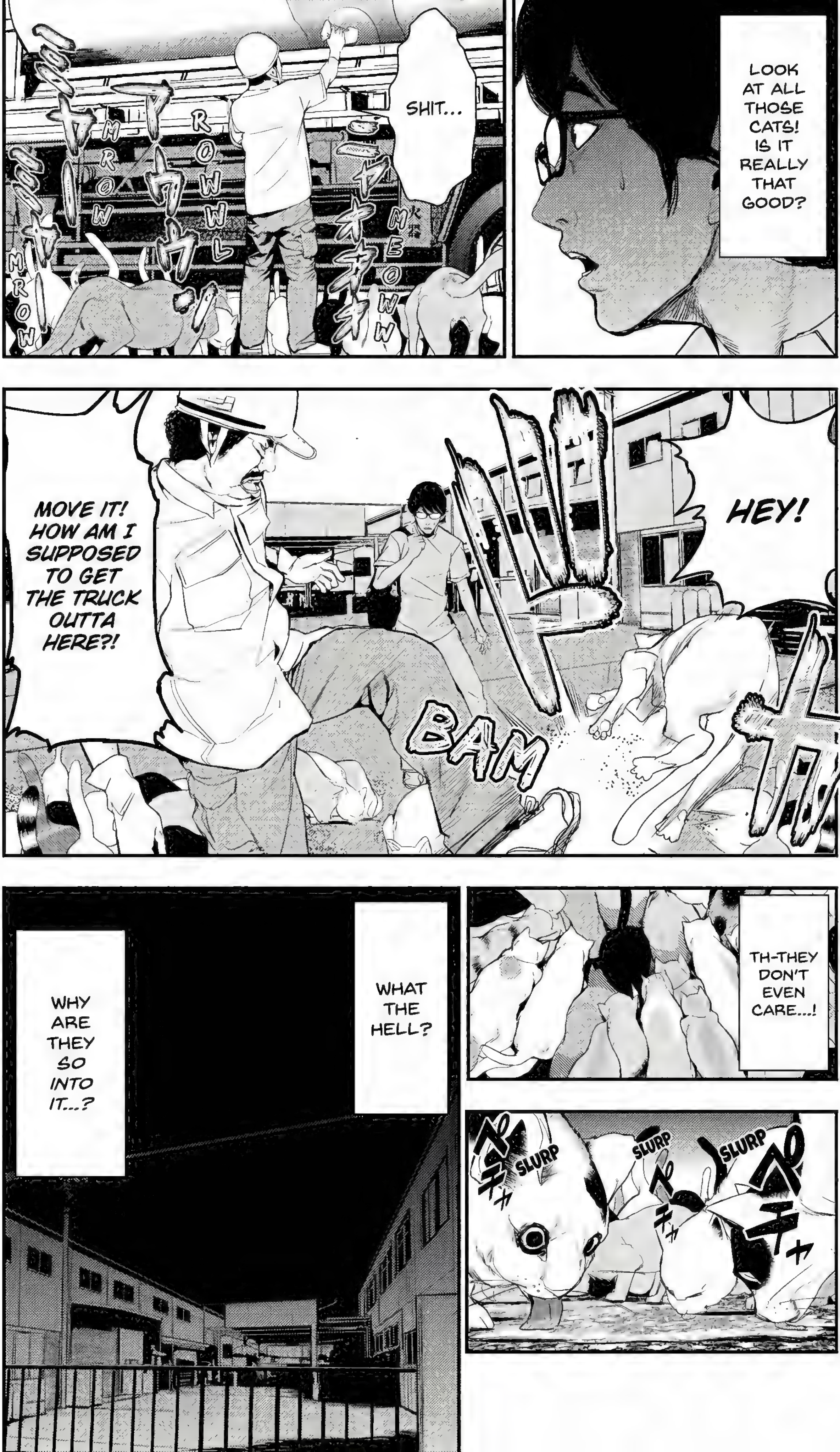

THERE'S AN IDEA!
JUST UP AND DISAPPEAR. GO AND JUMP IN A VOLCANO, FOR ALL I CARE.
VOOM
VMMMM
VOOM
HEY! I SAID, HURRY UP!
THEN I WOULDN'T HAVE TO LOOK AT YOUR UGLY MUG EVER AGAIN.
SORRY, SIR!
VOOO
IF YOU THINK YOU CAN SLACK OFF 'CAUSE YOU'RE NOT FULL-TIME, THINK AGAIN!
SORRY!
DROP DEAD.
OO
MM
RIGHT NOW.

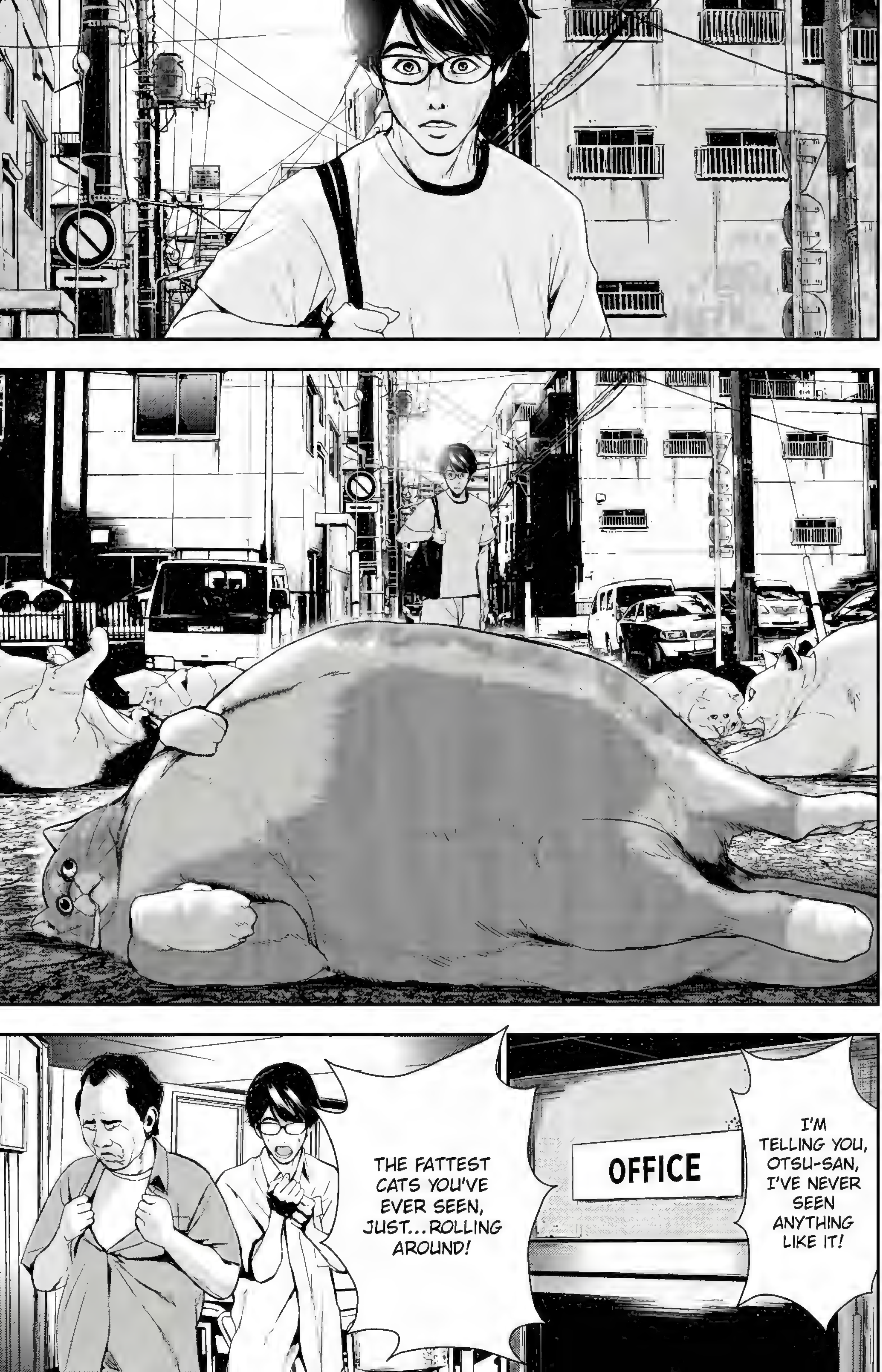

OTSU-SAN?
WHAT?
UHH, I REALIZE I SHOULD HAVE ASKED EARLIER...
...BUT WHAT ARE WE MAKING HERE, ANYWAY?
SOME KINDA JUICE? OR, LIKE, A SPORT DRINK?
IT'S NOT, LIKE, DRUGS OR SOMETHING, IS IT?
WHAT AM I MAKING HERE?
A BIG FAT STACK OF CASH TO BLOW AT THE HORSE RACES NEXT WEEK.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!

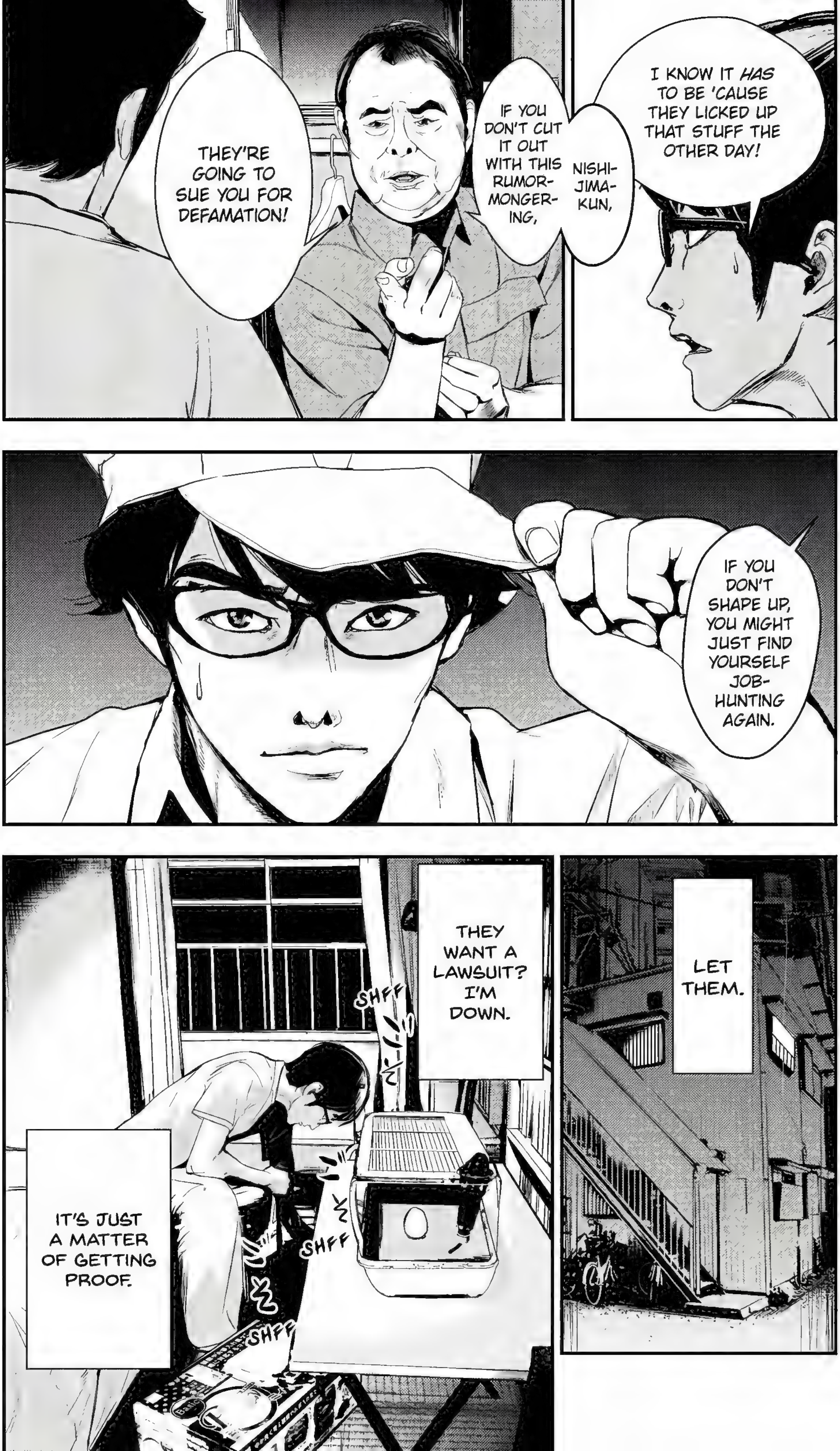

ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
THAT OLD FART FINALLY DEIGNED TO TELL ME TO ASK THE CEO.
ゴゥン
VOOM
VOOM
I HOPE A HORSE KICKS YOUR *HEAD* OFF, ASSHOLE.
BUT I DON'T GET IT.
I MEAN...
...IF WE *WERE* MAKING JUICE OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
...WOULDN'T WE BOTTLE THE PRODUCT WHEN IT'S TIME TO SHIP?
PONZU
Great for Stews, Grated Daikon, Barbecue, Salads, Raw Fish, Grilled Fish
SPARKLI
ZERO
TR
Yogurt
K27
Low Calorie
SO YOU CAN GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT
MOSUKOPPU
CERTIFIED MEDICINAL ENERGY DRINK
BUT ALL WE DO...
VOOM
ゴゥン
VOOM
ゴゥン

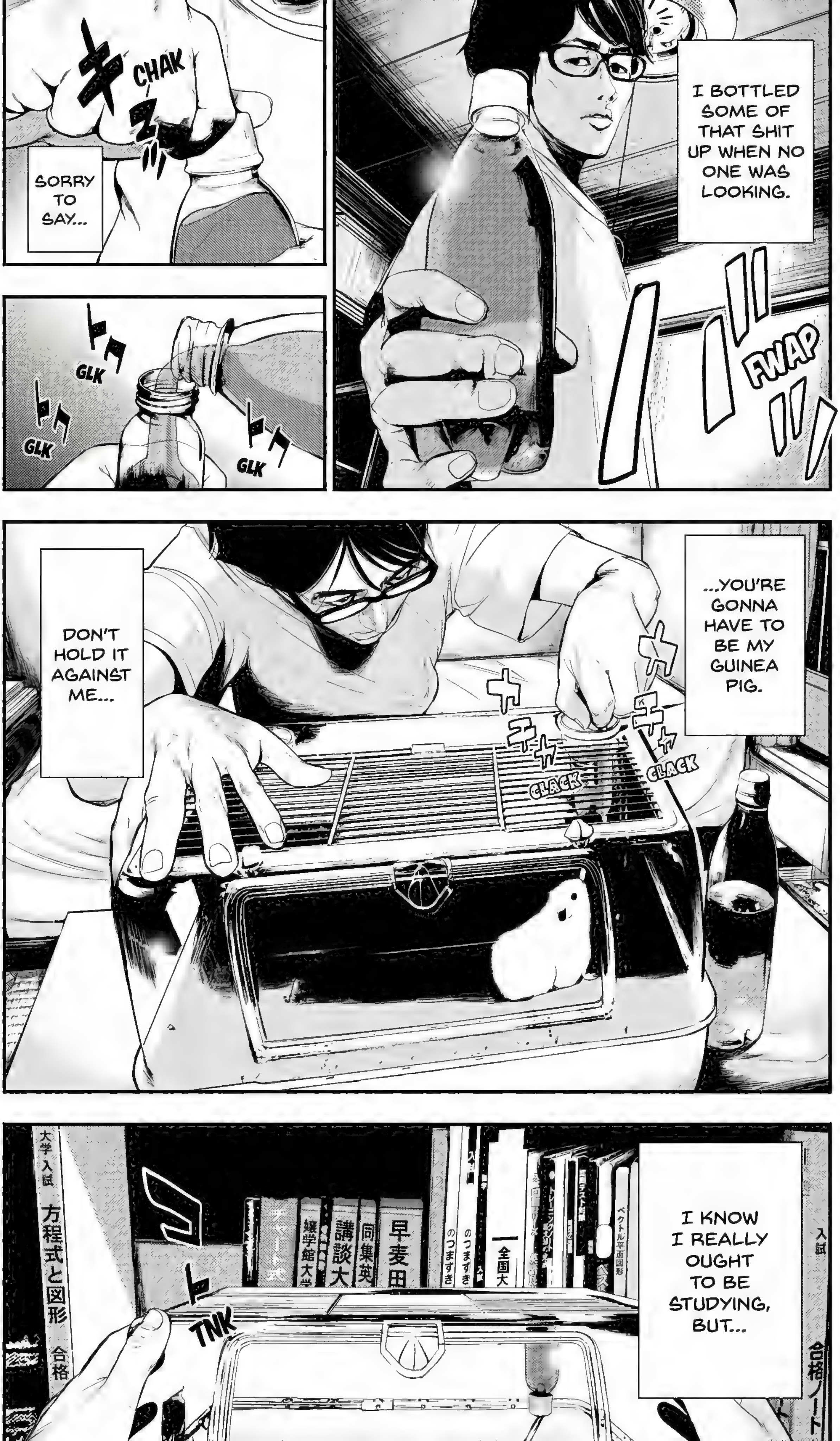

GLUG GLUG
GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG
VOOM
VOOM
...IS LOAD IT INTO A TANKER, JUST LIKE THAT...
...AND SEND IT OFF.
I MEAN, EVEN THOSE SORRY SONS OF BITCHES WHO BUILT THE GREAT WALL KNEW WHAT THEY WERE *WORKING* ON.
SURELY WE'D BE MORE EFFICIENT WORKERS IF WE KNEW WHAT OUR JOB *WAS*...
OH, WHAT DO I CARE...?
AAH!
HUH?

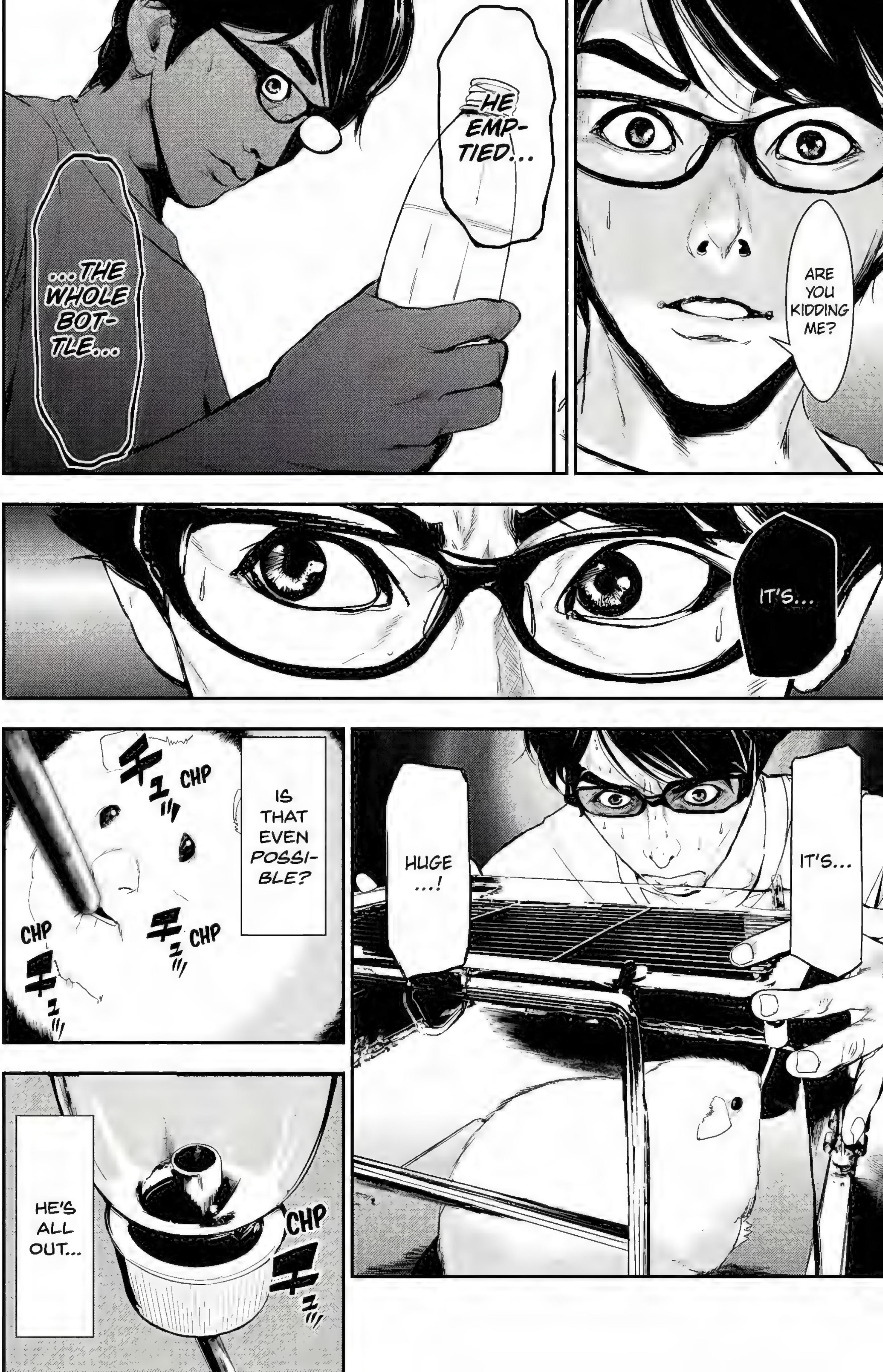

MROWWW
SLURP
SLURP
WHOA...
MEOWWW
SLURP
HEY! SHOO! SHOO!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
MROWWW
MEOWWW

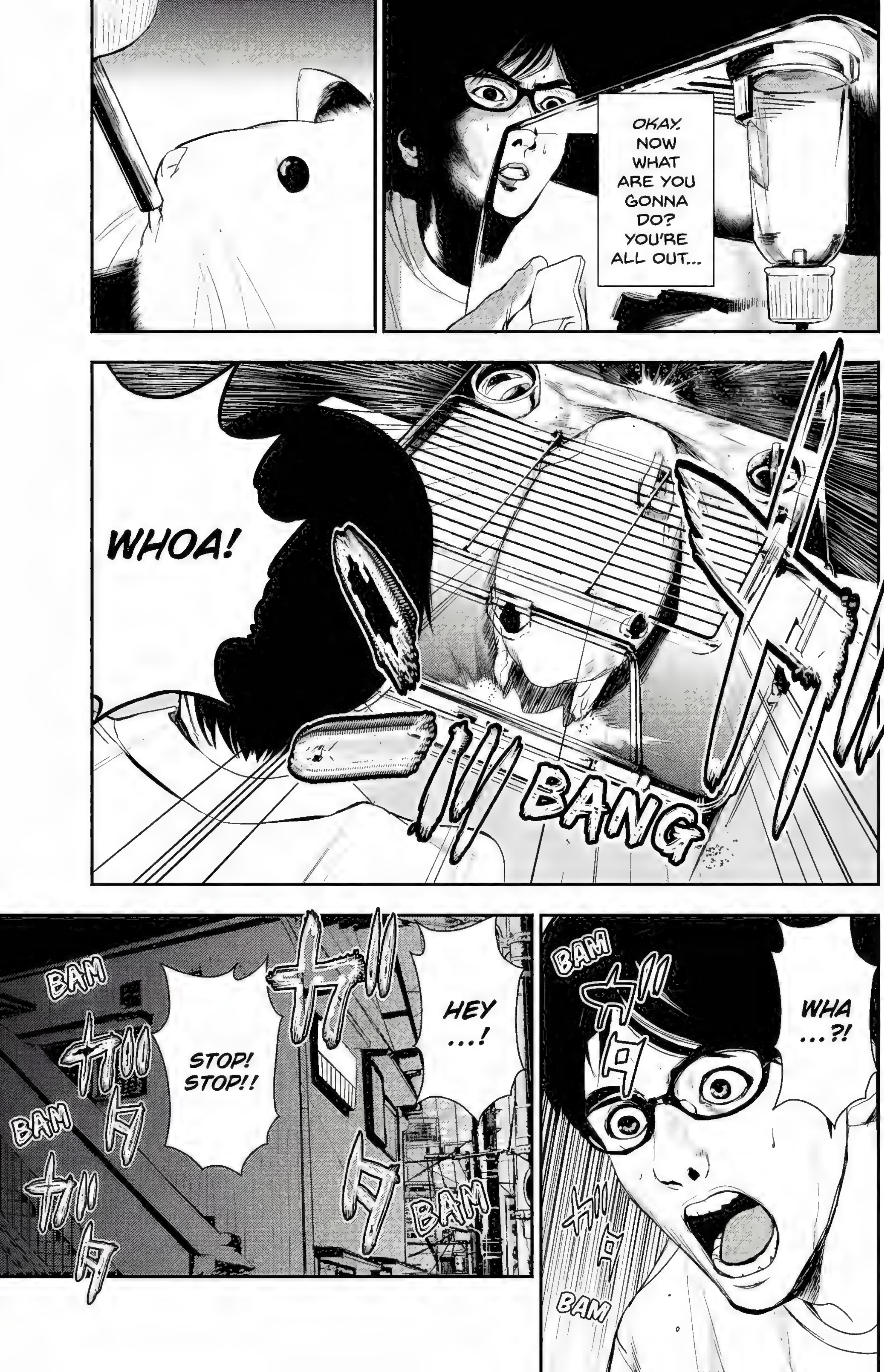

LOOK AT ALL THOSE CATS! IS IT REALLY THAT GOOD?
SHIT...
MEOWWW
ROWWL
MROW
MROW
HEY!
MOVE IT! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO GET THE TRUCK OUTTA HERE?!
BAM
TH-THEY DON'T EVEN CARE...!
SLURP
SLURP
SLURP
WHAT THE HELL?
WHY ARE THEY SO INTO IT...?

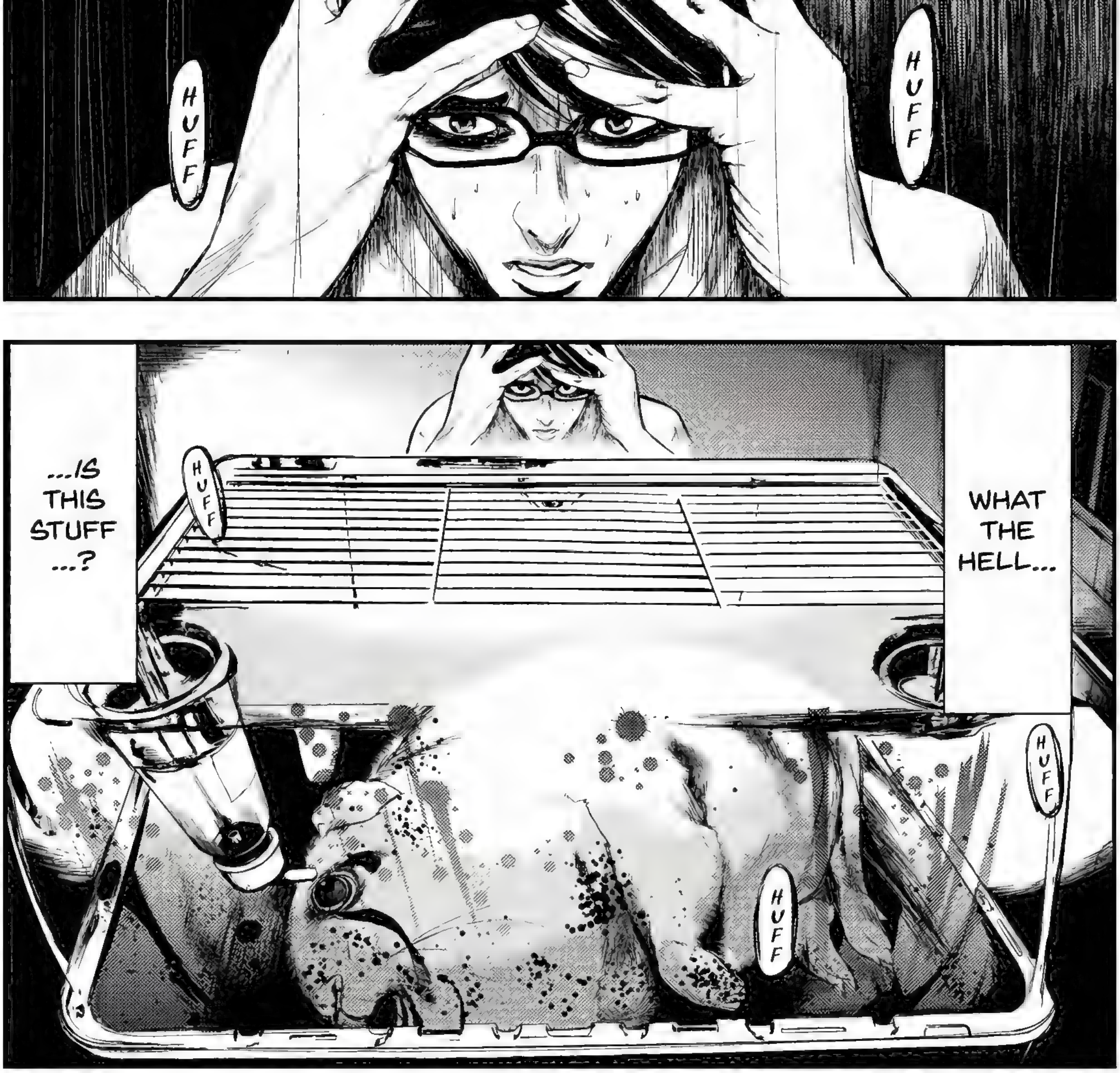

NISSAN
I'M TELLING YOU, OTSU-SAN, I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!
OFFICE
THE FATTEST CATS YOU'VE EVER SEEN, JUST...ROLLING AROUND!

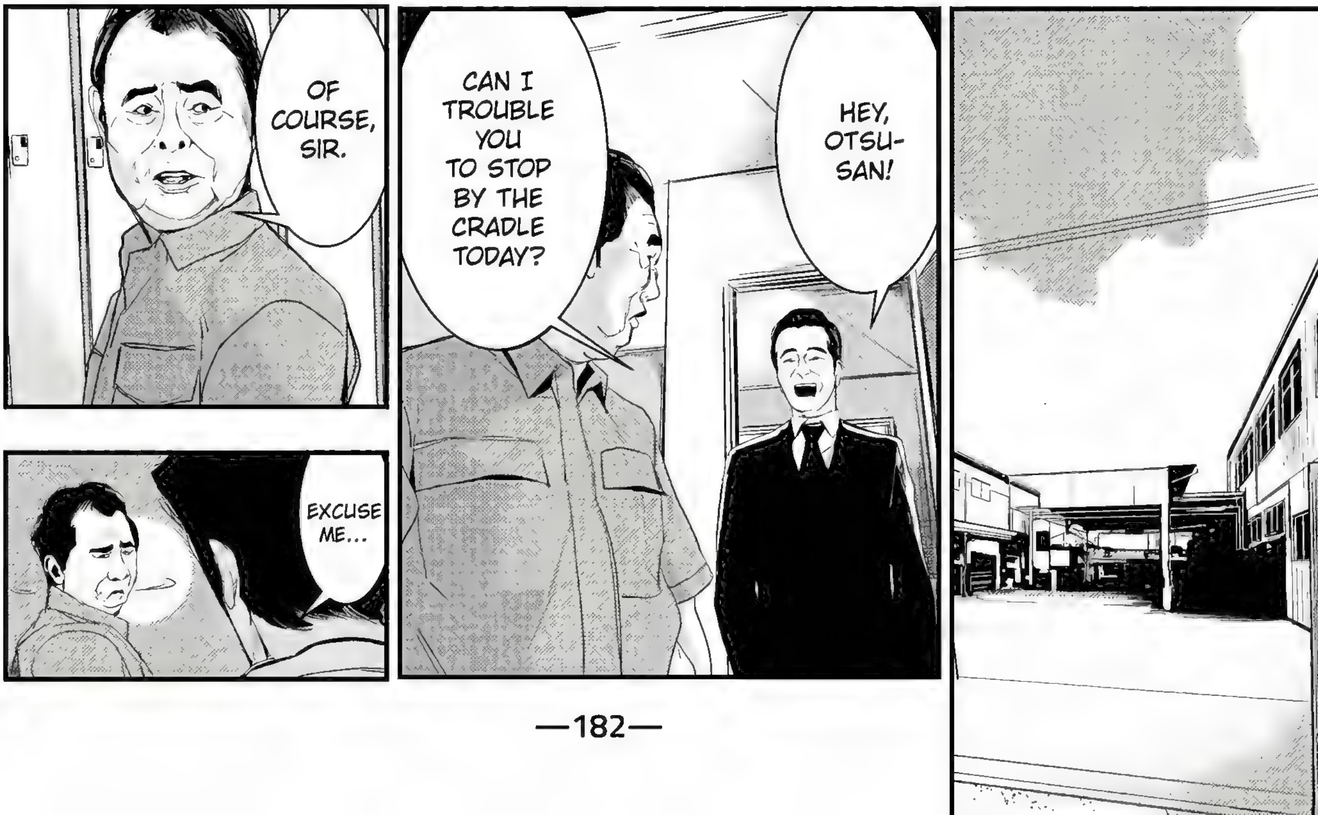

I KNOW IT *HAS* TO BE 'CAUSE THEY LICKED UP THAT STUFF THE OTHER DAY!
NISHIJIMA-KUN,
IF YOU DON'T CUT IT OUT WITH THIS RUMORMONGERING,
THEY'RE GOING TO SUE YOU FOR DEFAMATION!
IF YOU DON'T SHAPE UP, YOU MIGHT JUST FIND YOURSELF JOB-HUNTING AGAIN.
LET THEM.
THEY WANT A LAWSUIT? I'M DOWN.
SHFF
SHFF
SHFF
IT'S JUST A MATTER OF GETTING PROOF.

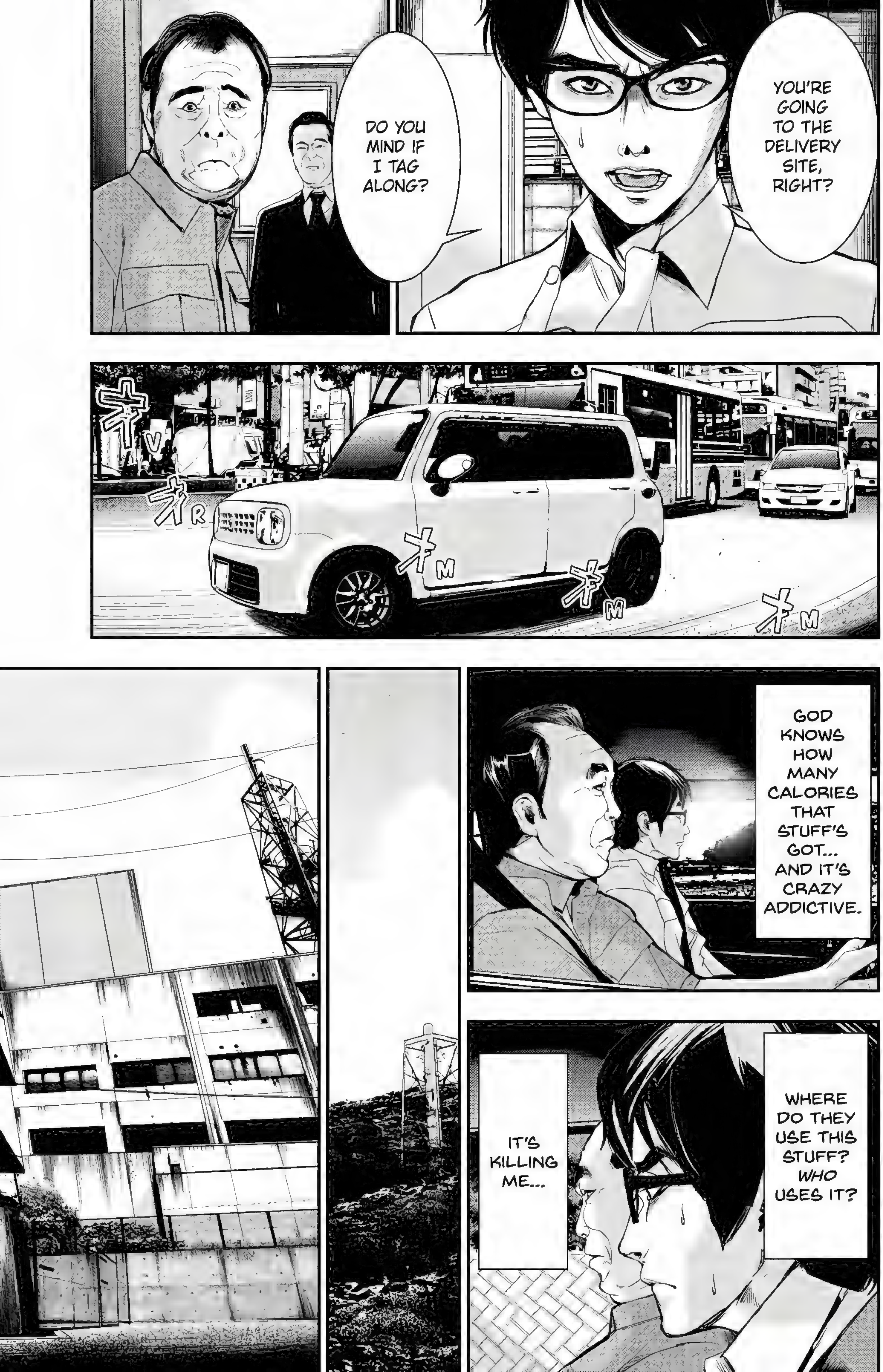

I BOTTLED SOME OF THAT SHIT UP WHEN NO ONE WAS LOOKING.
FWAP
CHAK
SORRY TO SAY...
GLK
GLK
GLK
...YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO BE MY GUINEA PIG.
CLACK
CLACK
DON'T HOLD IT AGAINST ME...
I KNOW I REALLY OUGHT TO BE STUDYING, BUT...
TNK
入試
合格ノート
ベクトル平面図形
全国大
のつまずき
のつまずき
早麦田
同集英
講談大
嫁学館大学
大学入試
方程式と図形
合格

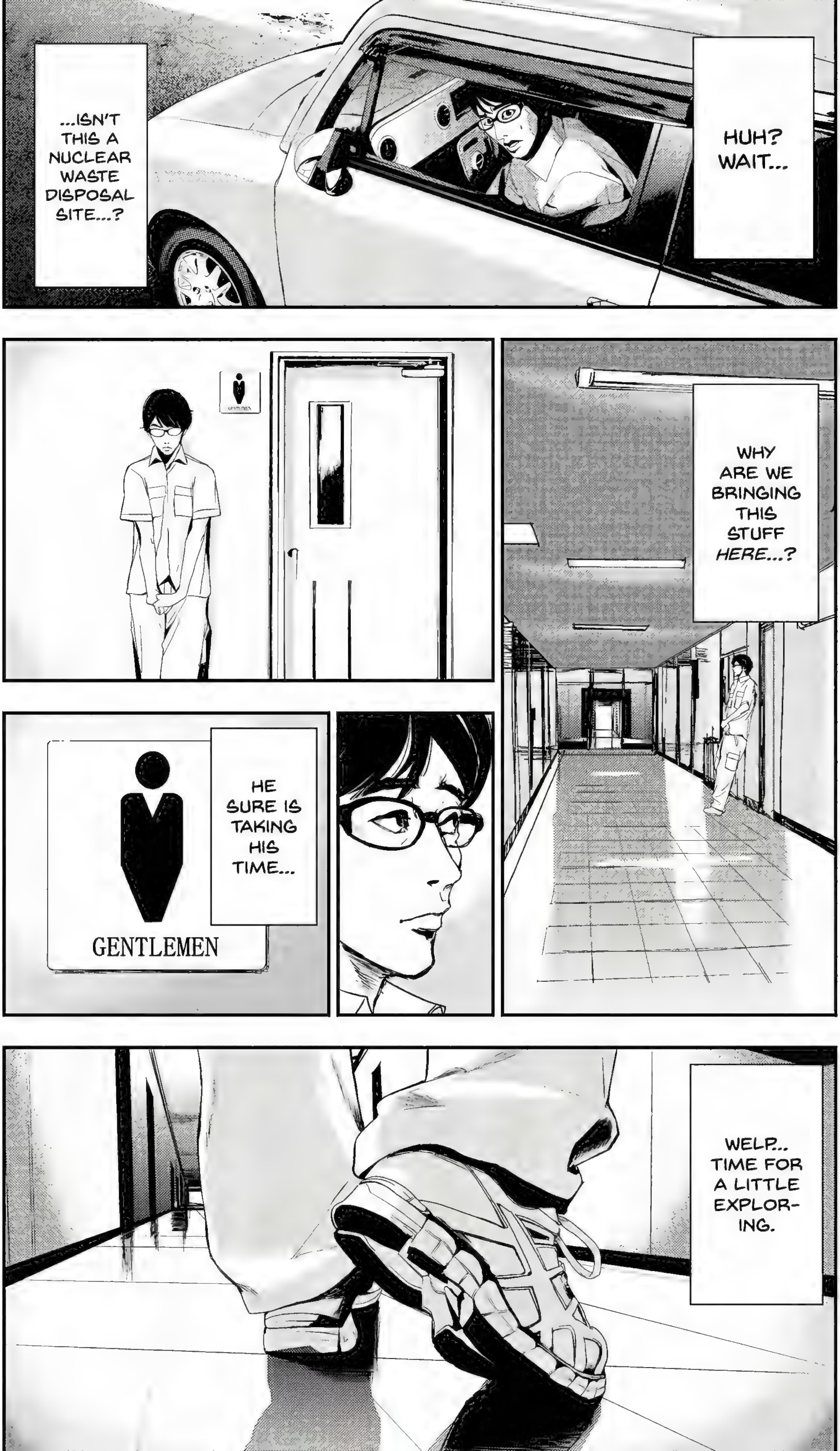

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
HE EMPTIED...
...THE WHOLE BOTTLE...
IT'S...
IT'S...
HUGE...!
IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?
チュ CHP
チュ CHP
チュ CHP
HE'S ALL OUT...
チュ CHP

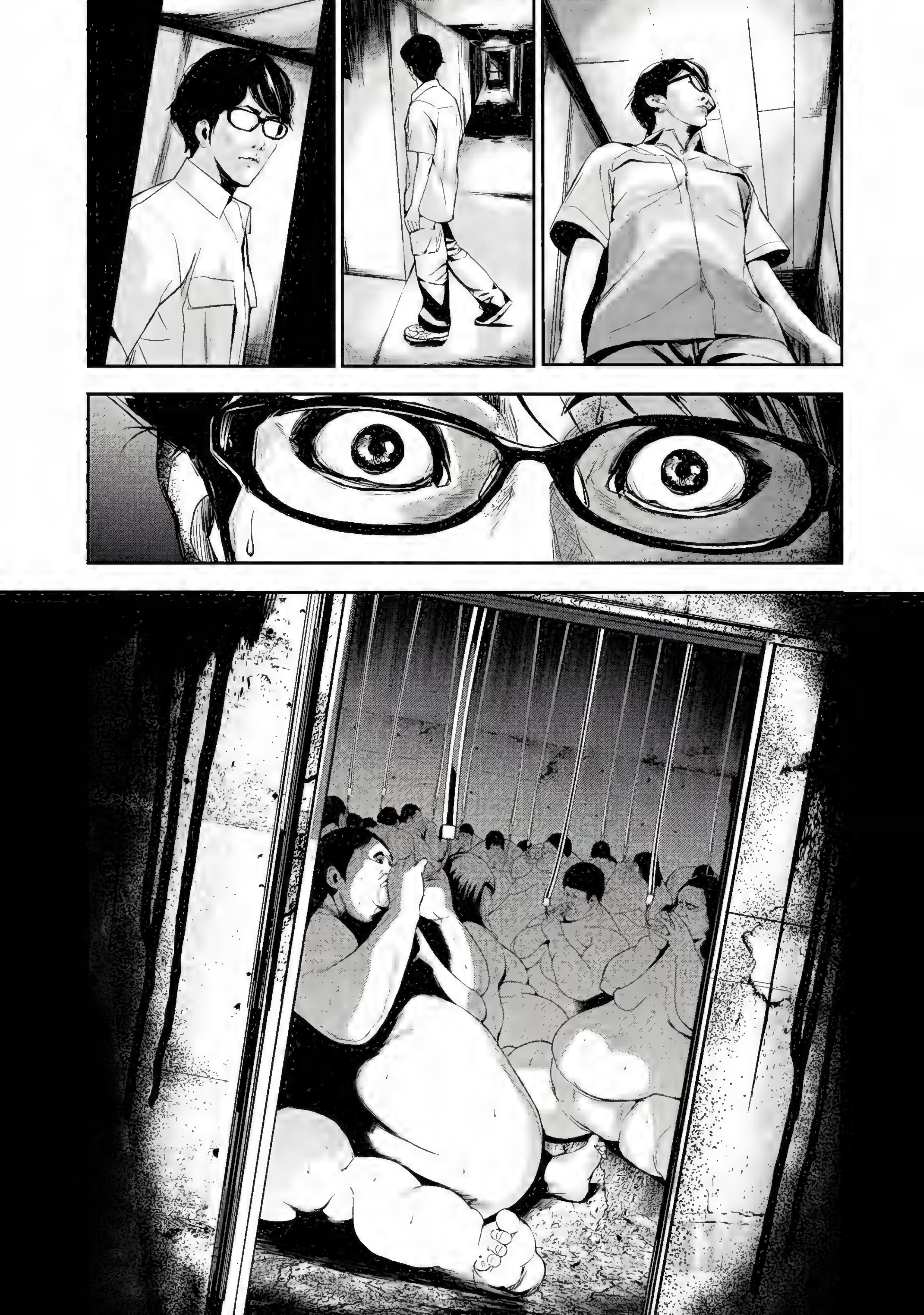

OKAY. NOW WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO? YOU'RE ALL OUT...
WHOA!
BANG
WHA ...?!
BAM
ガタ
BAM
ガタ
BAM
HEY ...!
ガタ
STOP! STOP!!
BAM
ガタ
BAM
ガタ
BAM
ガタ

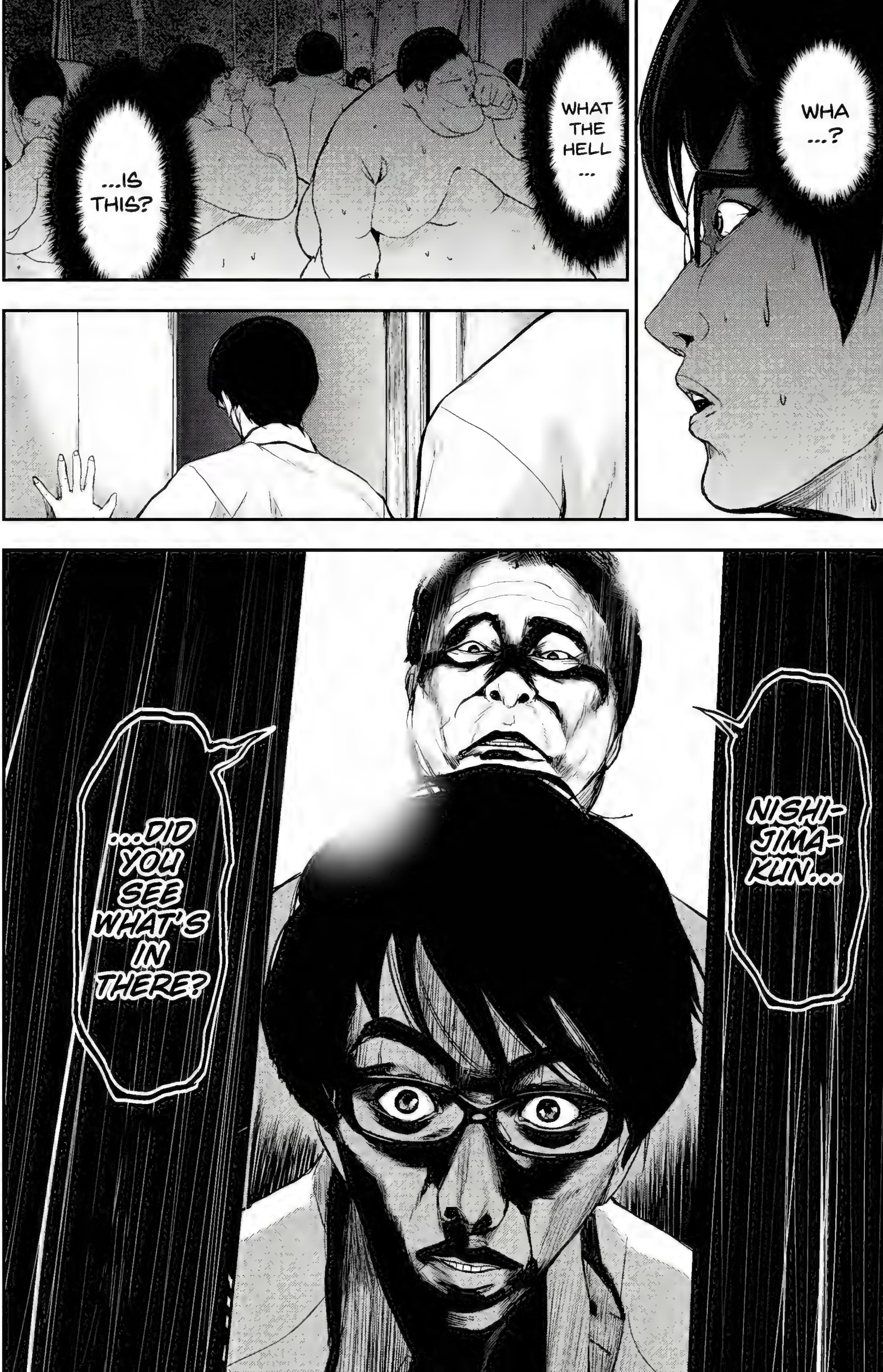

HUFF
HUFF
WHAT THE HELL...
...IS THIS STUFF ...?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

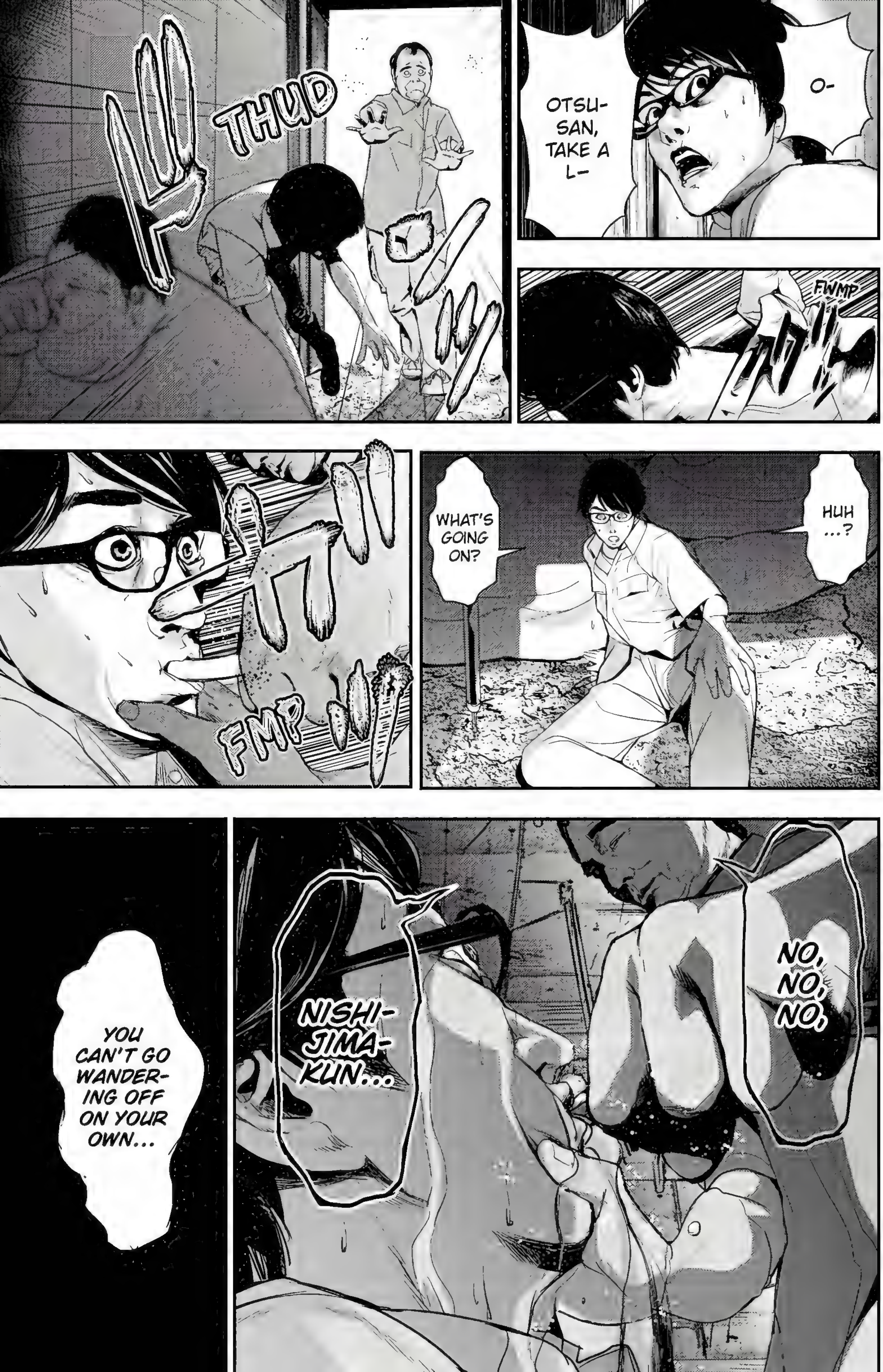

HEY, OTSU-SAN!
CAN I TROUBLE YOU TO STOP BY THE CRADLE TODAY?
OF COURSE, SIR.
EXCUSE ME...

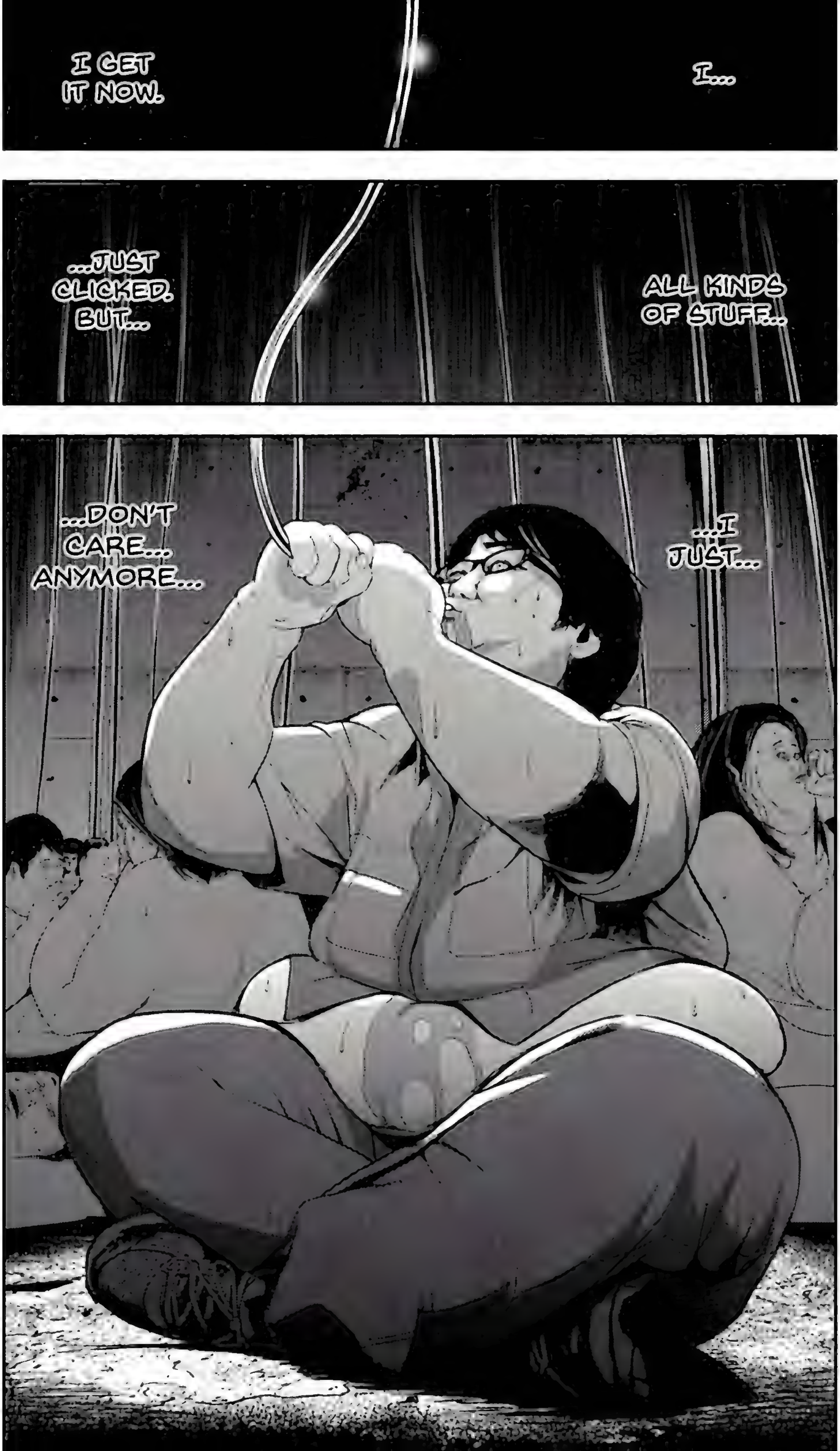

YOU'RE GOING TO THE DELIVERY SITE, RIGHT?
DO YOU MIND IF I TAG ALONG?
V
R
M
M
M
GOD KNOWS HOW MANY CALORIES THAT STUFF'S GOT... AND IT'S CRAZY ADDICTIVE.
WHERE DO THEY USE THIS STUFF? *WHO* USES IT?
IT'S KILLING ME...


HUH? WAIT...
...ISN'T THIS A NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL SITE...?
WHY ARE WE BRINGING THIS STUFF *HERE*...?
HE SURE IS TAKING HIS TIME...
GENTLEMEN
WELP... TIME FOR A LITTLE EXPLORING.




WHA ...?
WHAT THE HELL ...
...IS THIS?
NISHI-JIMA-KUN...
...DID YOU SEE WHAT'S IN THERE?


O-
OTSU-SAN, TAKE A L-
FWMP
THUD
HUH...?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
FMP
NO, NO, NO,
NISHIJIMA-KUN...
YOU CAN'T GO WANDERING OFF ON YOUR OWN...


I...
I GET IT NOW.
ALL KINDS OF STUFF...
...JUST CLICKED. BUT...
...I JUST...
...DON'T CARE... ANYMORE...

STARVING
ANONYMOUS
6
END

IF WE PULL THIS OFF...
...THEN YOU MIGHT JUST GET YOUR WEVENGE!
WHOA...
TH-TH-THERE'S... SO MANY...
AAAH!
HERE COMES ANOTHER...!

COMING NEXT VOLUME

...and the story reaches its climax.

Natsune is doomed to a tragic fate...

Yamabiki's secret forbidden plan hinges on Natsune's regeneration!
But what truth do these mysterious actions conceal...?
And can I'e and his companions keep this new lifeform's rage at bay?

Find out in the final thrilling volume!

STARVING ANONYMOUS ⑦

Starving Anonymous 6

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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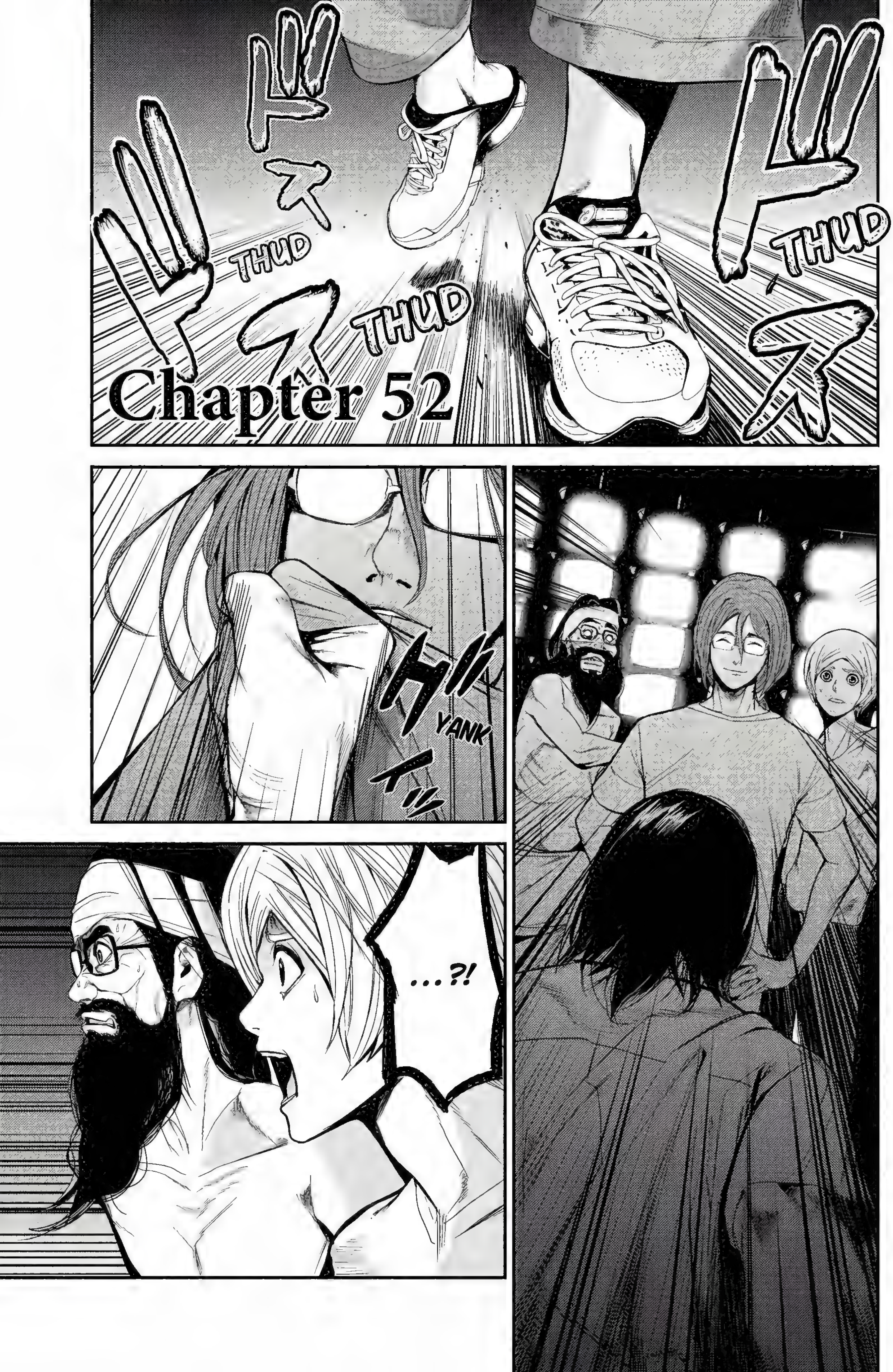
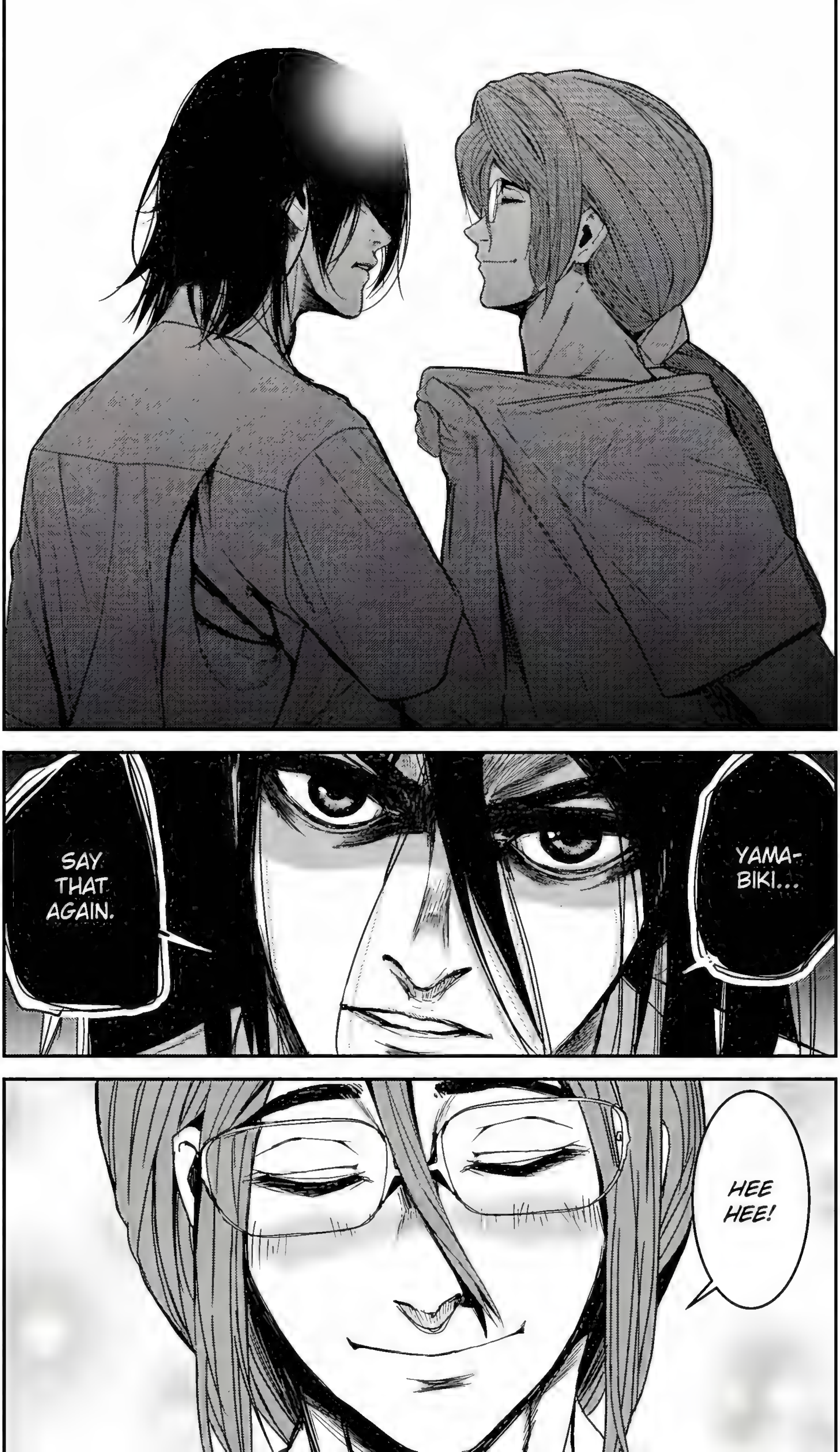
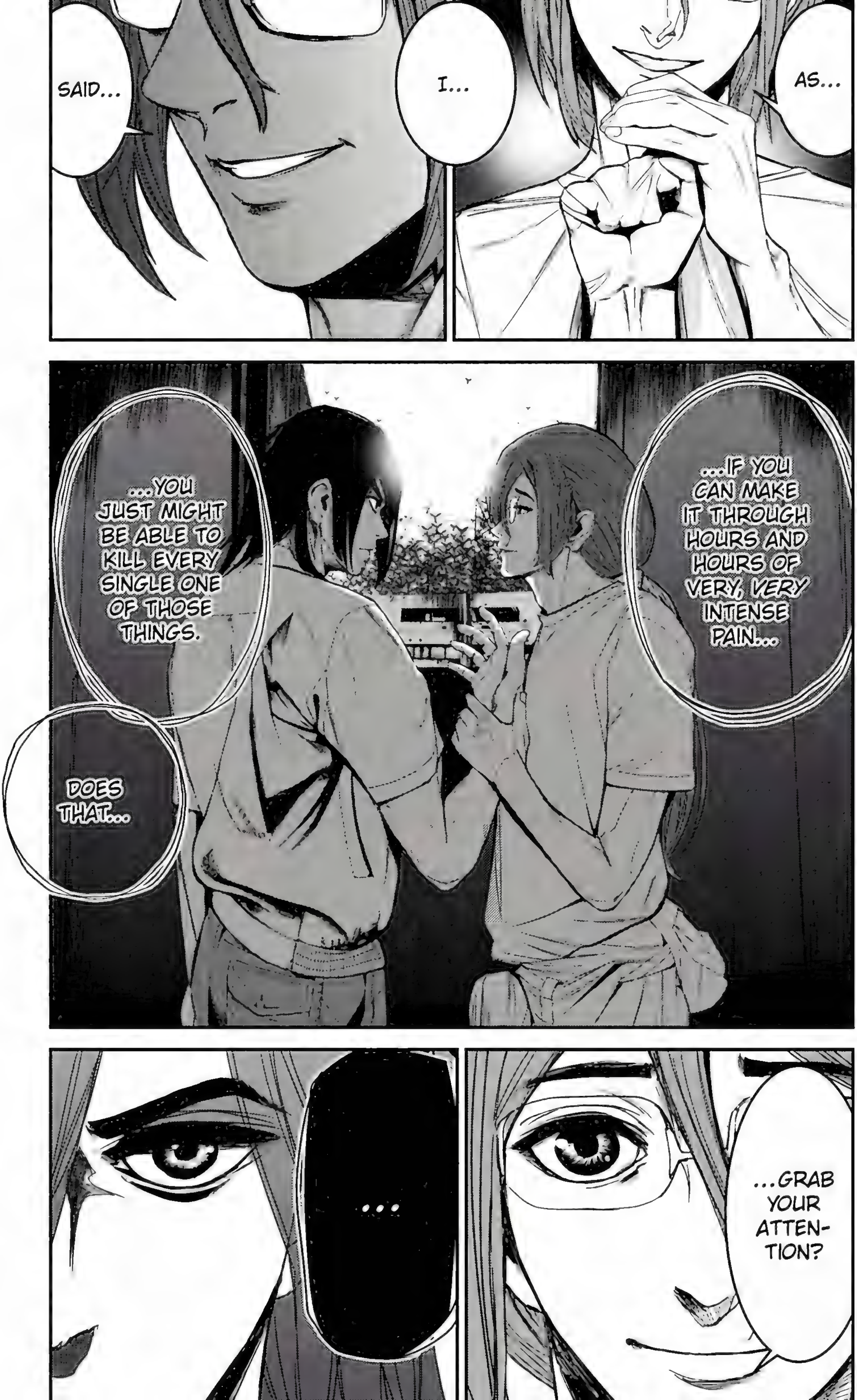
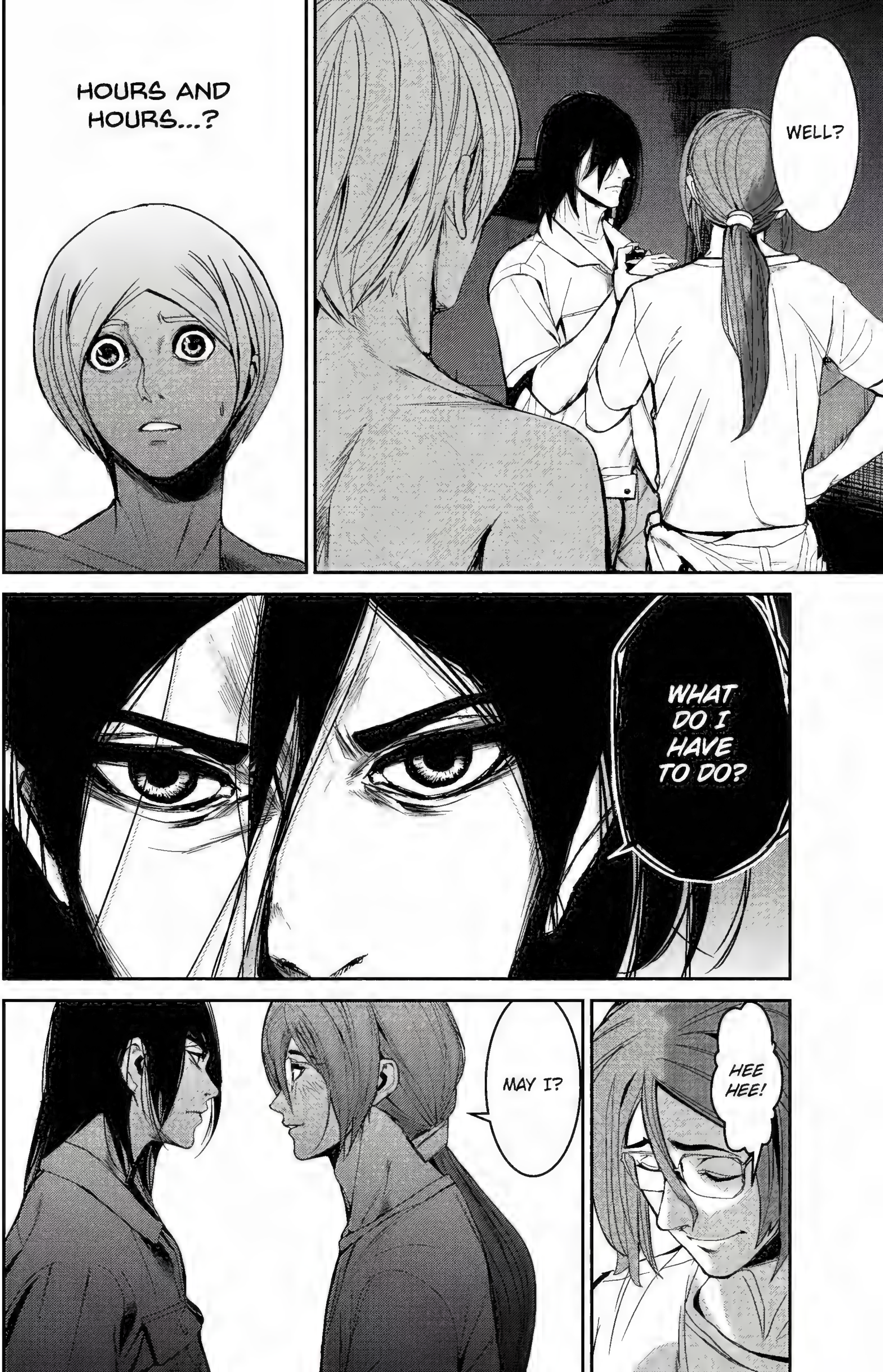
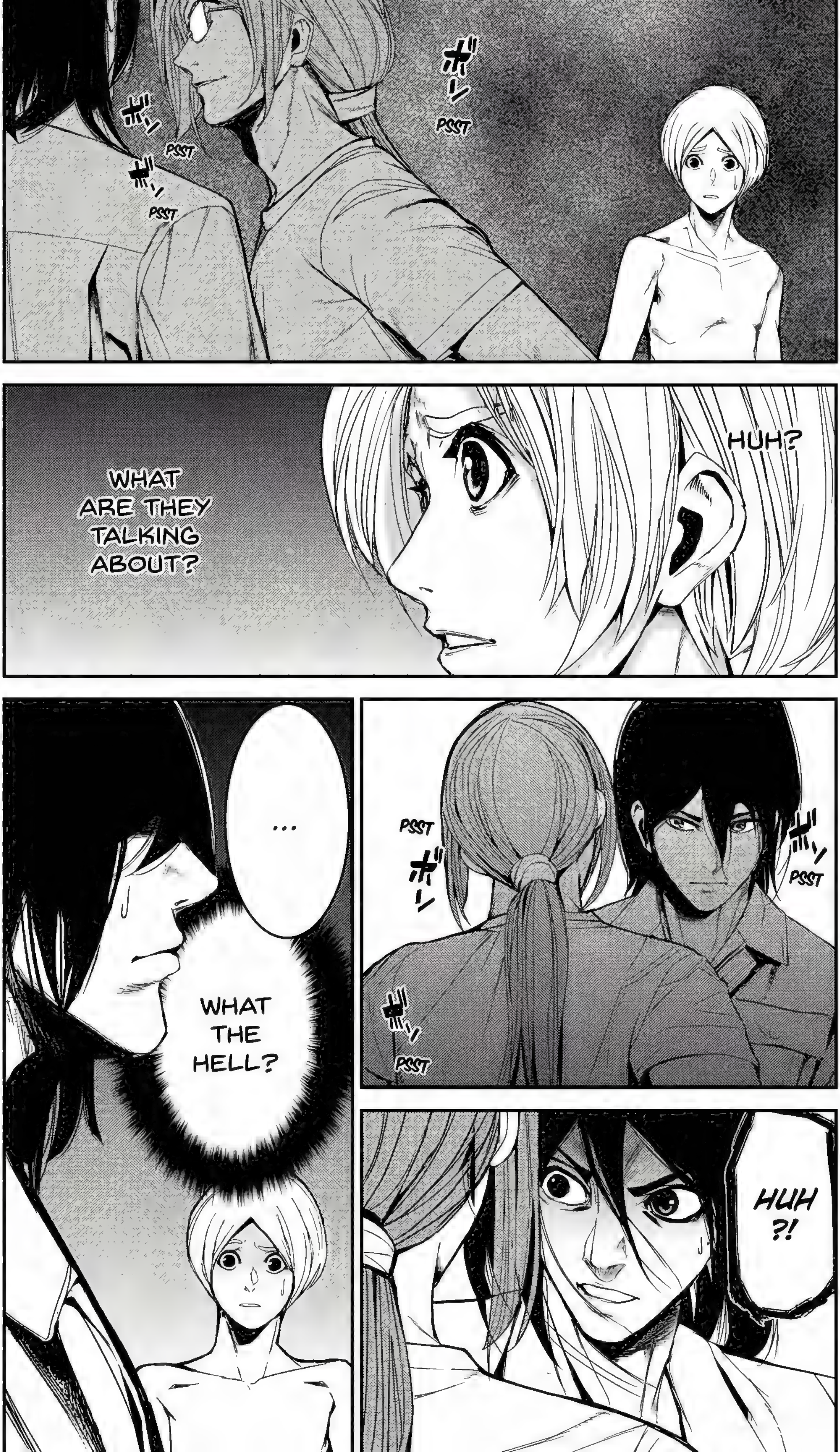
Chapter 52

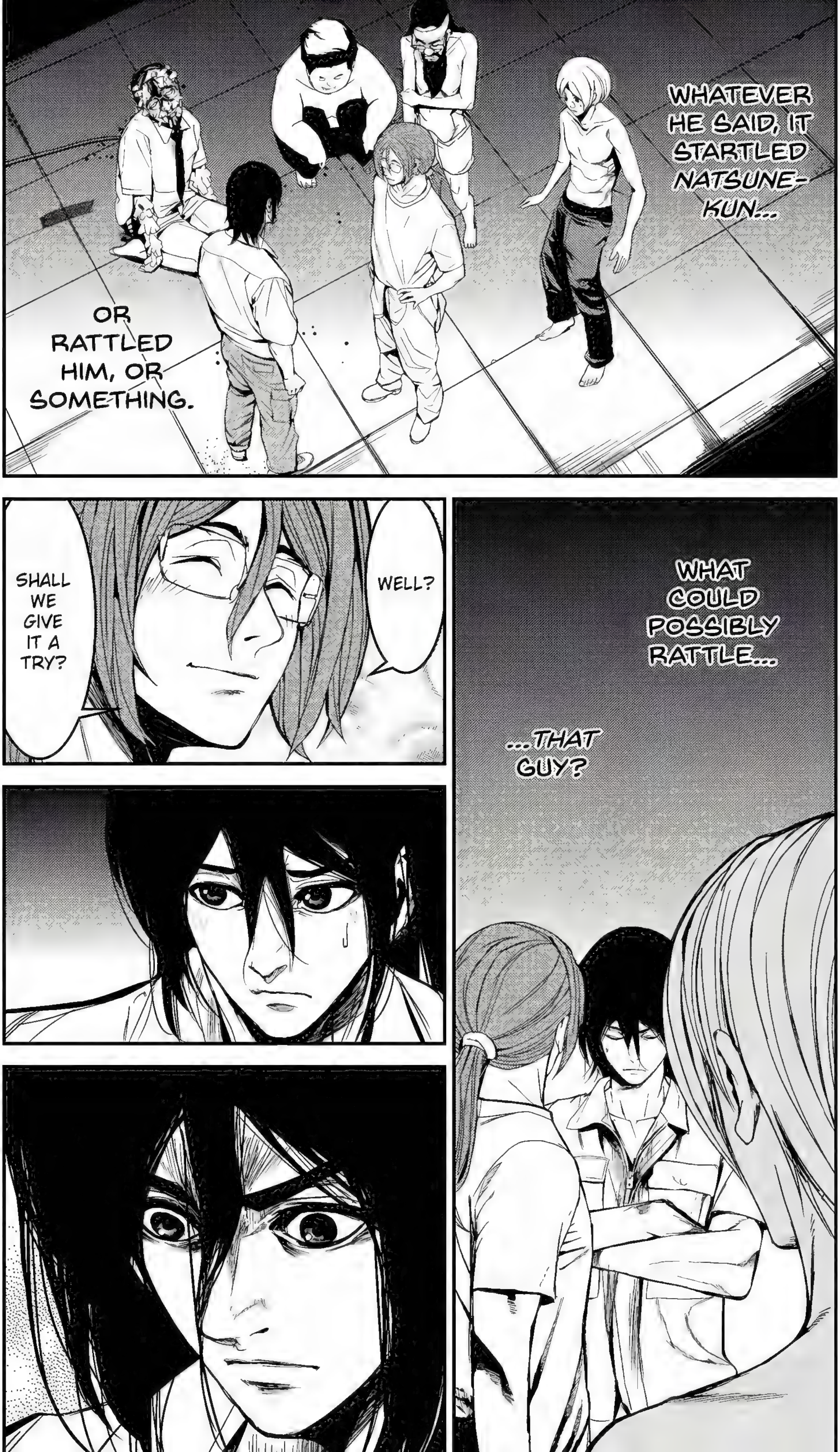

ドッス
THUD
ドス
THUD
ドッス
THUD
グイッ
YANK
...?!

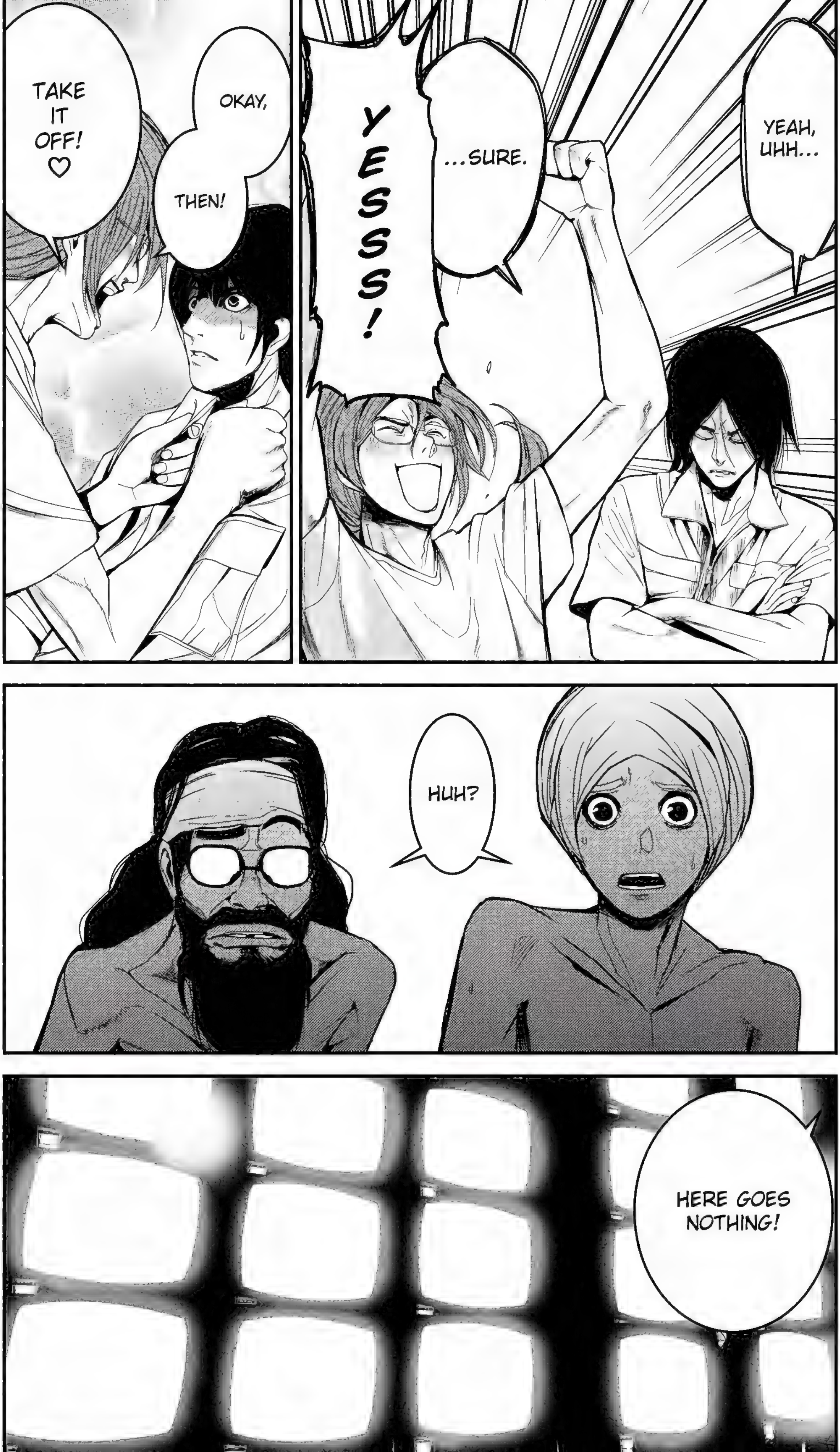

YAMA-BIKI...
SAY THAT AGAIN.
HEE HEE!

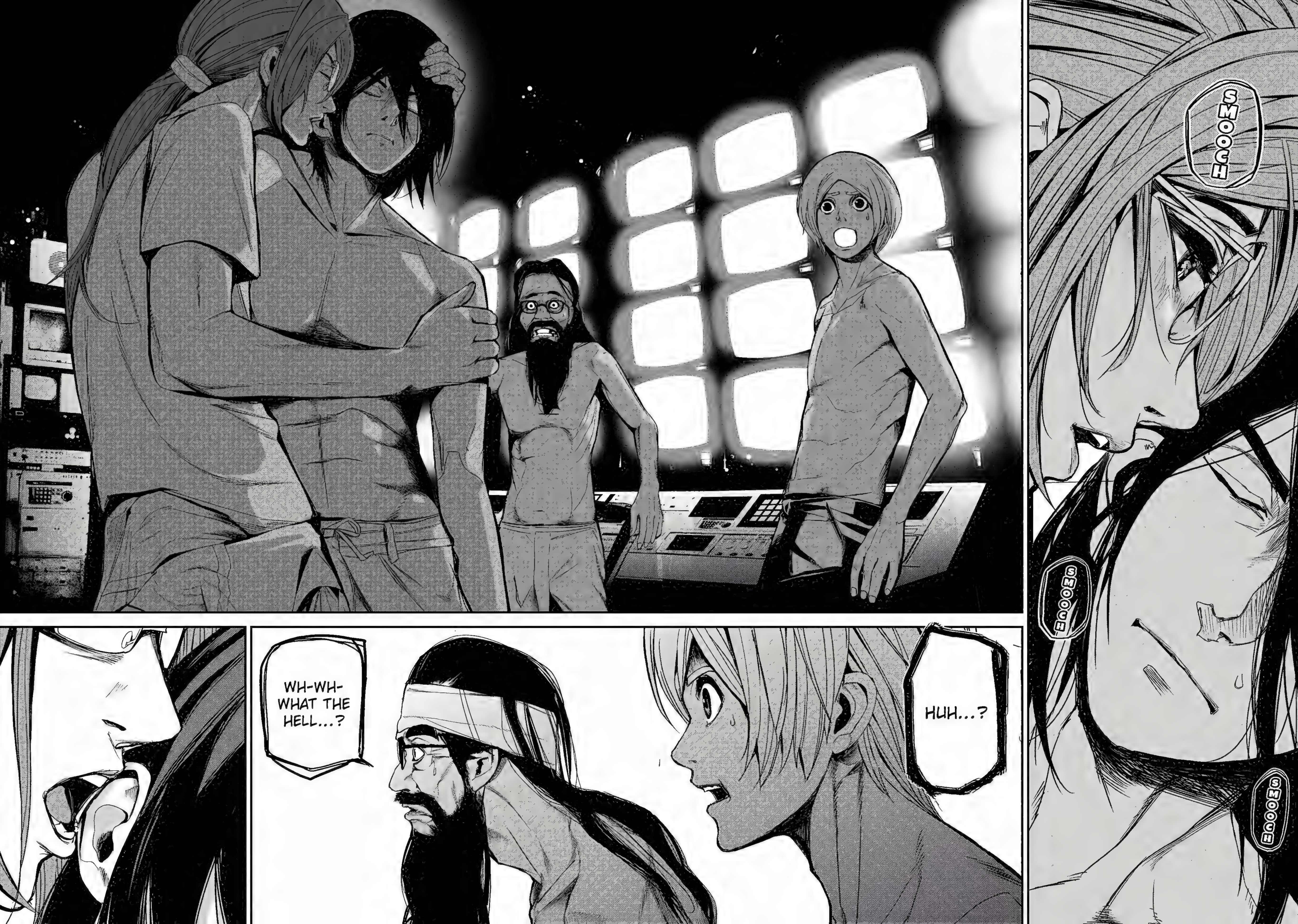

AS...
I...
SAID...
...IF YOU CAN MAKE IT THROUGH HOURS AND HOURS OF VERY, VERY INTENSE PAIN...
...YOU JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO KILL EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THOSE THINGS.
DOES THAT...
...GRAB YOUR ATTENTION?
...

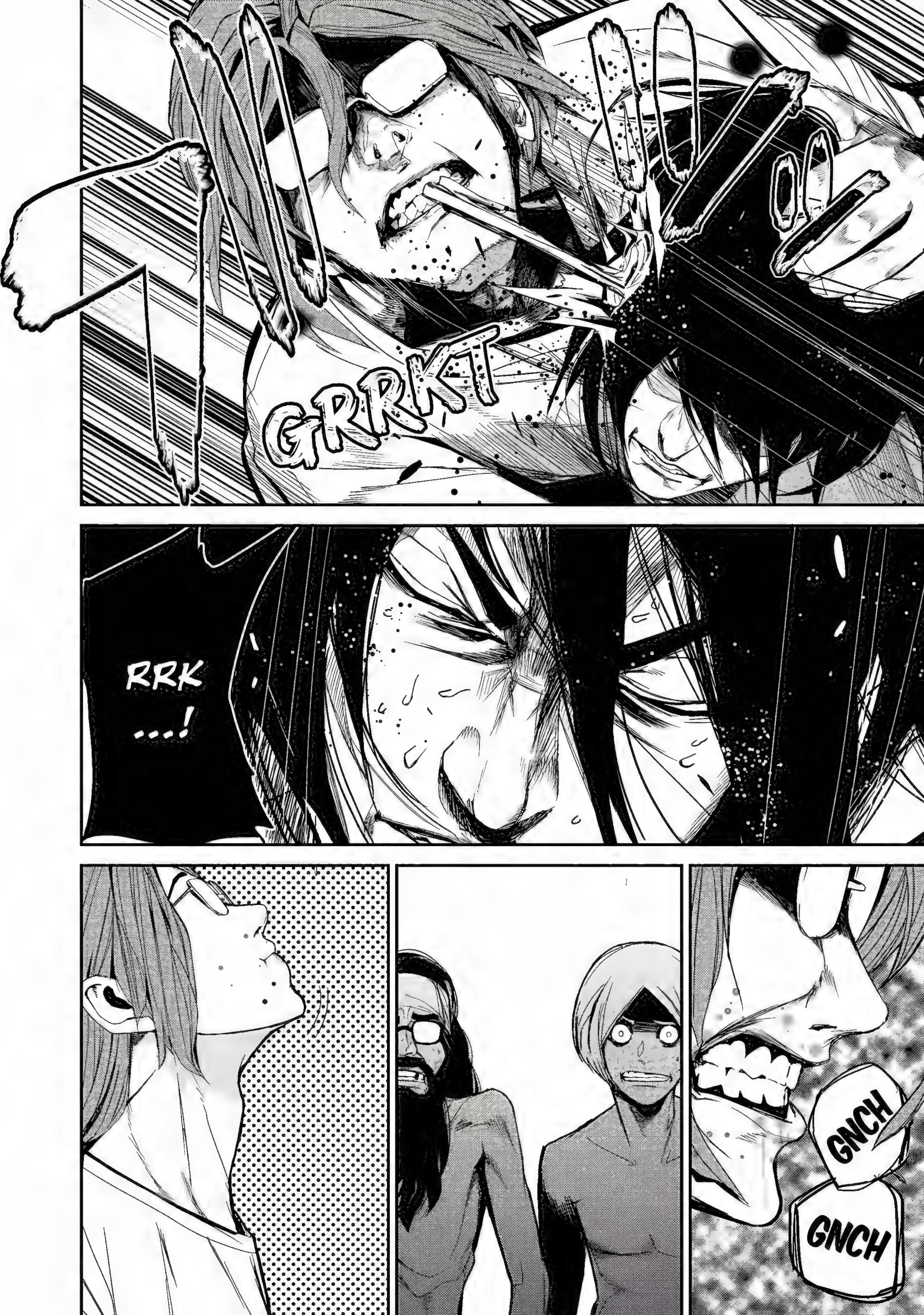

WELL?
HOURS AND HOURS...?
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?
HEE HEE!
MAY I?

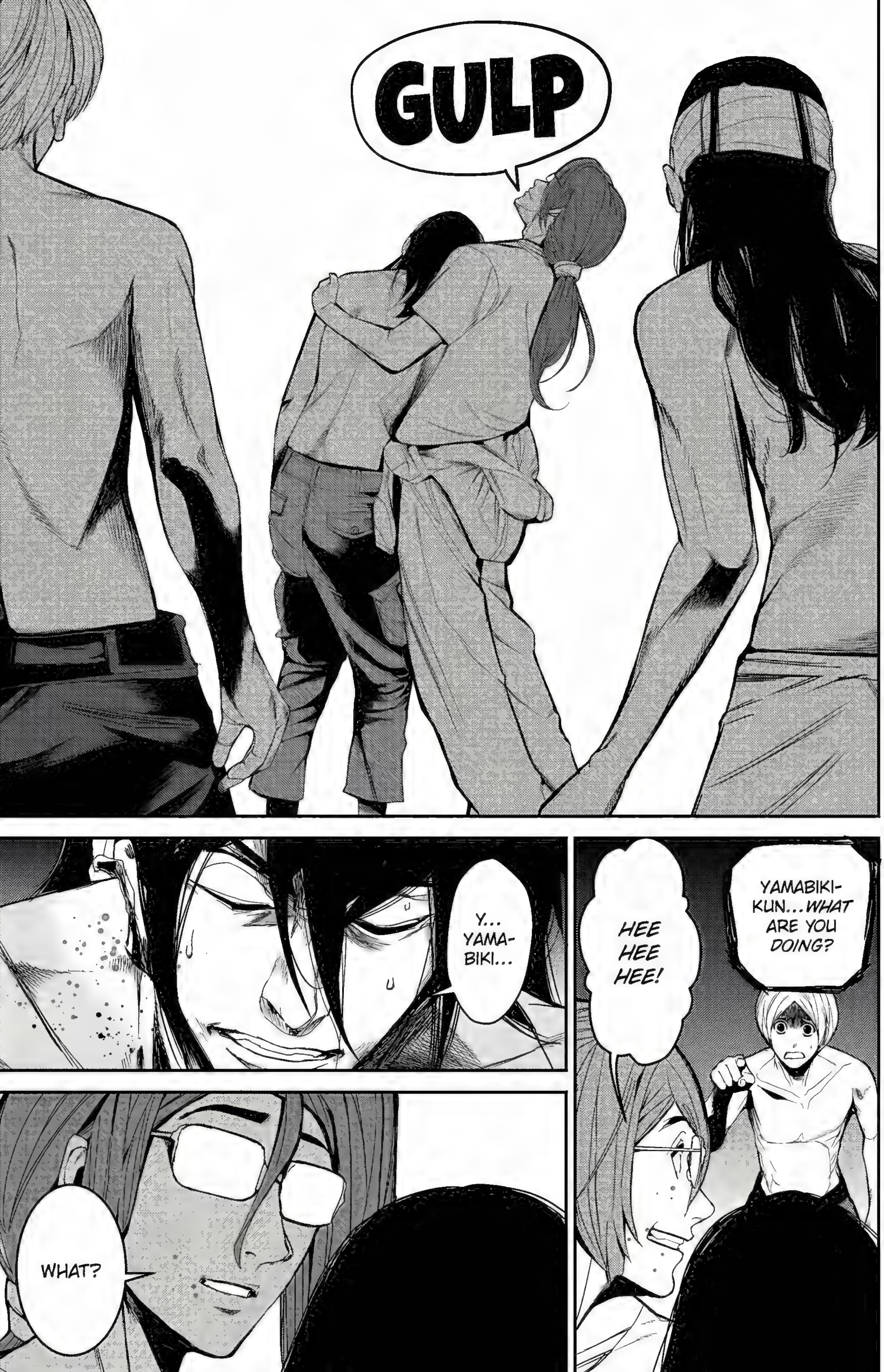

ボソ
PSST
ボソ
PSST
ボソ
PSST
HUH?
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT?
ボソ
PSST
ボソ
PSST
ボソ
PSST
HUH?!
...
WHAT THE HELL?

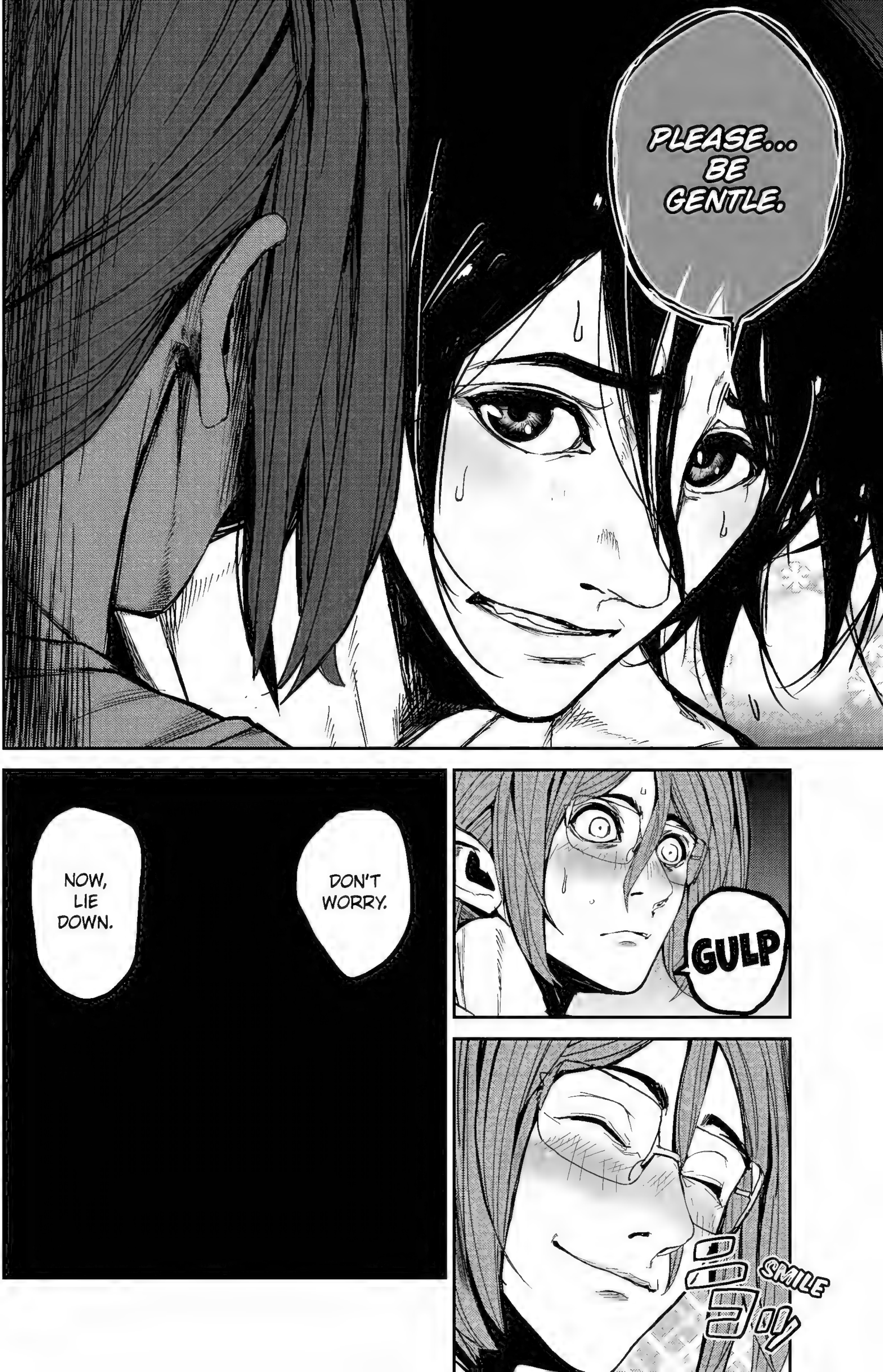

WHATEVER HE SAID, IT STARTLED NATSUNE-KUN...
OR RATTLED HIM, OR SOMETHING.
WHAT COULD POSSIBLY RATTLE...
...THAT GUY?
WELL?
SHALL WE GIVE IT A TRY?

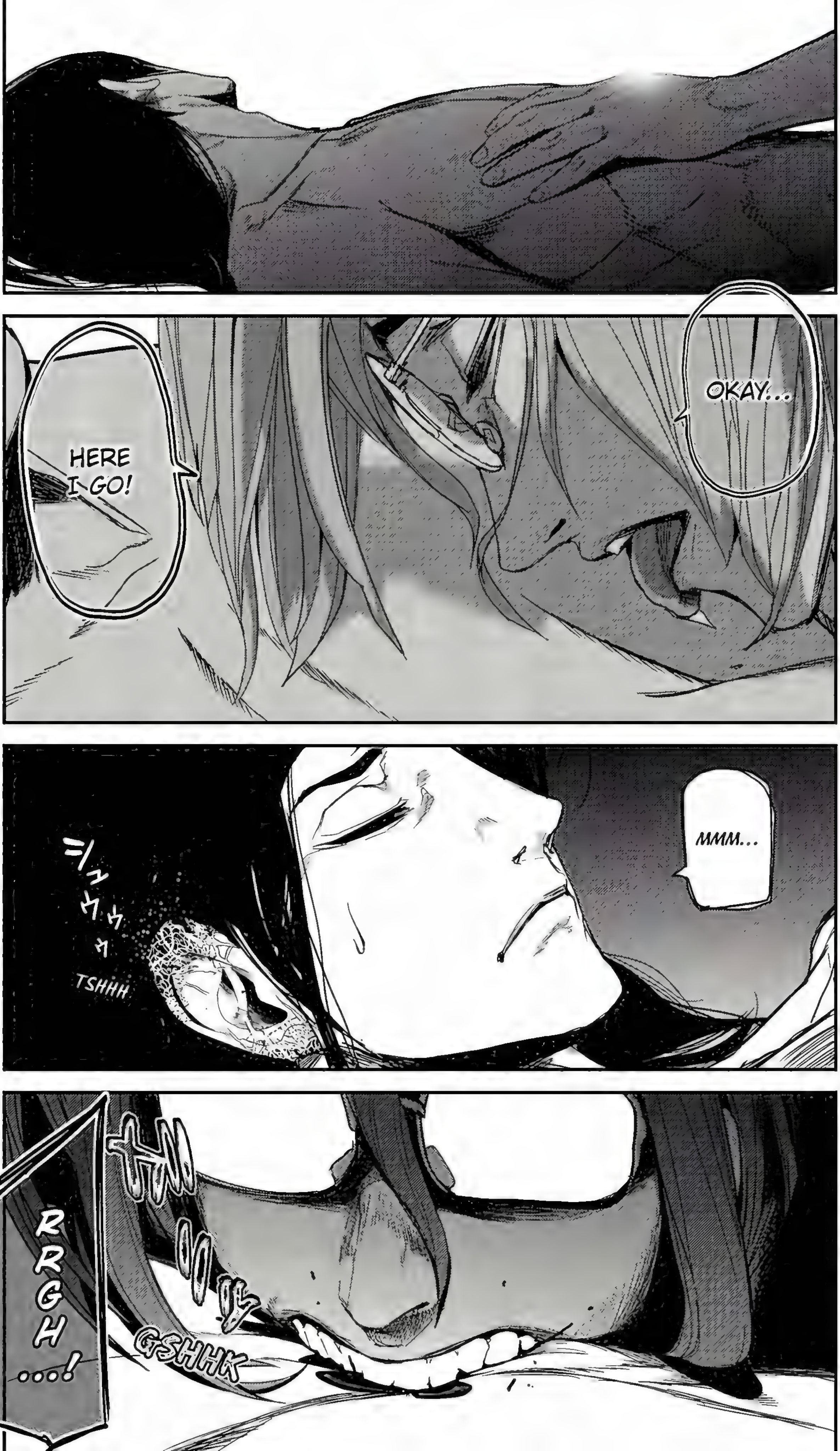

YEAH, UHH...
...SURE.
YESSS!
OKAY, THEN!
TAKE IT OFF! ♡
HUH?
HERE GOES NOTHING!

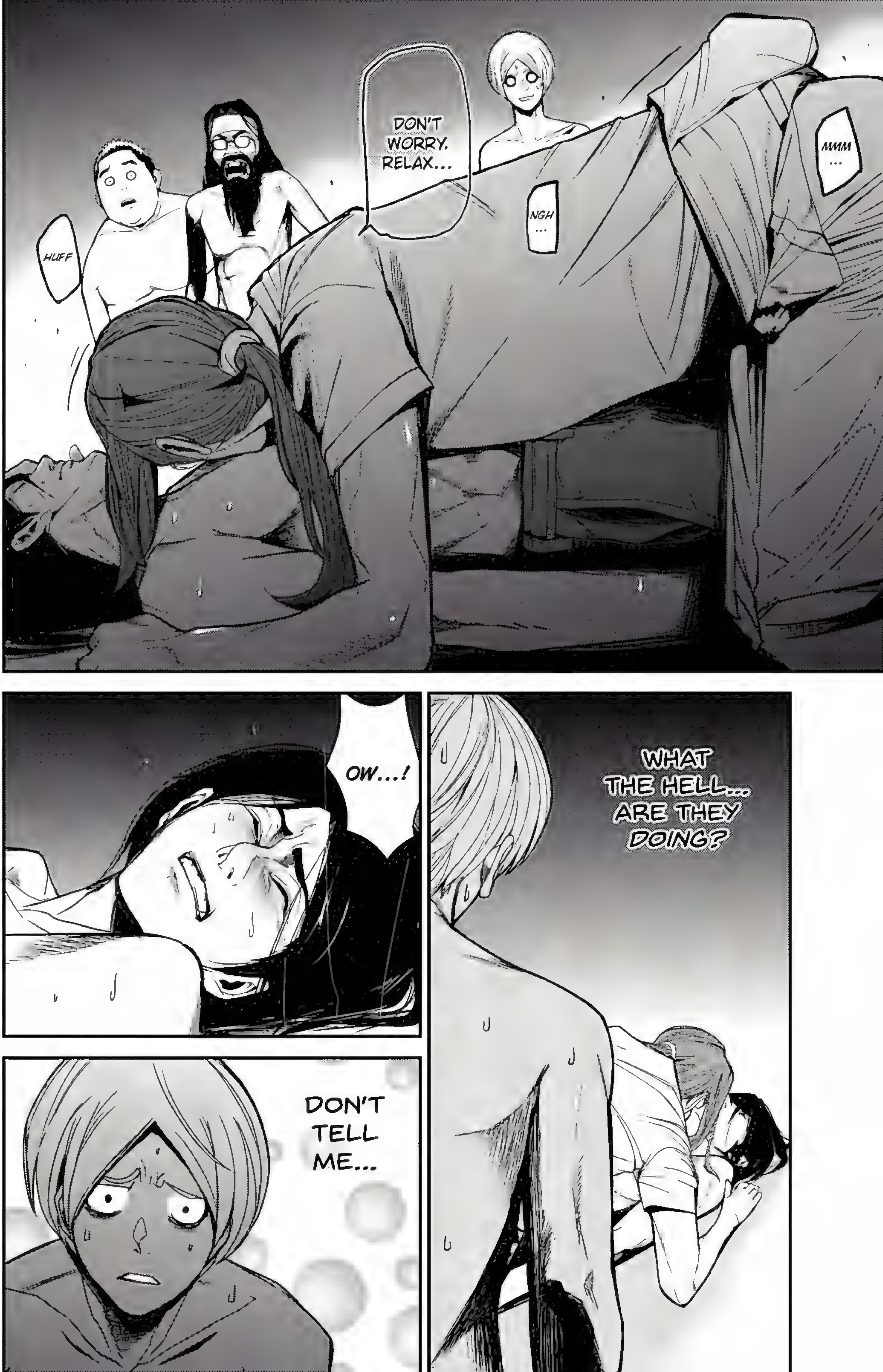

SMOOCH
SMOOCH
SMOOCH
HUH...?
WH-WH-WHAT THE HELL...?

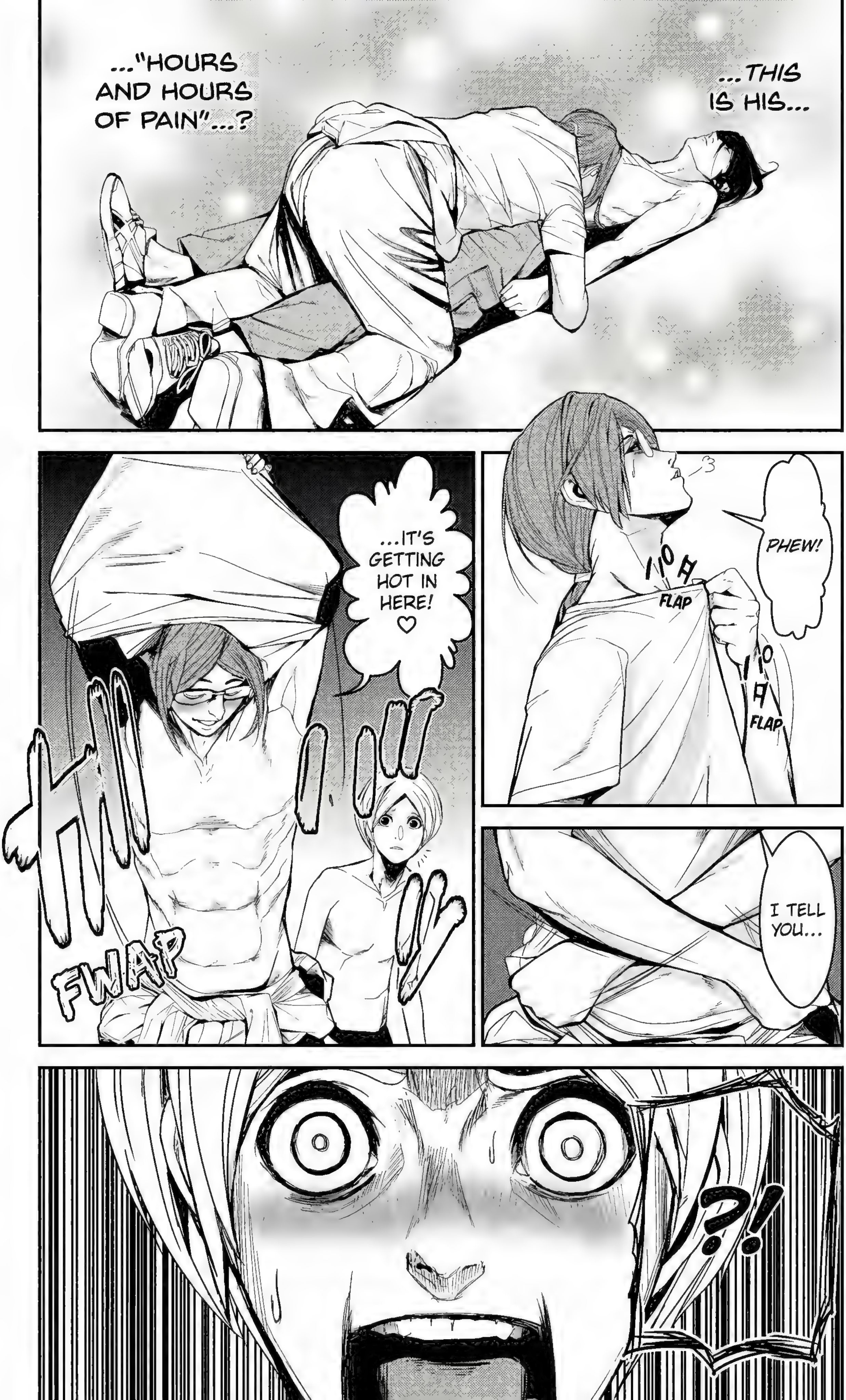

GRRKT
RRK ...!
GNCH
GNCH

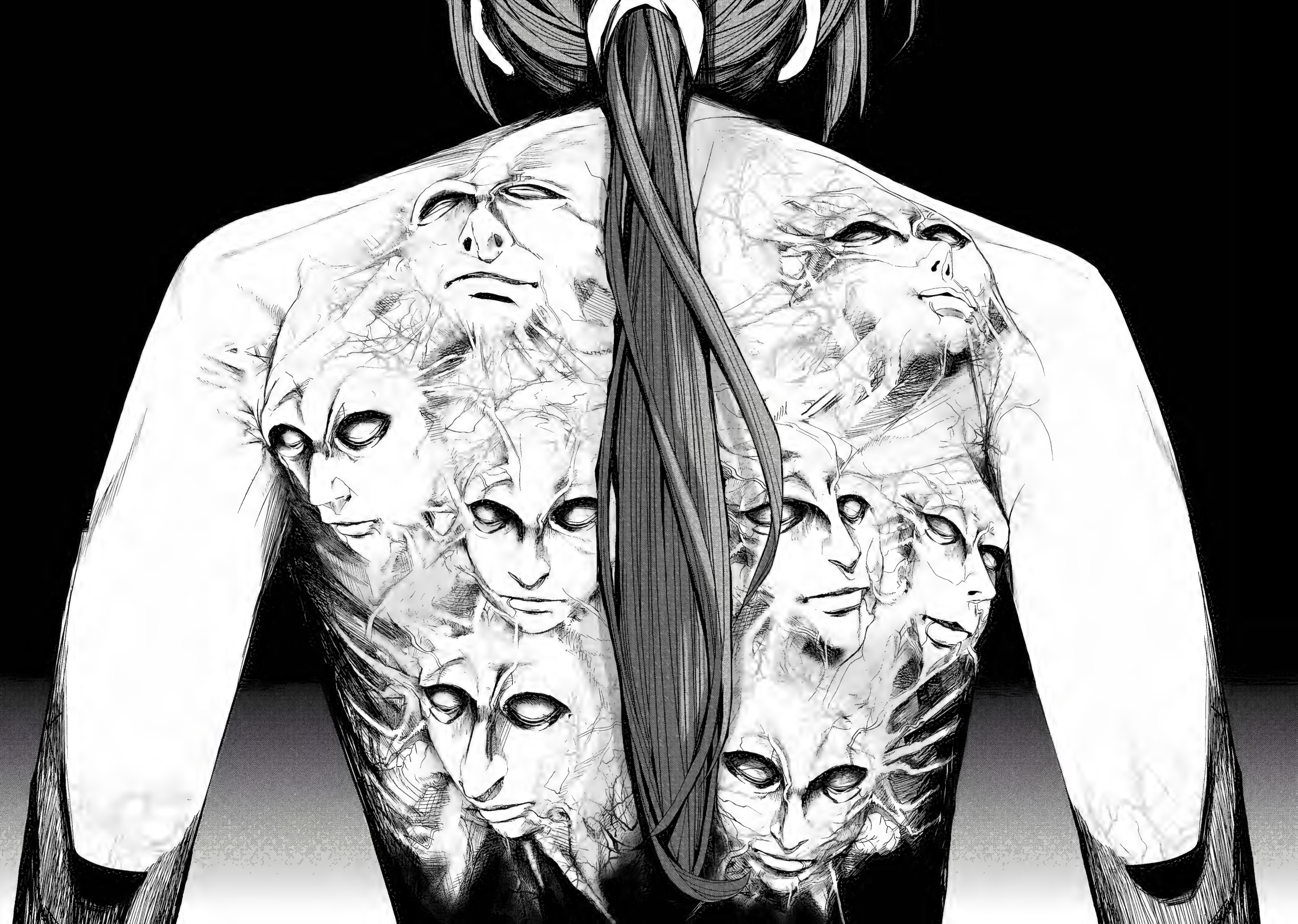

GULP
YAMABIKI-KUN...*WHAT* ARE YOU *DOING?*
HEE HEE HEE!
Y... YAMA-BIKI...
WHAT?

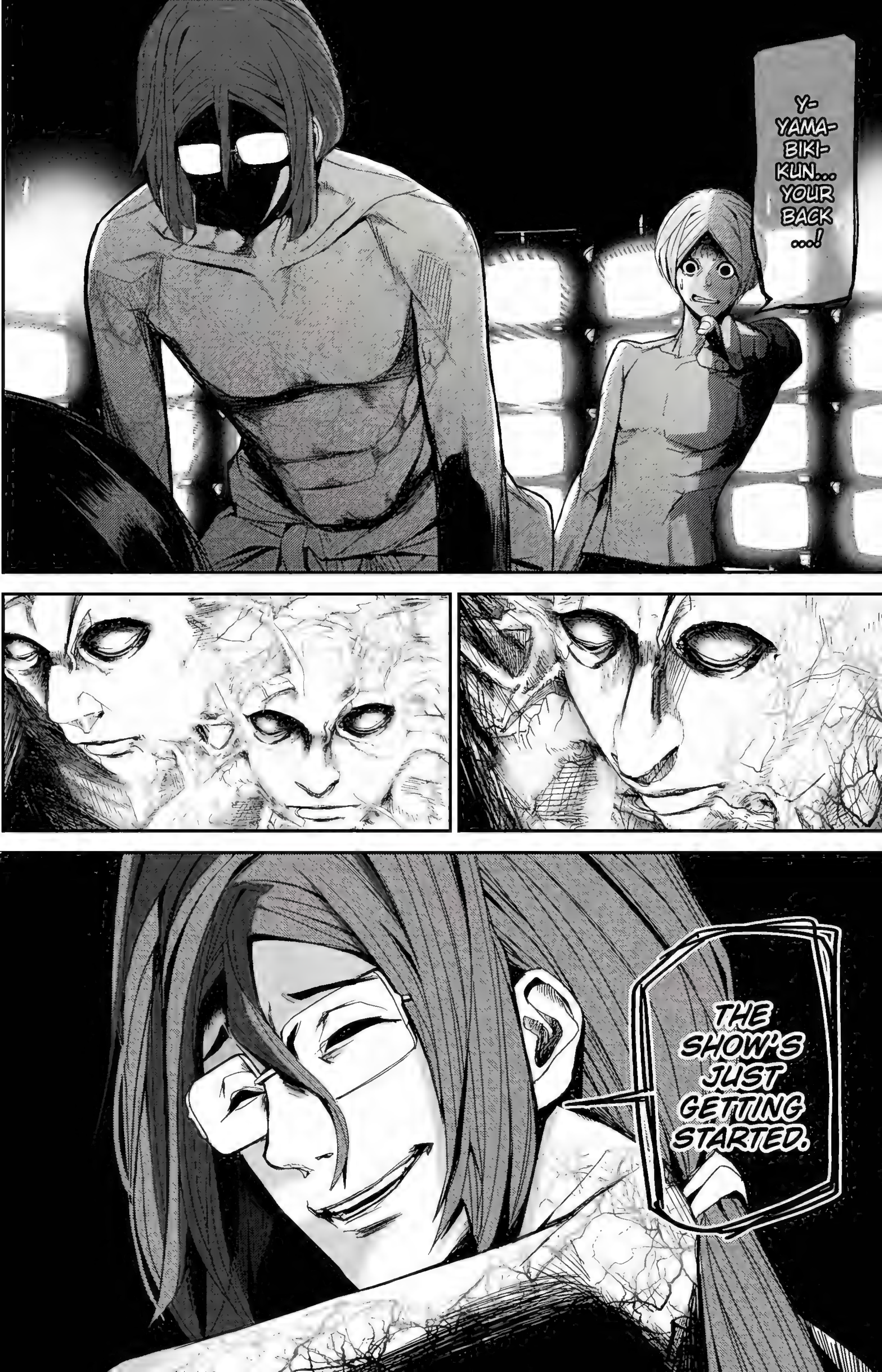

PLEASE... BE GENTLE.
GULP
SMILE
DON'T WORRY.
NOW, LIE DOWN.


OKAY...
HERE I GO!
MMM...
シュウウゥ
TSHHH
ギリリッ
GSHHK
RRGH...!


MMM...
NGH...
DON'T WORRY. RELAX...
HUFF
WHAT THE HELL... ARE THEY DOING?
OW...!
DON'T TELL ME...


...THIS IS HIS...
..."HOURS AND HOURS OF PAIN"...?
PHEW!
パタ FLAP
パタ FLAP
I TELL YOU...
...IT'S GETTING HOT IN HERE! ♡
FWAP
HIII!!
!?!




Y-YAMABIKI-KUN... YOUR BACK...!
THE SHOW'S JUST GETTING STARTED.

STARVING
ANONYMOUS

STARVING ANONYMOUS

Story by Yuu Kuraishi × *Art by* Kazu Inabe

Original concept by Kengo Mizutani

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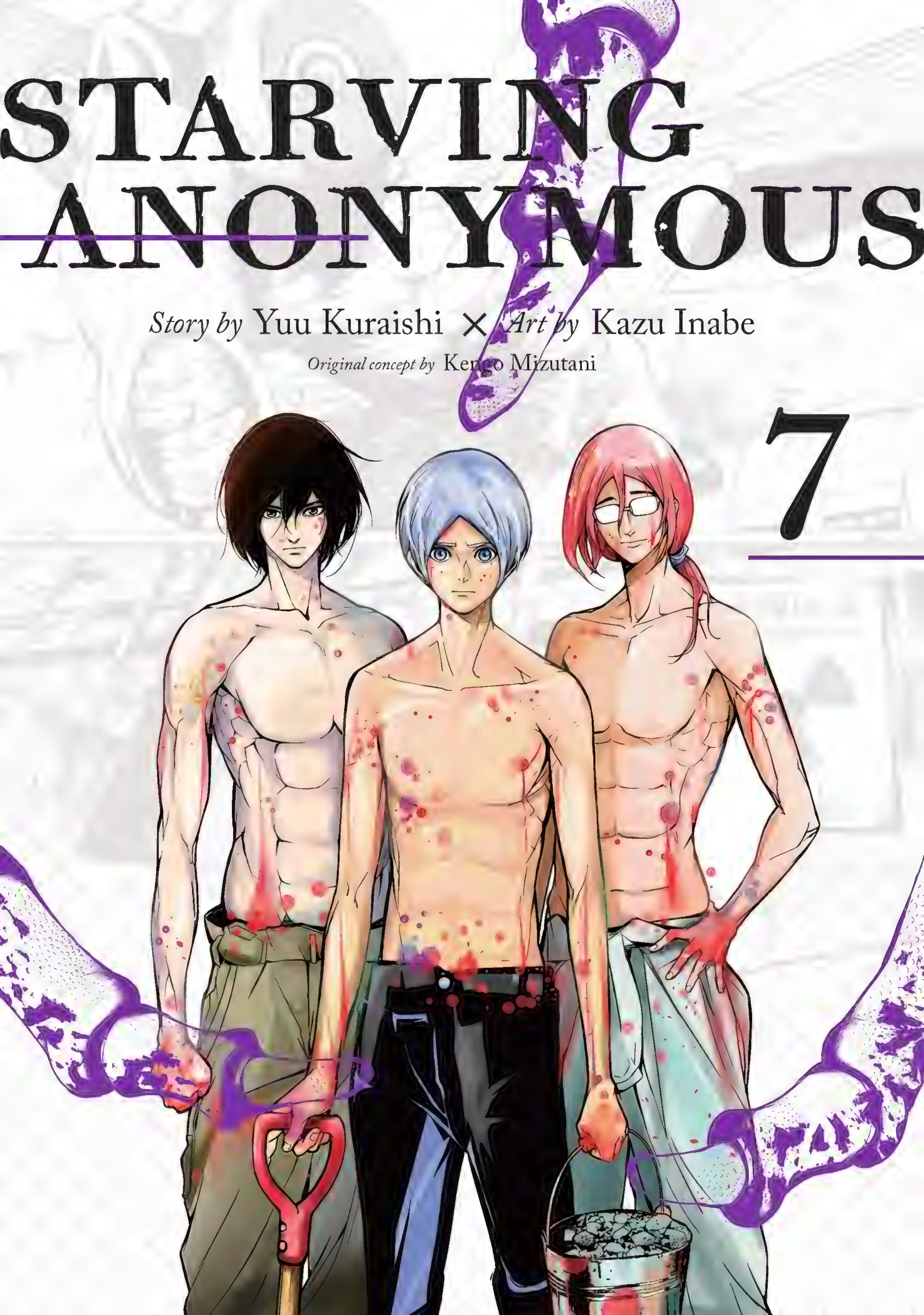

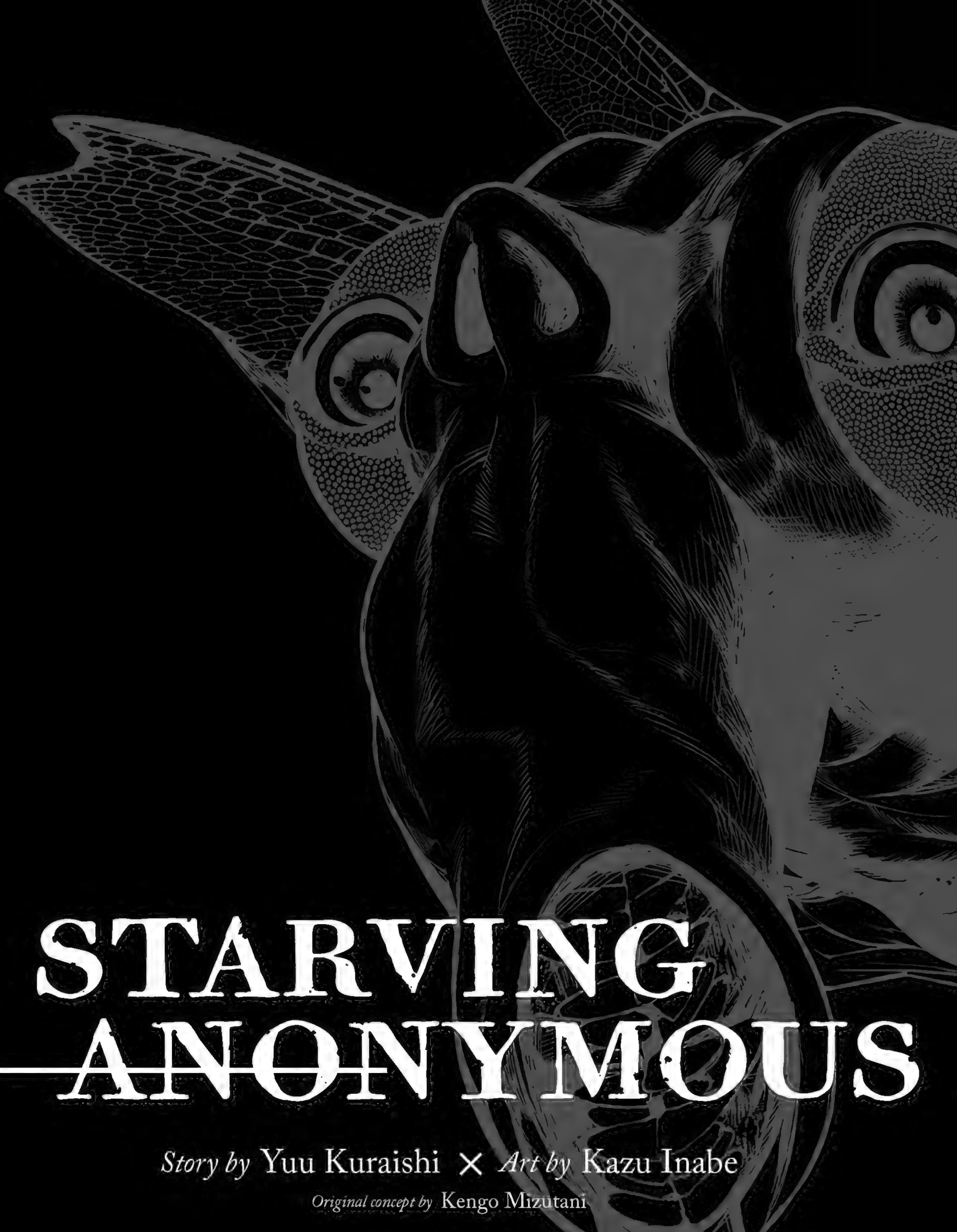

STARVING ANONYMOUS

Story by Yuu Kuraishi × *Art by* Kazu Inabe

Original concept by Kengo Mizutani

7

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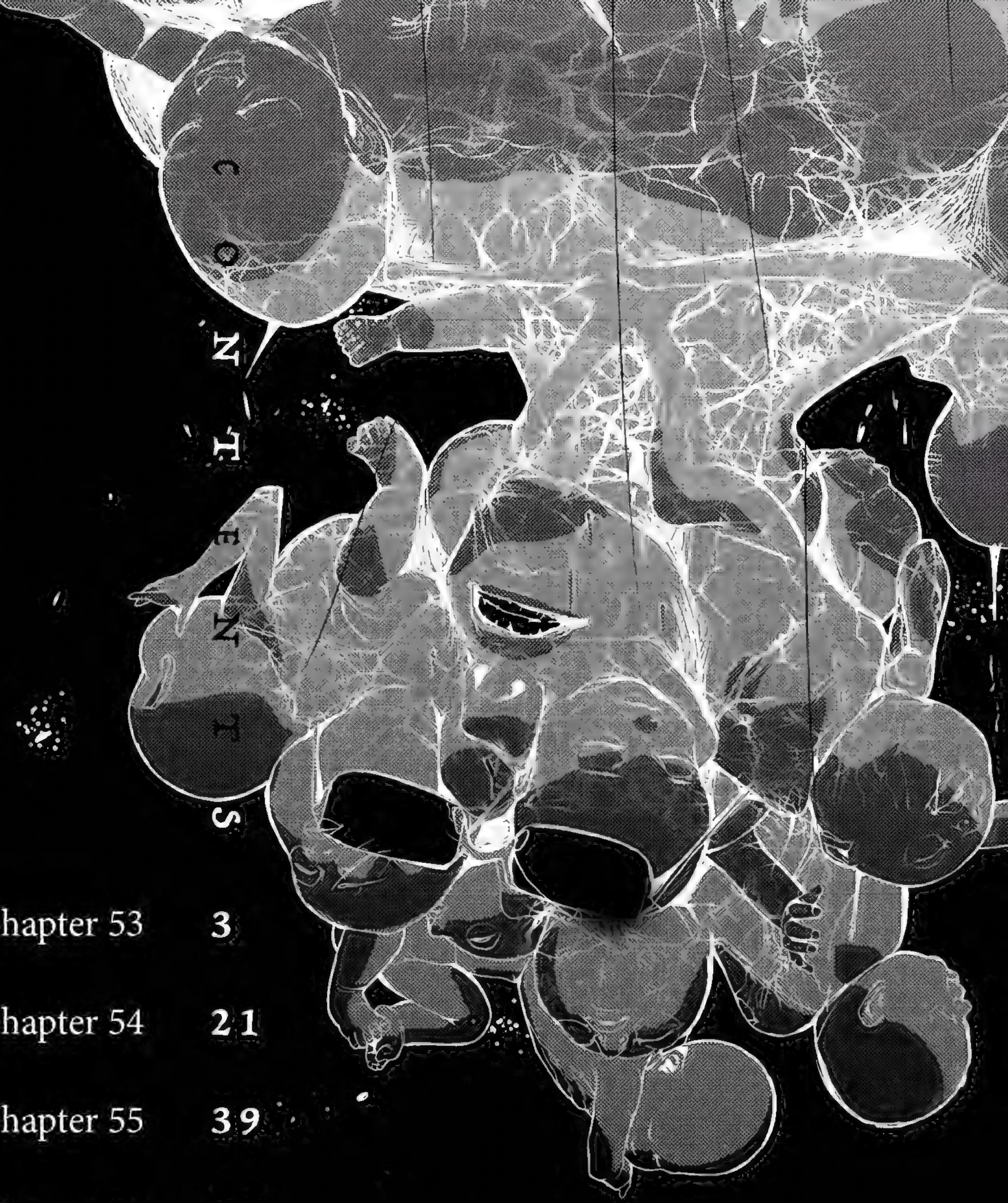

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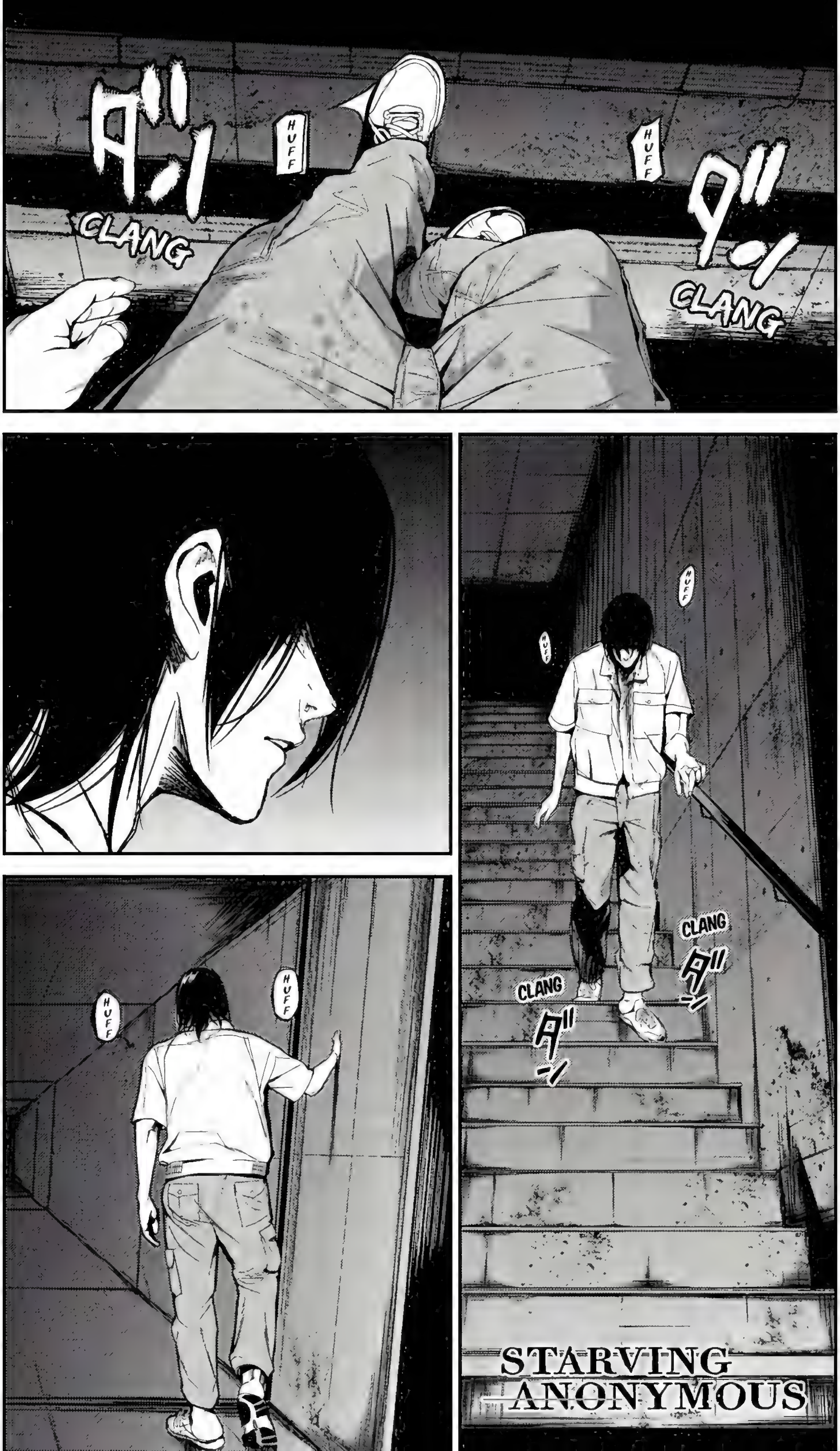
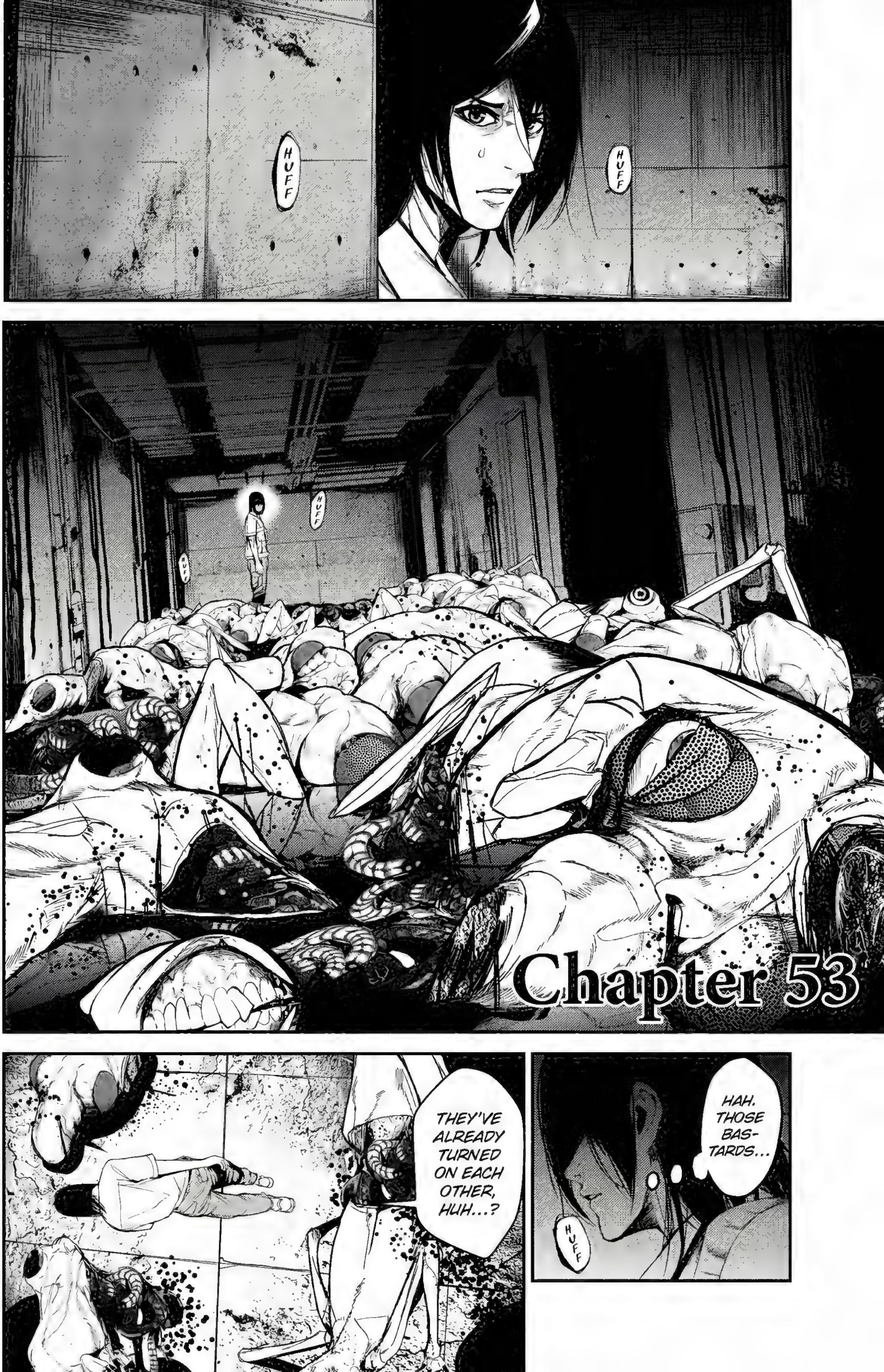
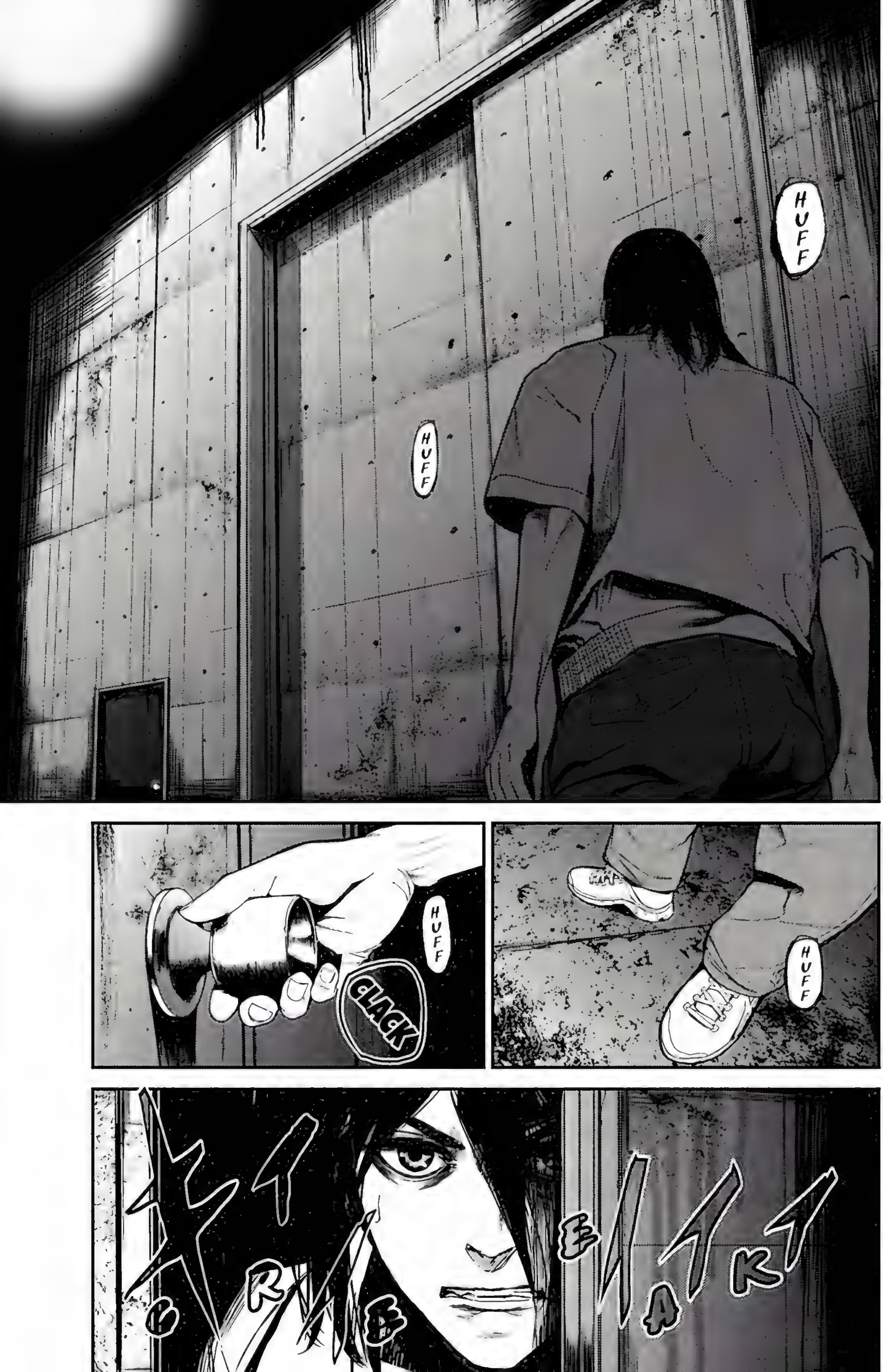
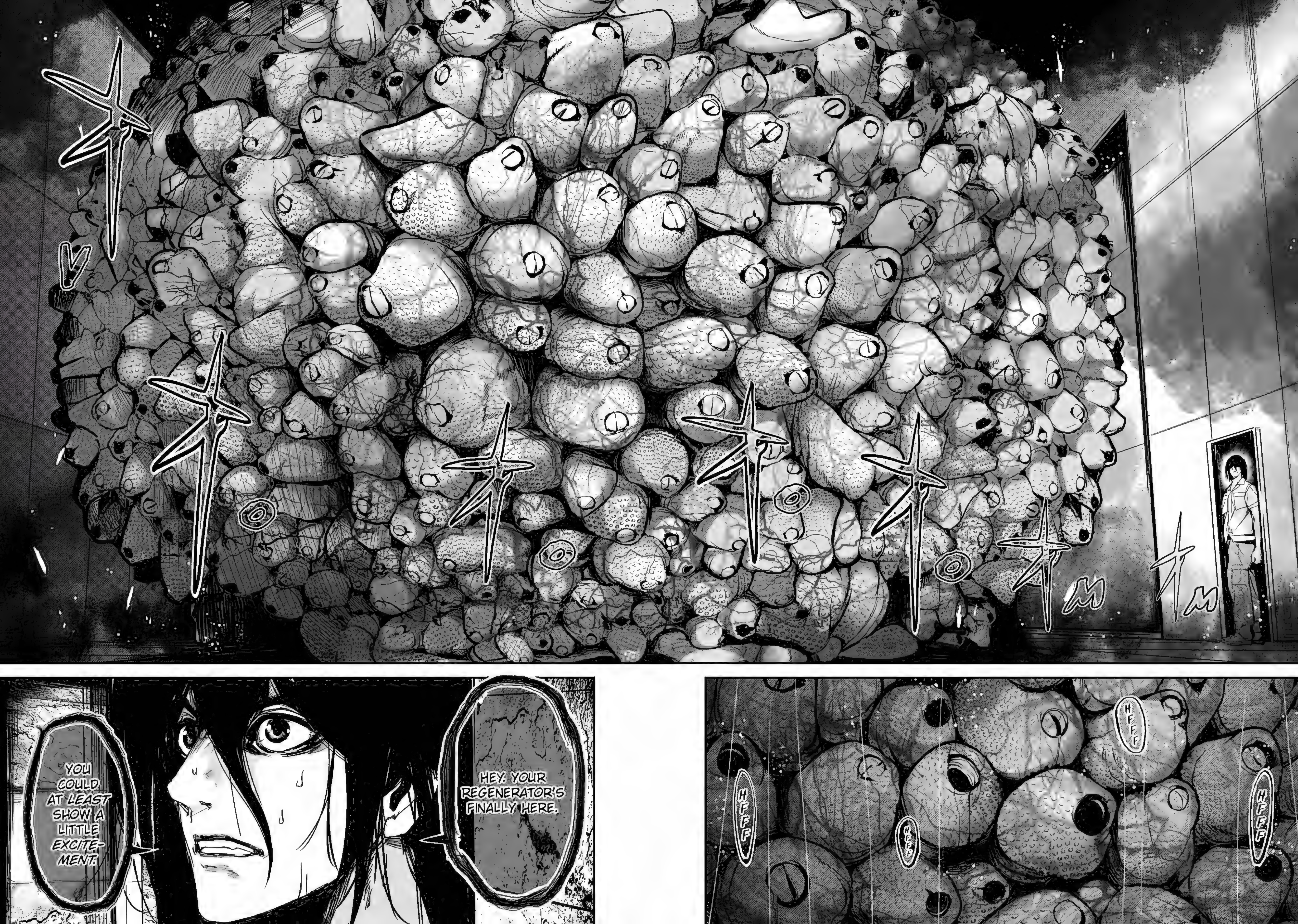
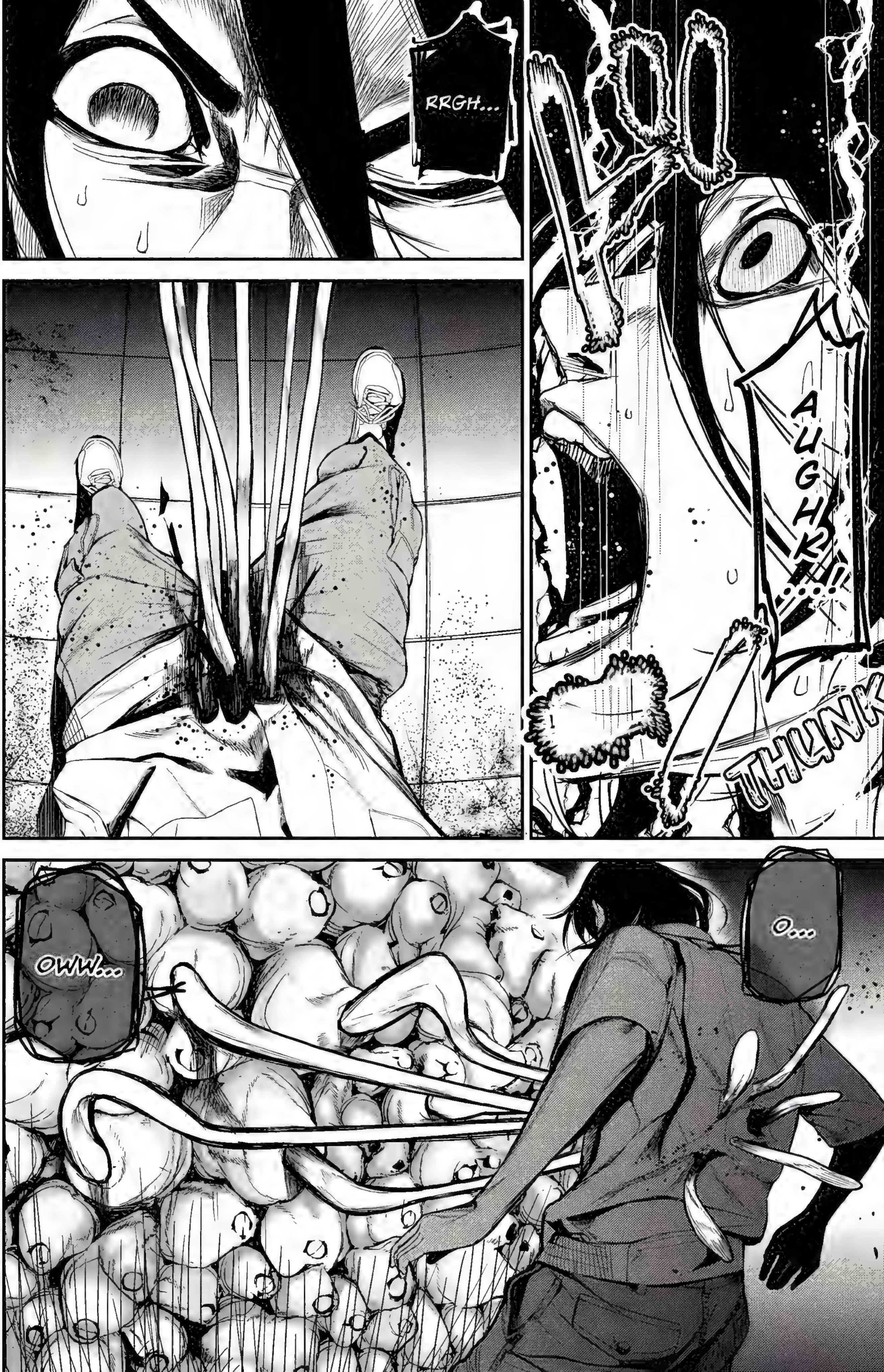

HUFF
ダッ
CLANG
HUFF
ダッ
CLANG
HUFF
HUFF
CLANG
ダッ
CLANG
ダッ
HUFF
HUFF
STARVING ANONYMOUS

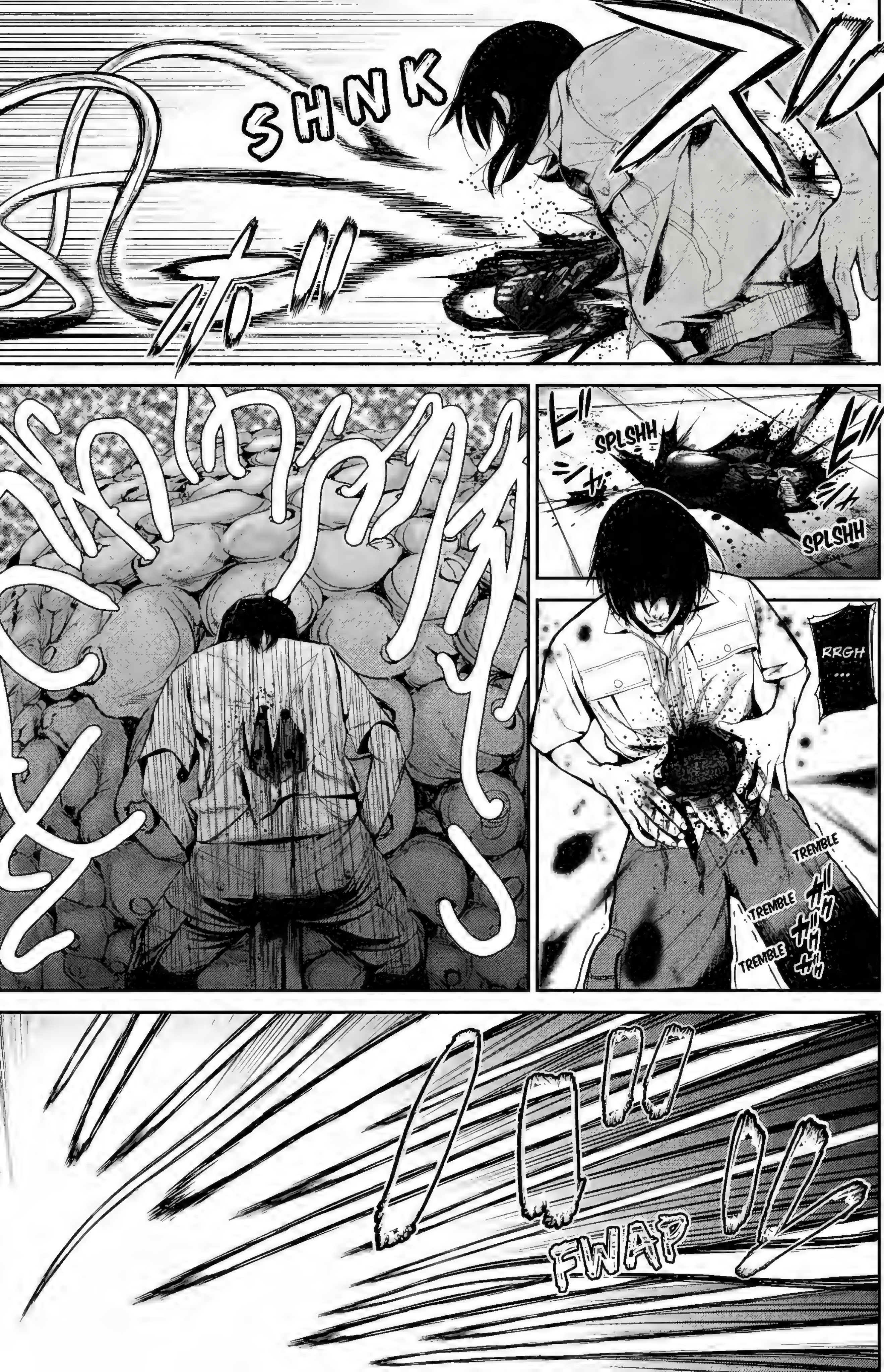
Chapter 53

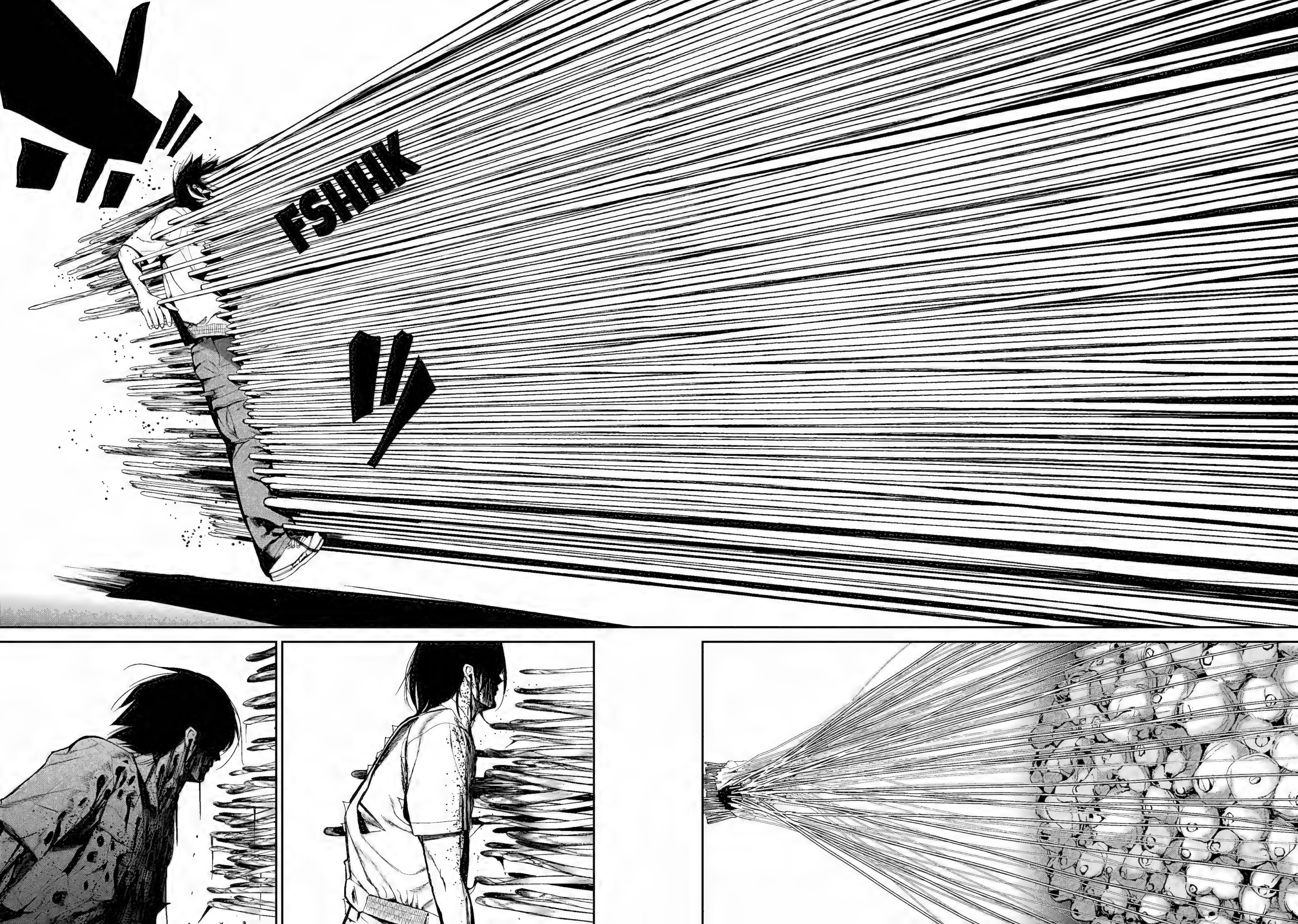

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HAH. THOSE BAS-TARDS...
HUFF
THEY'VE ALREADY TURNED ON EACH OTHER, HUH...?

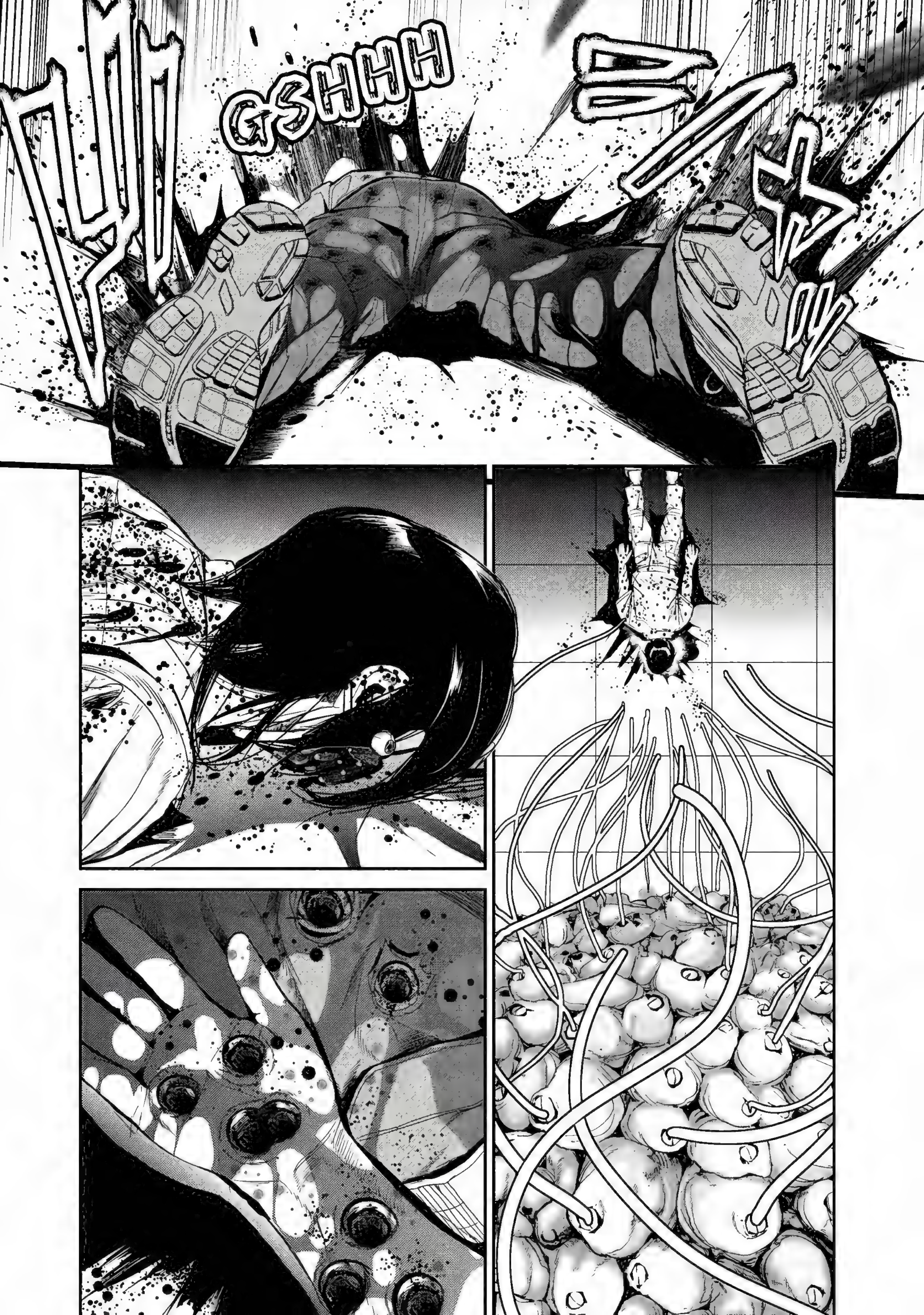

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
CLACK
CREEAK

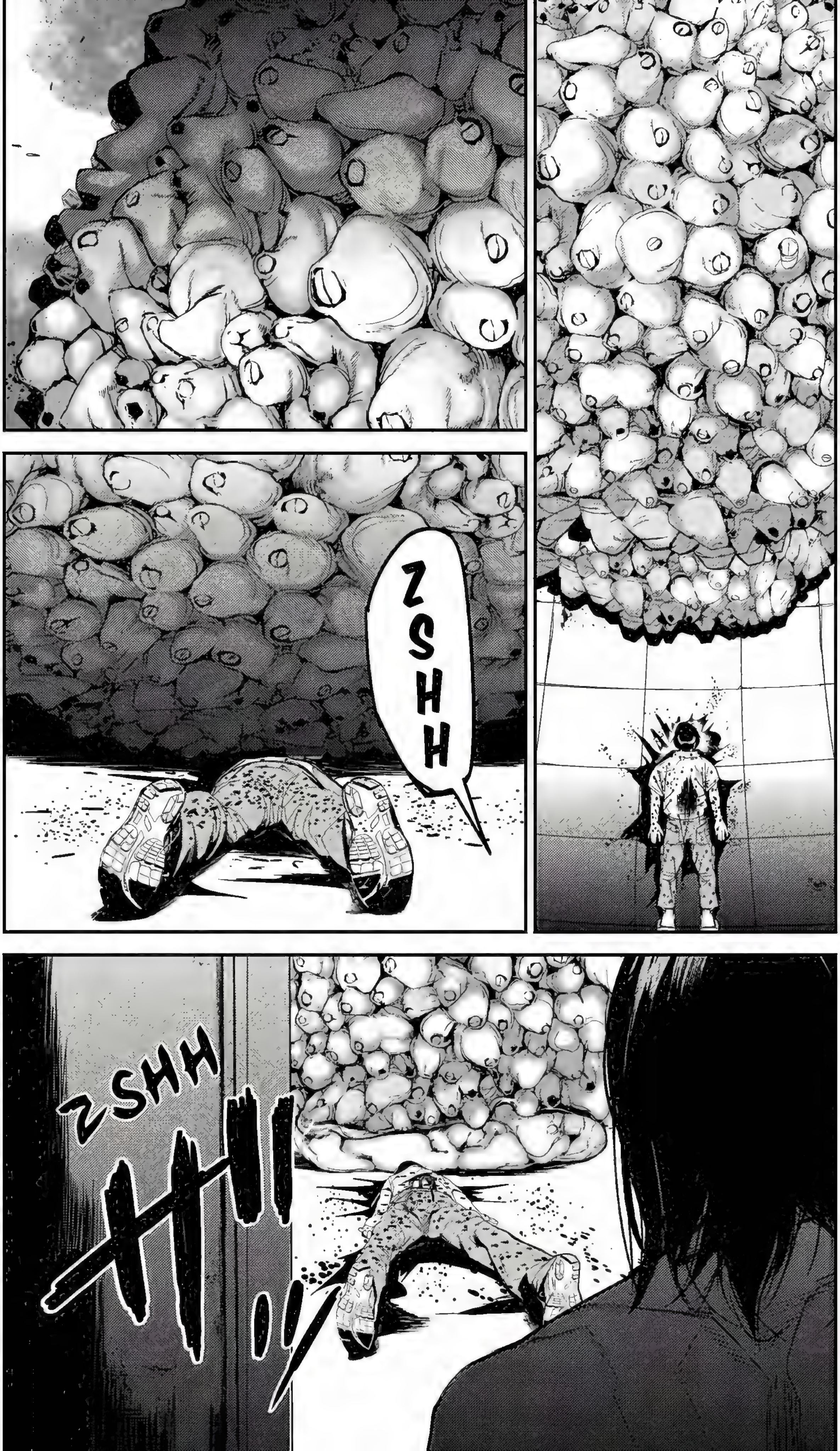

M
M
HFFF
HFF
HFFF
HFFF
HEY. YOUR REGENERATOR'S FINALLY HERE.
YOU COULD AT *LEAST* SHOW A LITTLE *EXCITEMENT.*

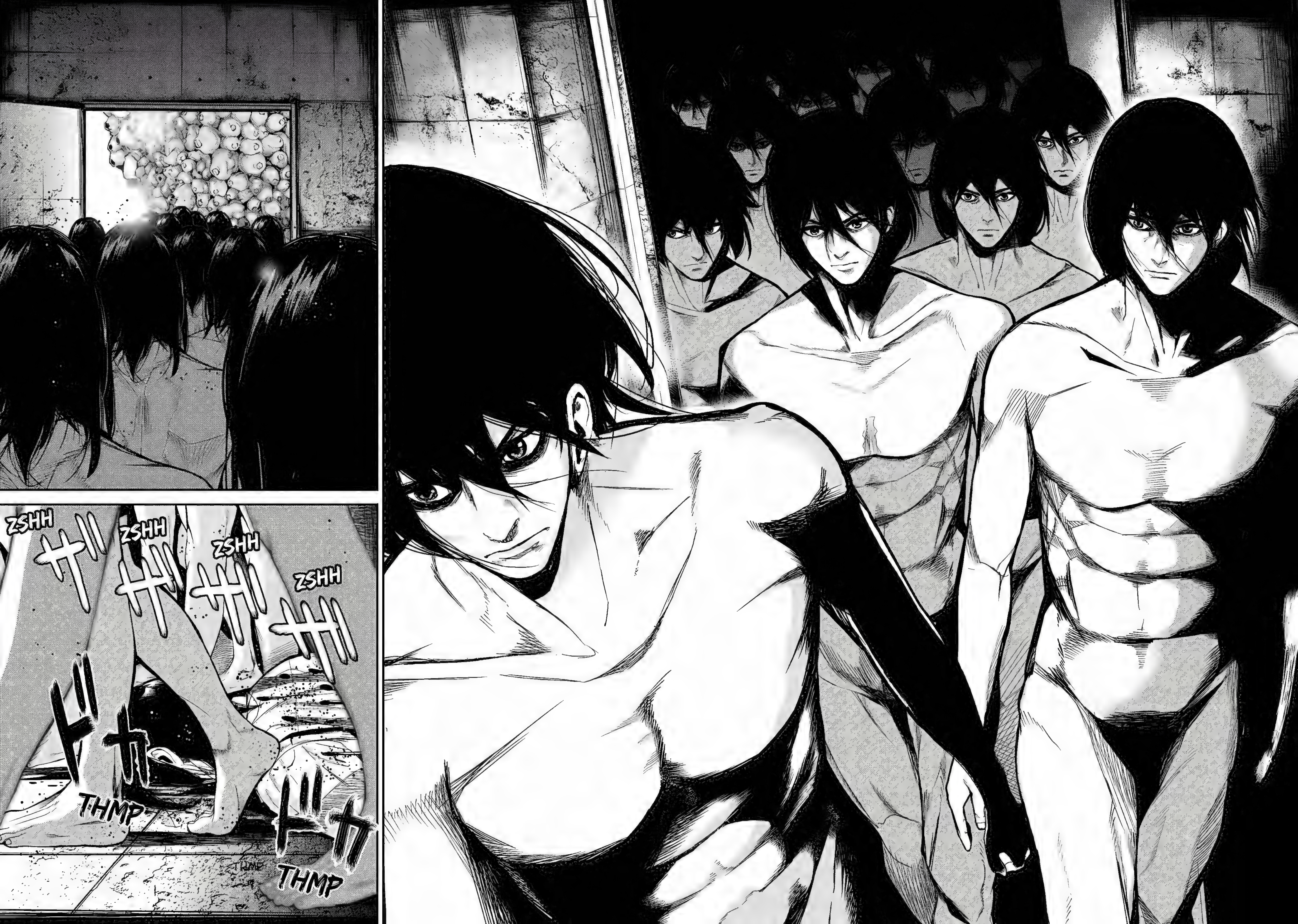

AUGHK...!!
THUNK
RRGH...
O...
OWW...

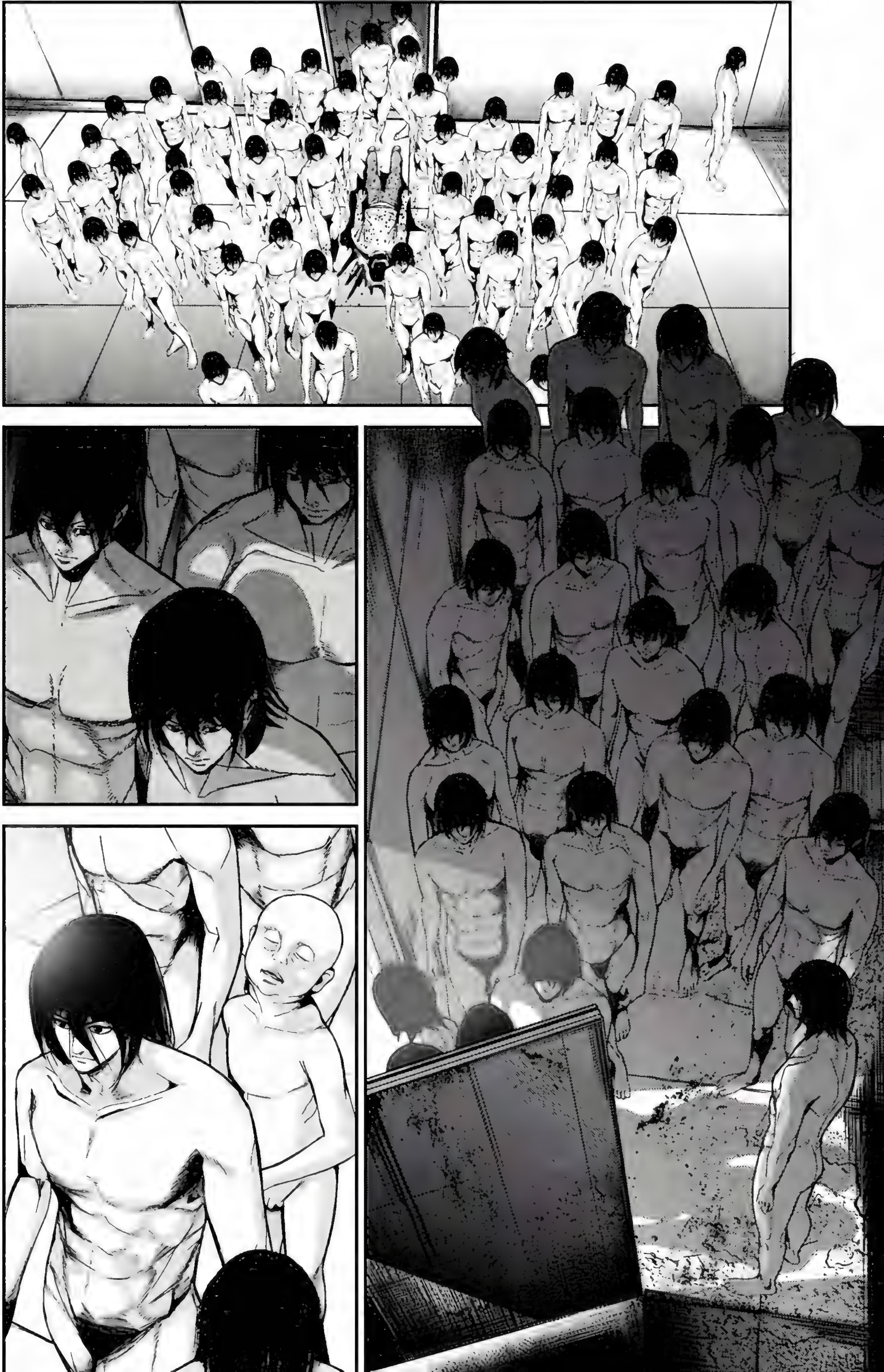

SHNK
SPLSHH
SPLSHH
RRGH ...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
FWAP

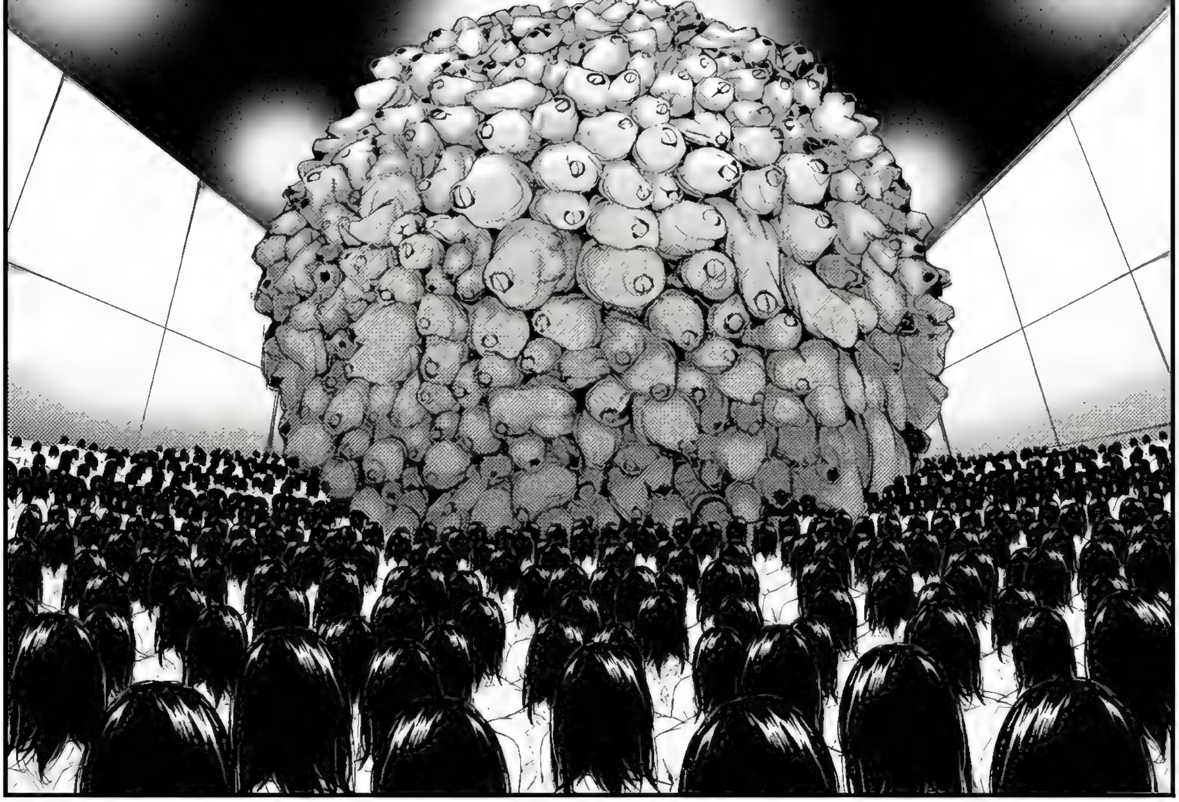

FSHHK


GSHHH

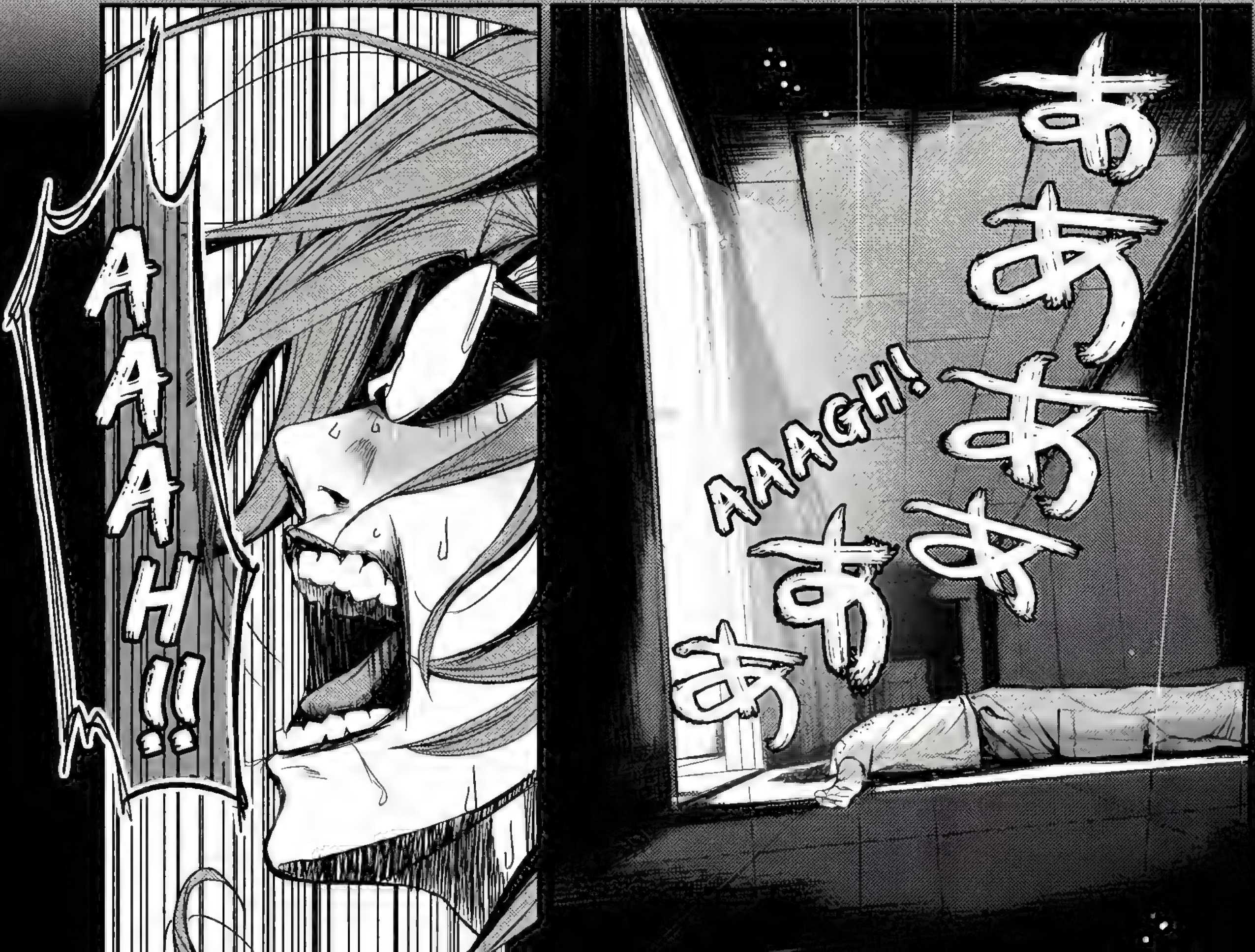

ZSHH
ZSHHHH!!

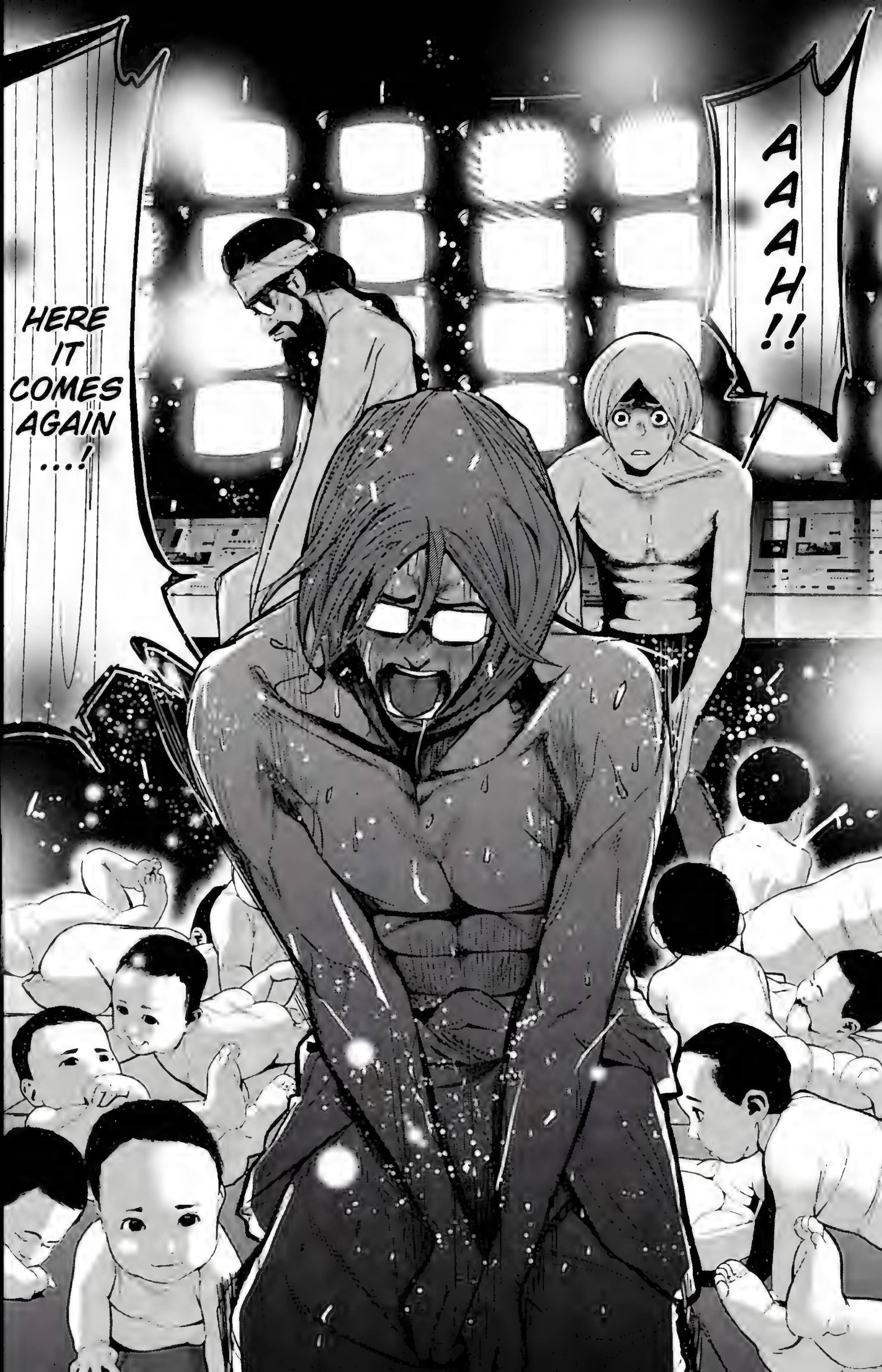

ZSHH
ザッ
ZSHH
ザッ
ZSHH
ザッ
ZSHH
ザッ
ドサ
THMP
ドサ
THMP
THMP

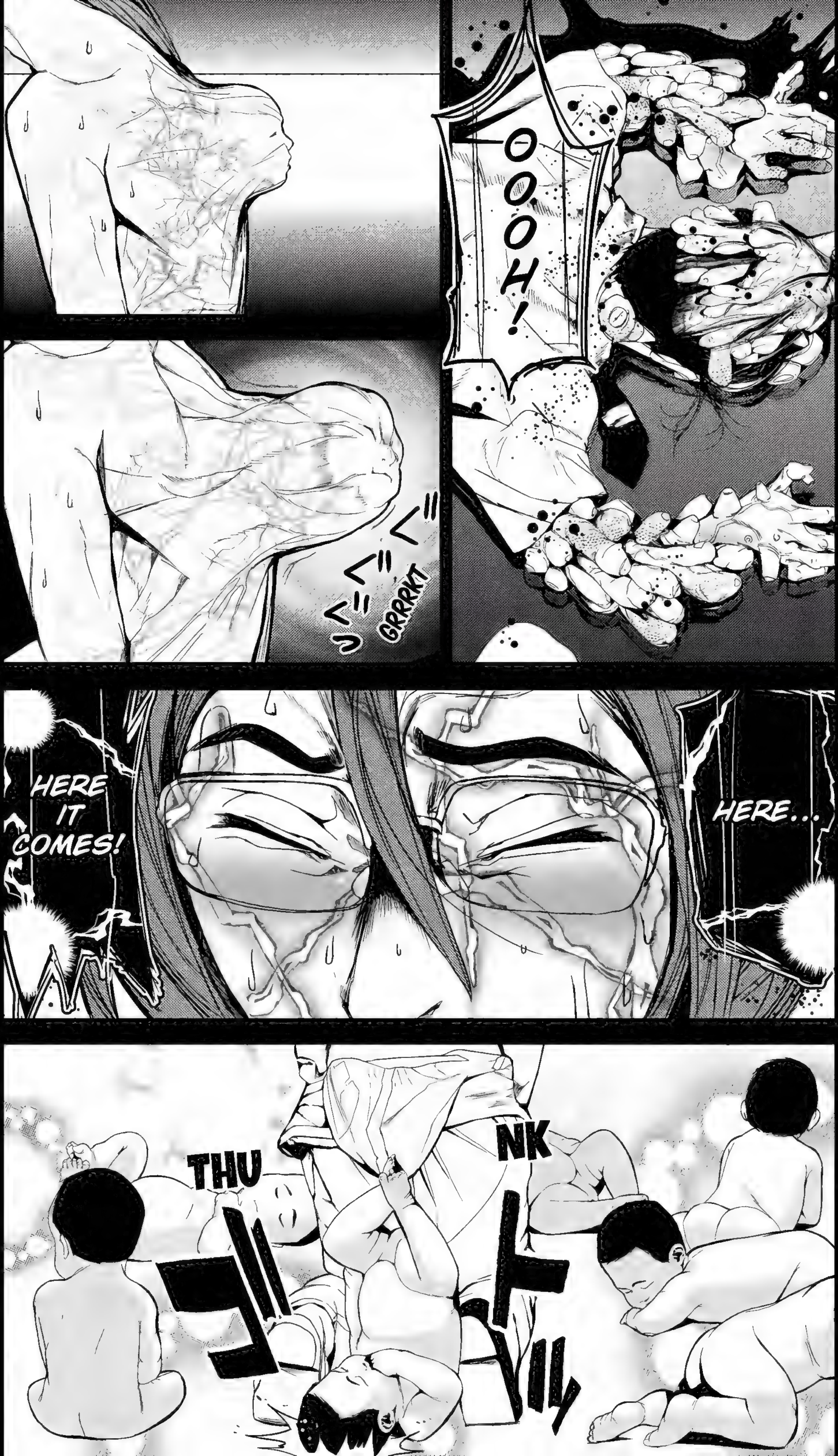


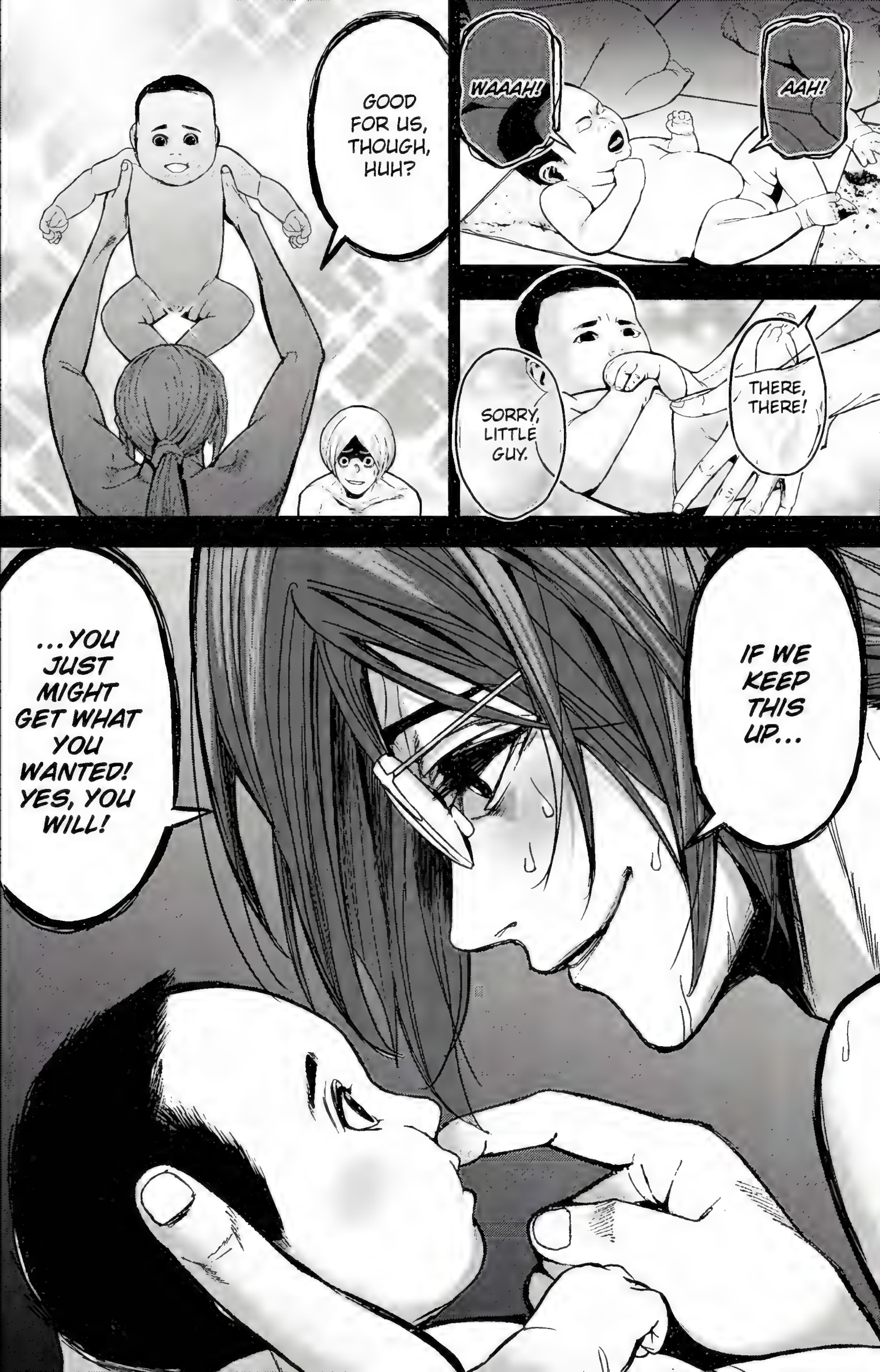


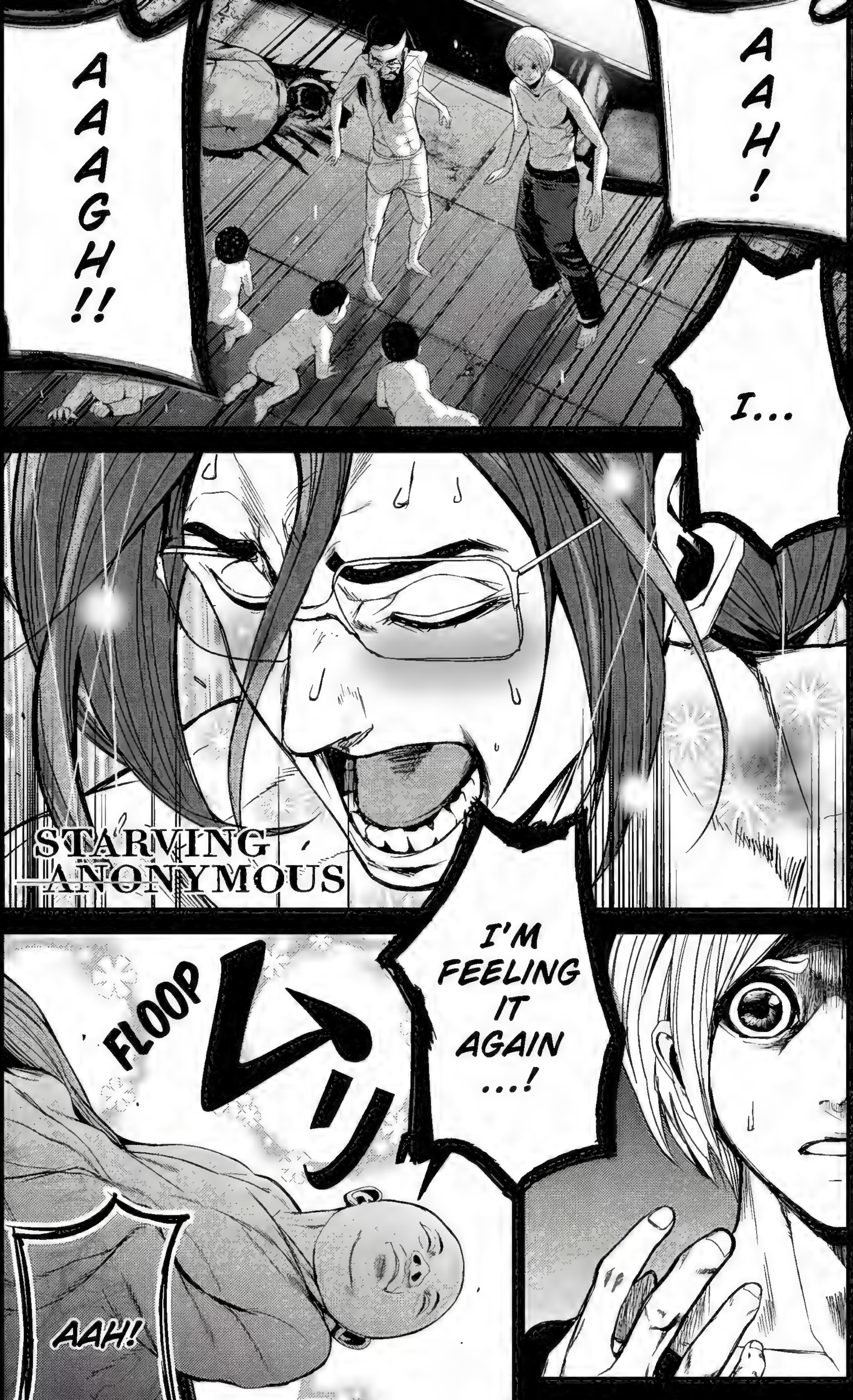
EARLIER THAT DAY

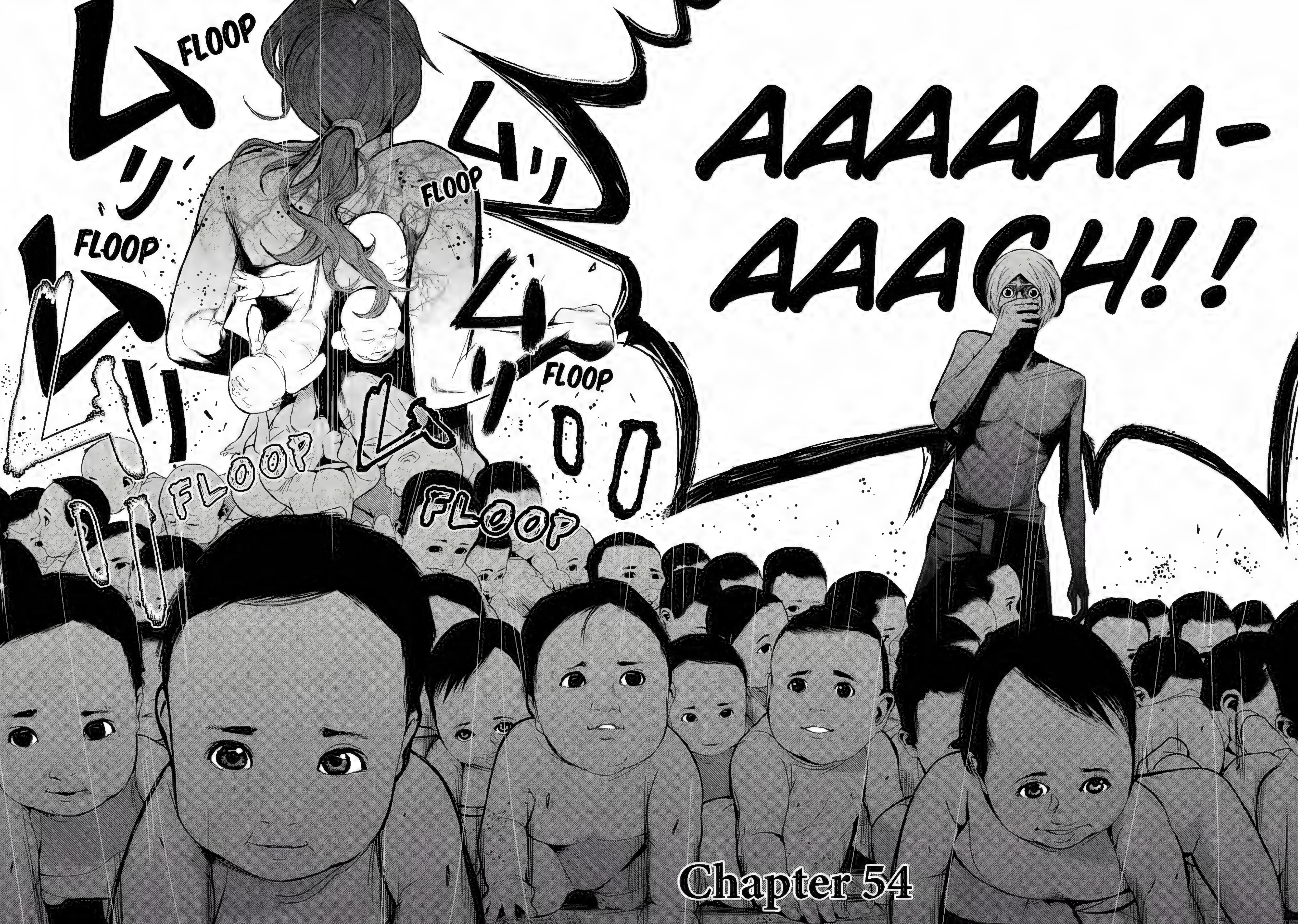

ああああああ
AAAGH!
AAAAH!!


AAAAH!!
HERE IT COMES AGAIN...!

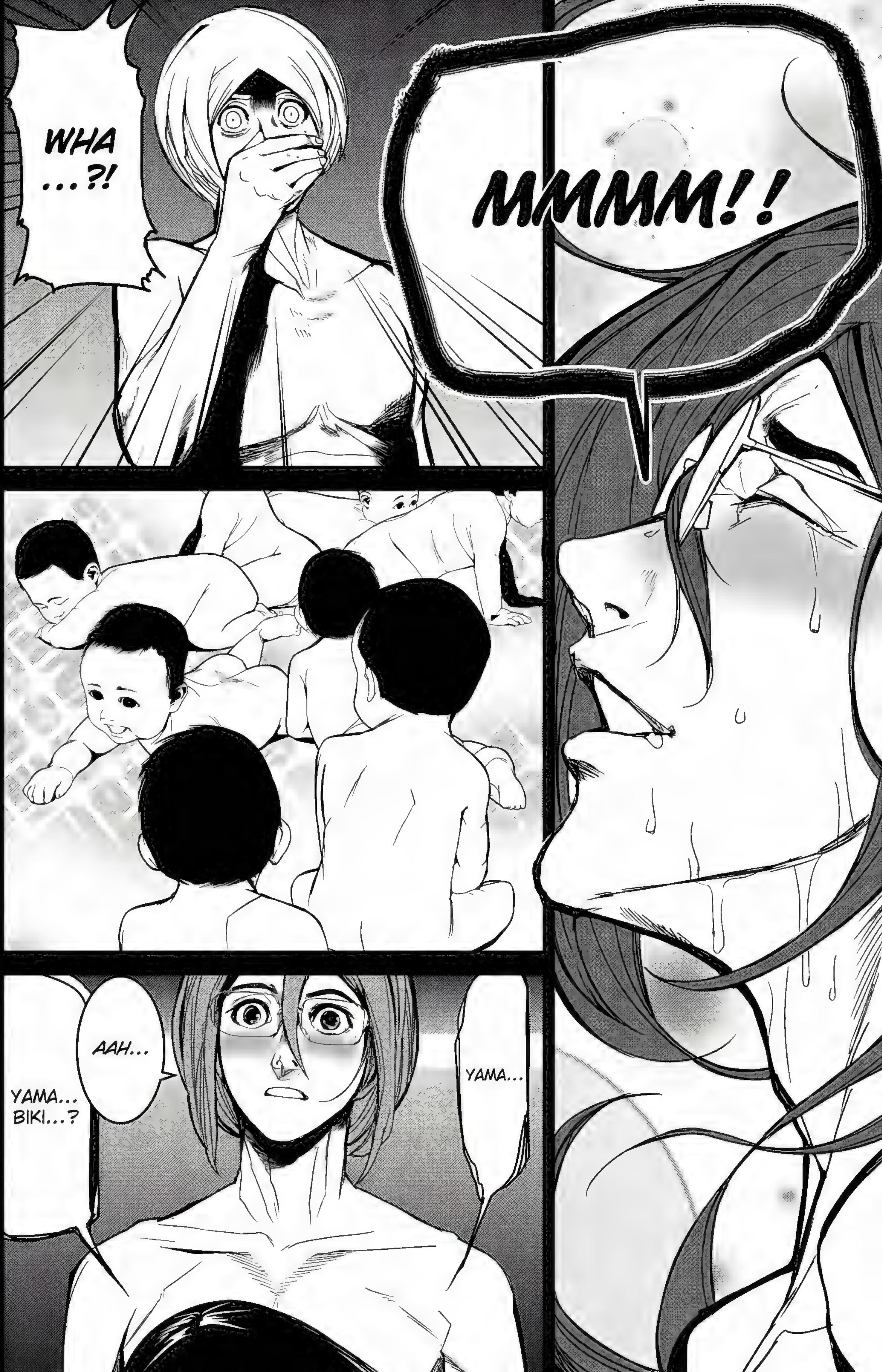

OOOOH!
ぐぐぐっ
GRRRKT
HERE...
HERE IT COMES!
ゴトッ
THUNK

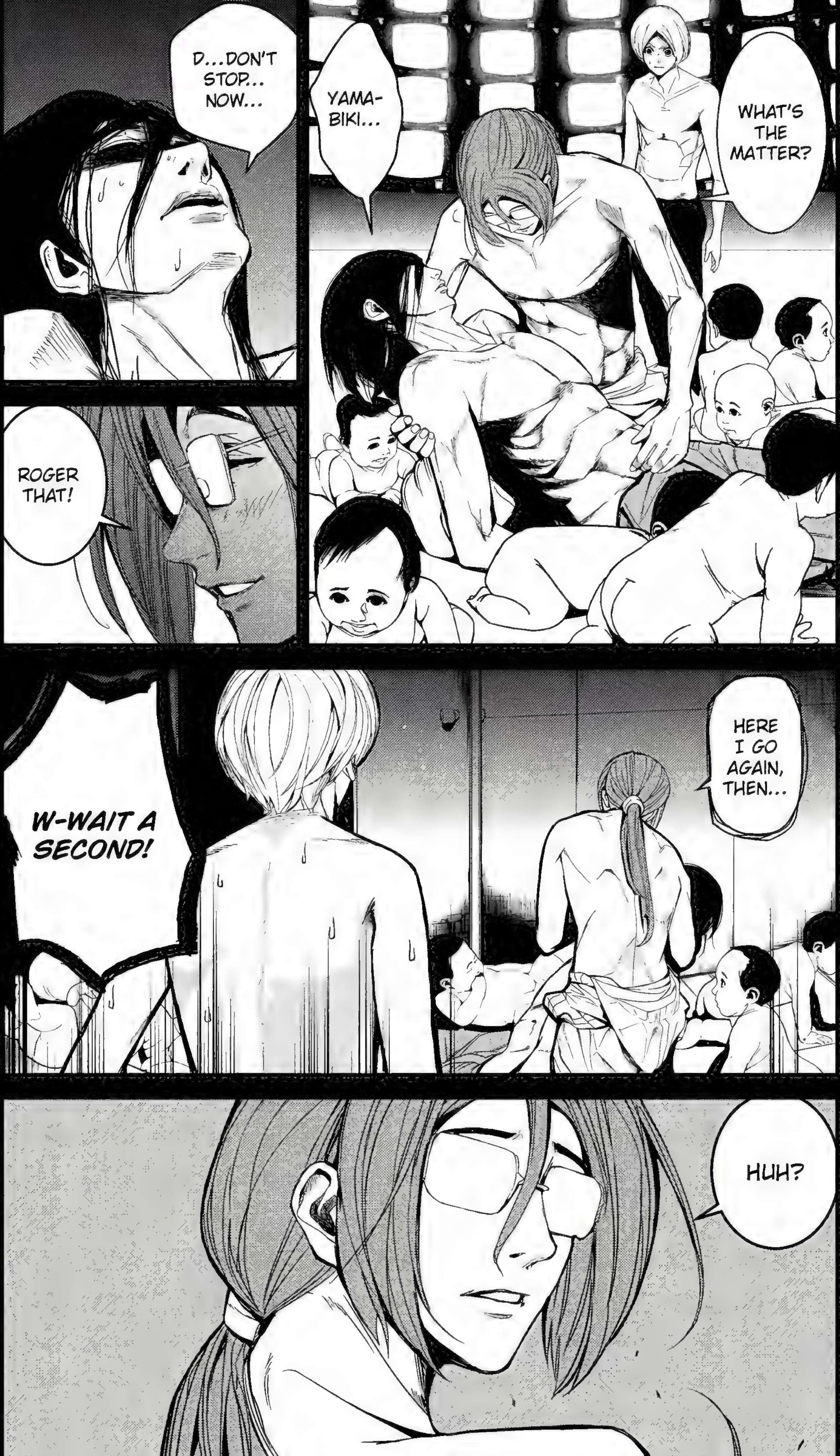

AAH!
WAAAH!
THERE, THERE!
SORRY, LITTLE GUY.
GOOD FOR US, THOUGH, HUH?
IF WE KEEP THIS UP...
...YOU JUST MIGHT GET WHAT YOU WANTED! YES, YOU WILL!

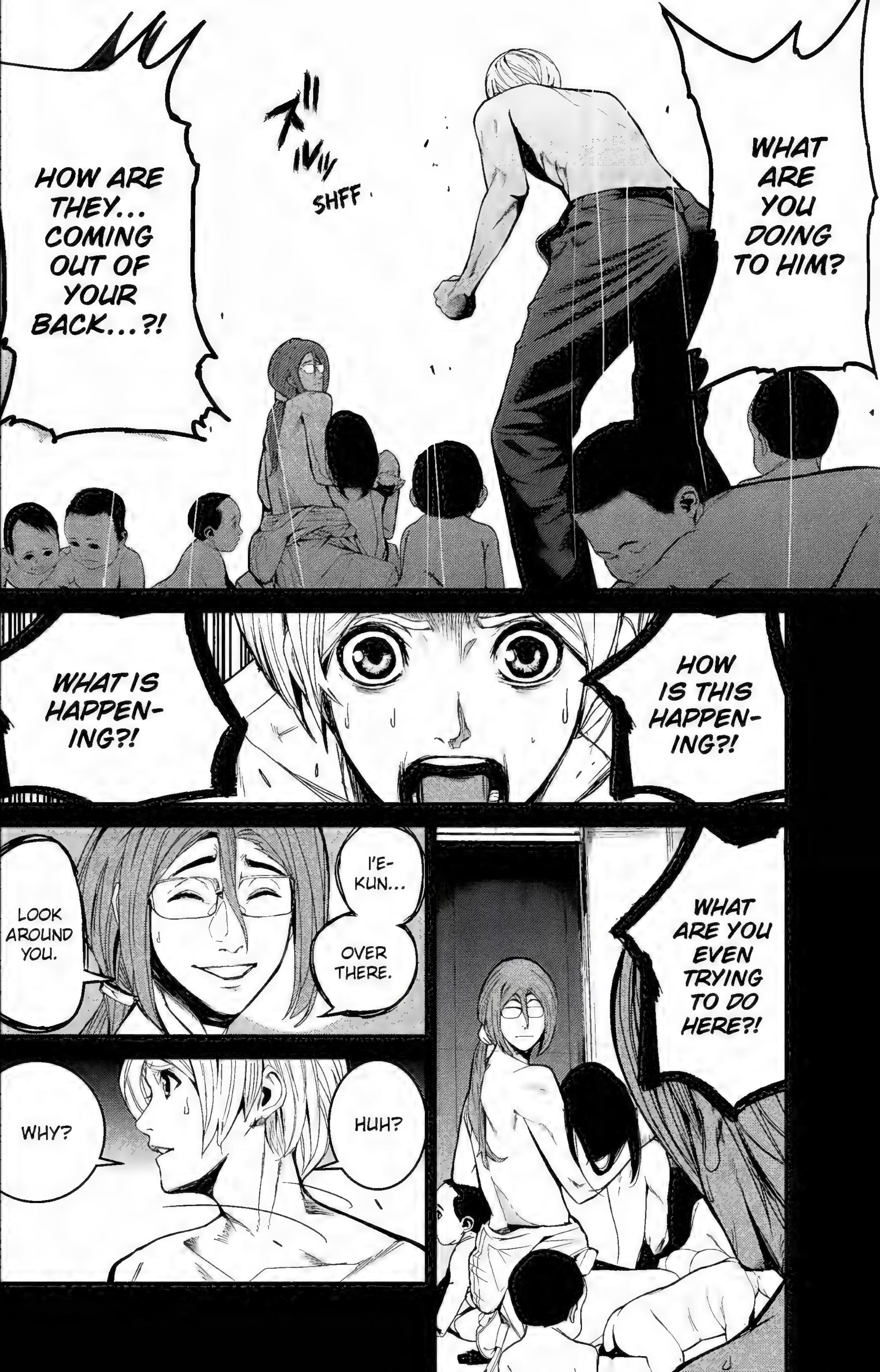

AAH!
AAAAGH!!
I...
STARVING ANONYMOUS
I'M FEELING IT AGAIN...!
ムリ
FLOOP
AAH!

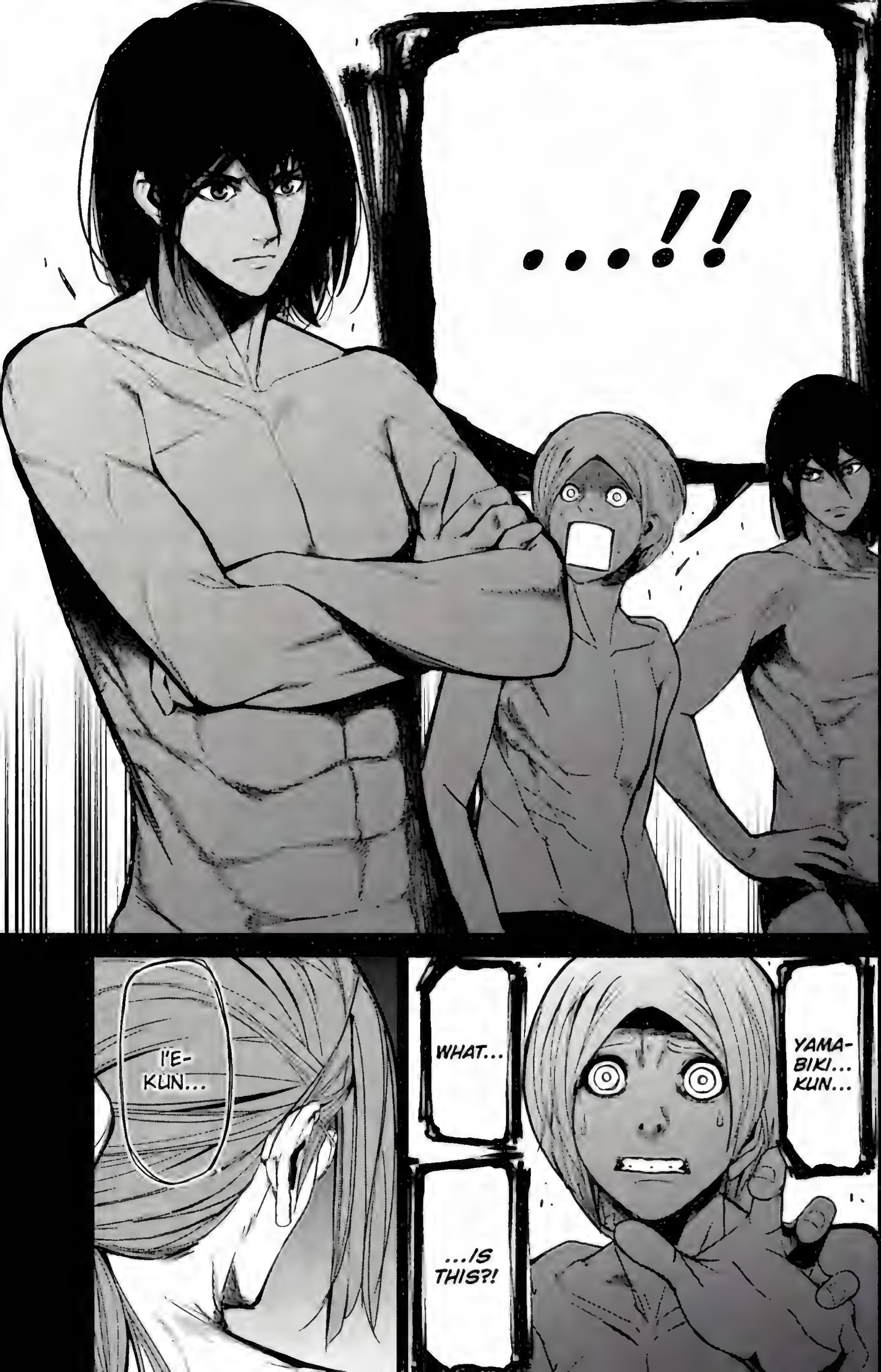

AAAAAA-
AAAACH!!
ムリ
FLOOP
ムリ
FLOOP
ムリ
FLOOP
ムリ
FLOOP
ムリ
FLOOP
ムリ
FLOOP
ムリ
FLOOP

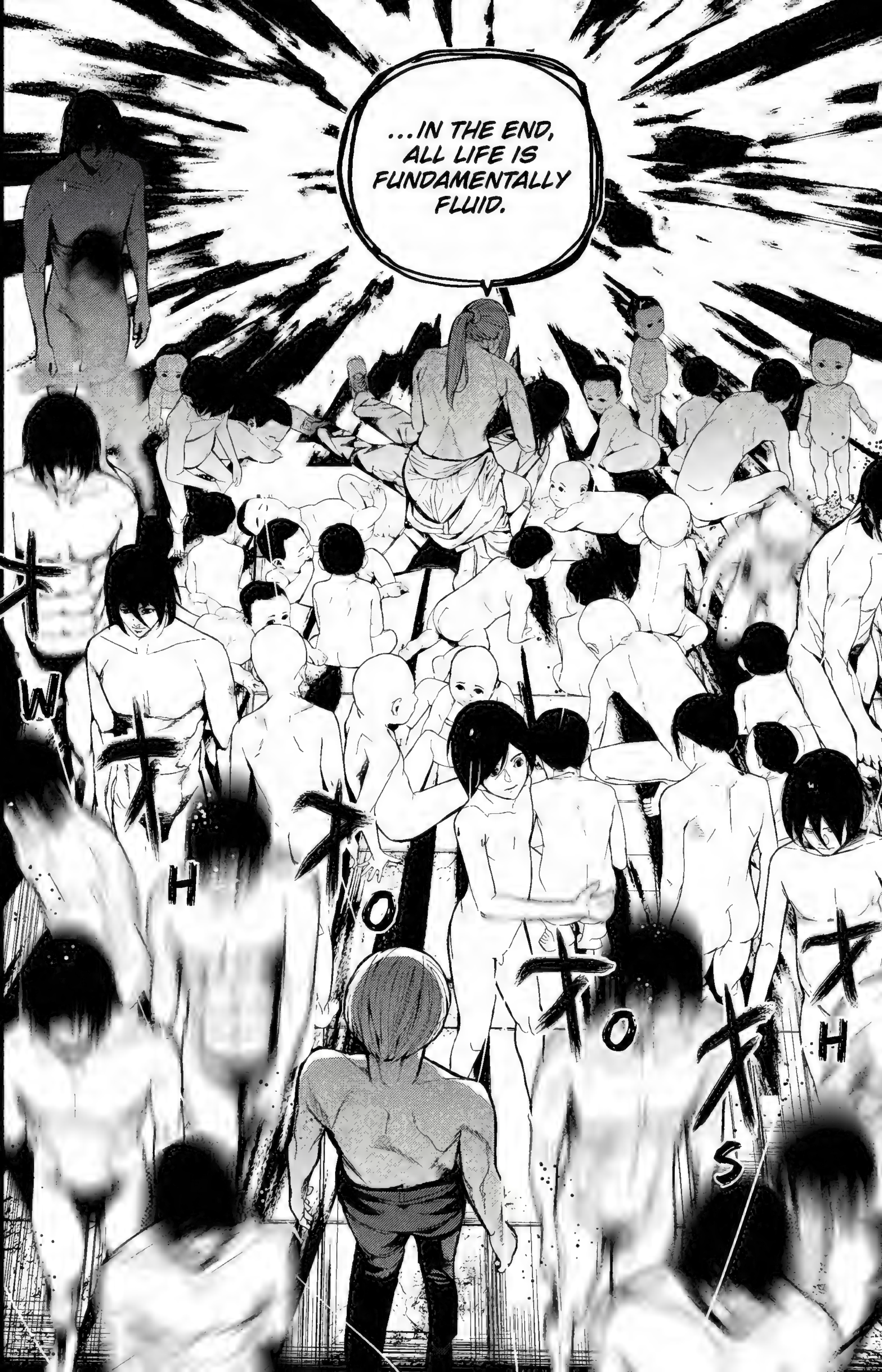
Chapter 54

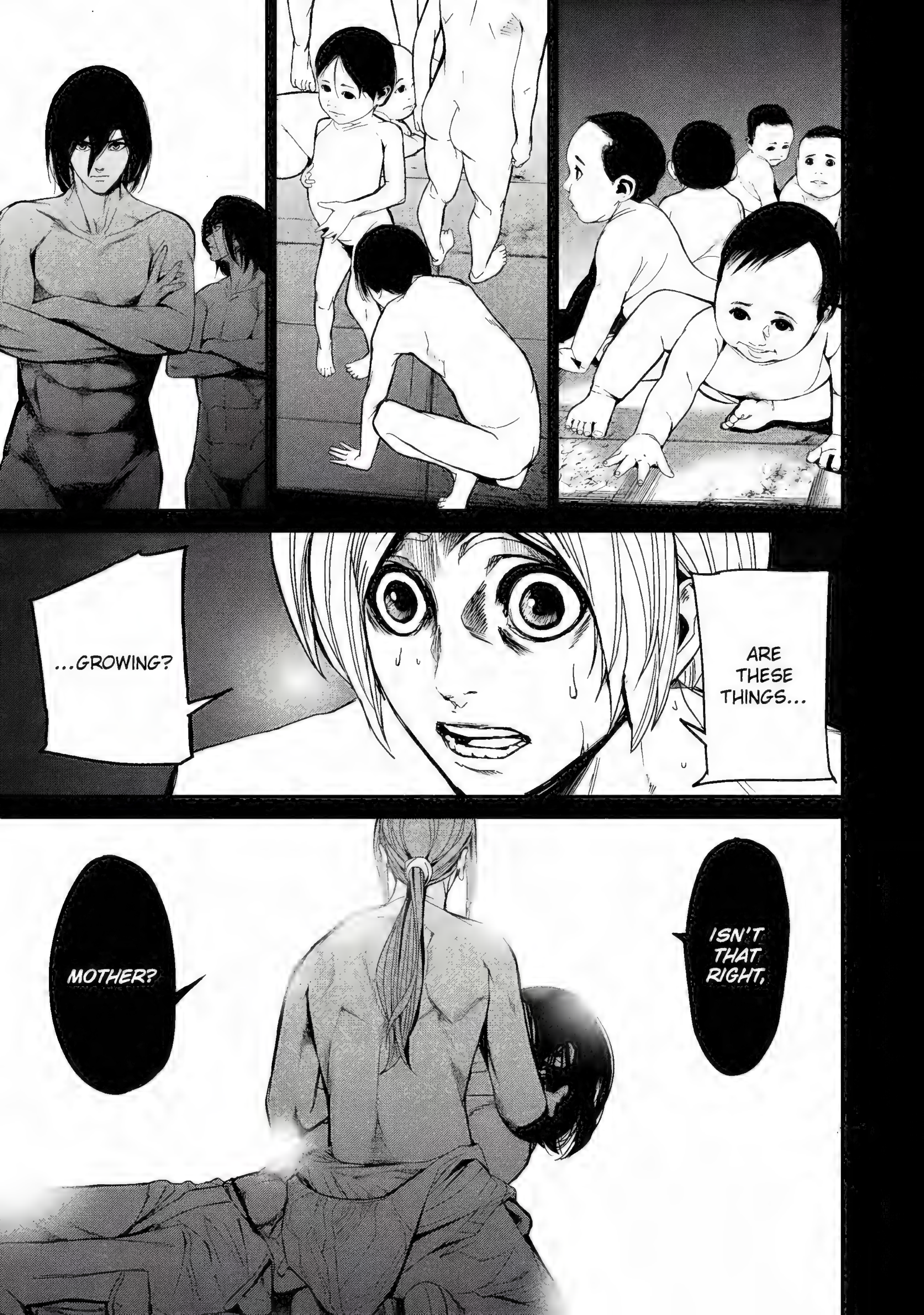

MMMM!!
WHA ...?!
AAH...
YAMA... BIKI...?
YAMA...

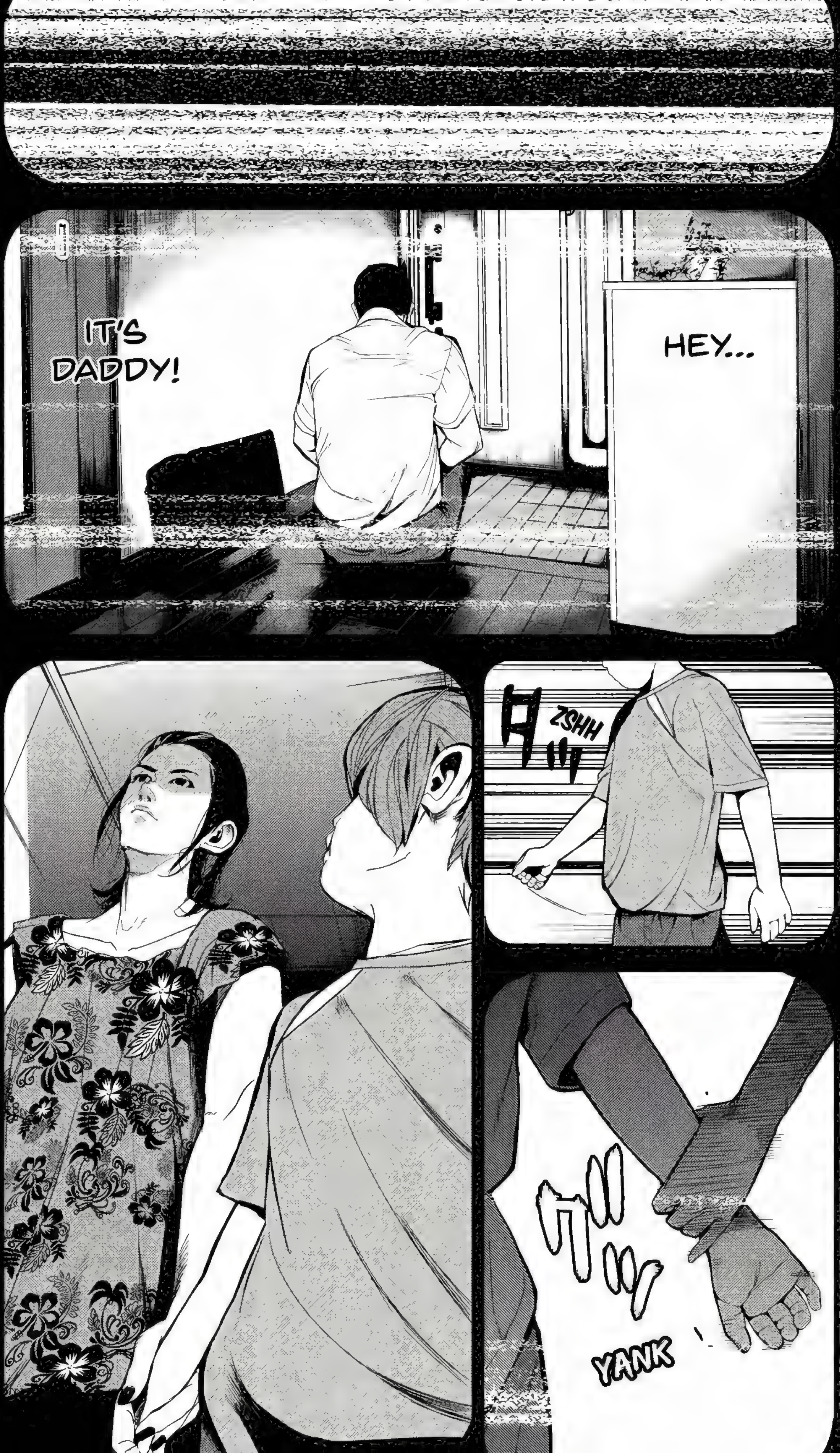

WHAT'S THE MATTER?
YAMA-BIKI...
D...DON'T STOP... NOW...
ROGER THAT!
HERE I GO AGAIN, THEN...
W-WAIT A SECOND!
HUH?

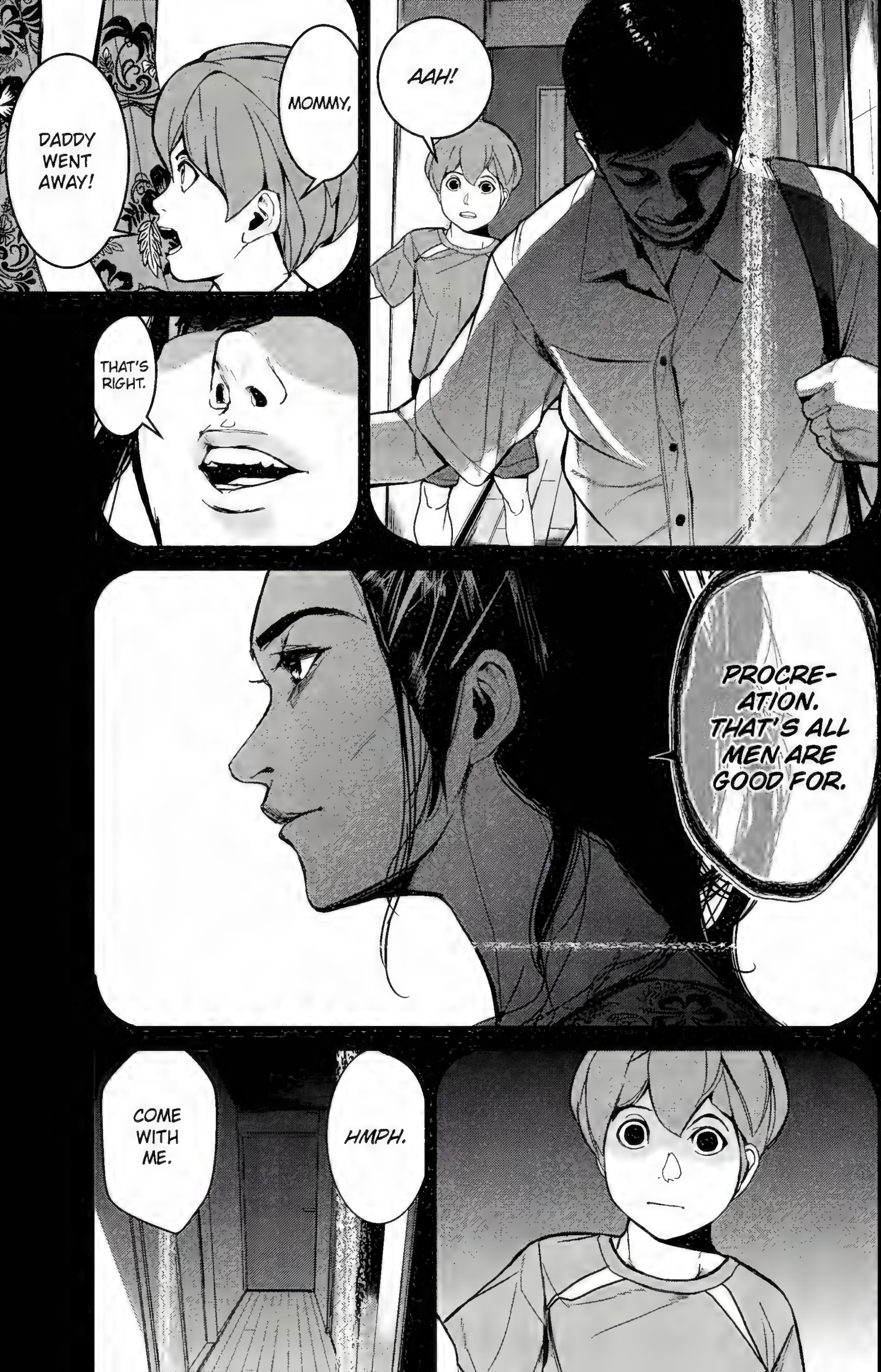

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO HIM?
ズル
SHFF
HOW ARE THEY... COMING OUT OF YOUR BACK...?!
HOW IS THIS HAPPEN-ING?!
WHAT IS HAPPEN-ING?!
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TRYING TO DO HERE?!
I'E-KUN...
OVER THERE.
LOOK AROUND YOU.
HUH?
WHY?

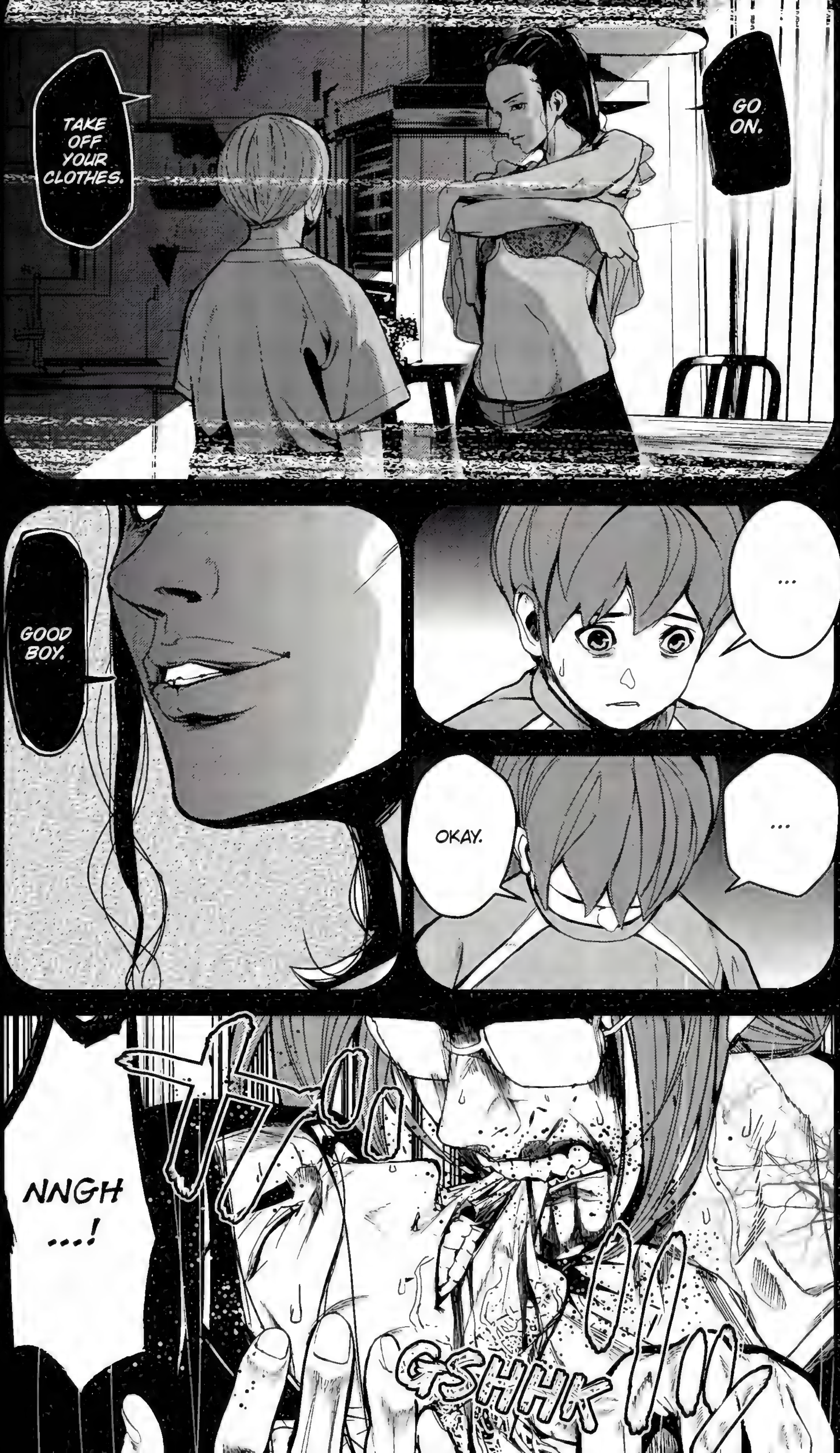

...!!
YAMABIKI... KUN...
WHAT...
...IS THIS?!
I'E-KUN...

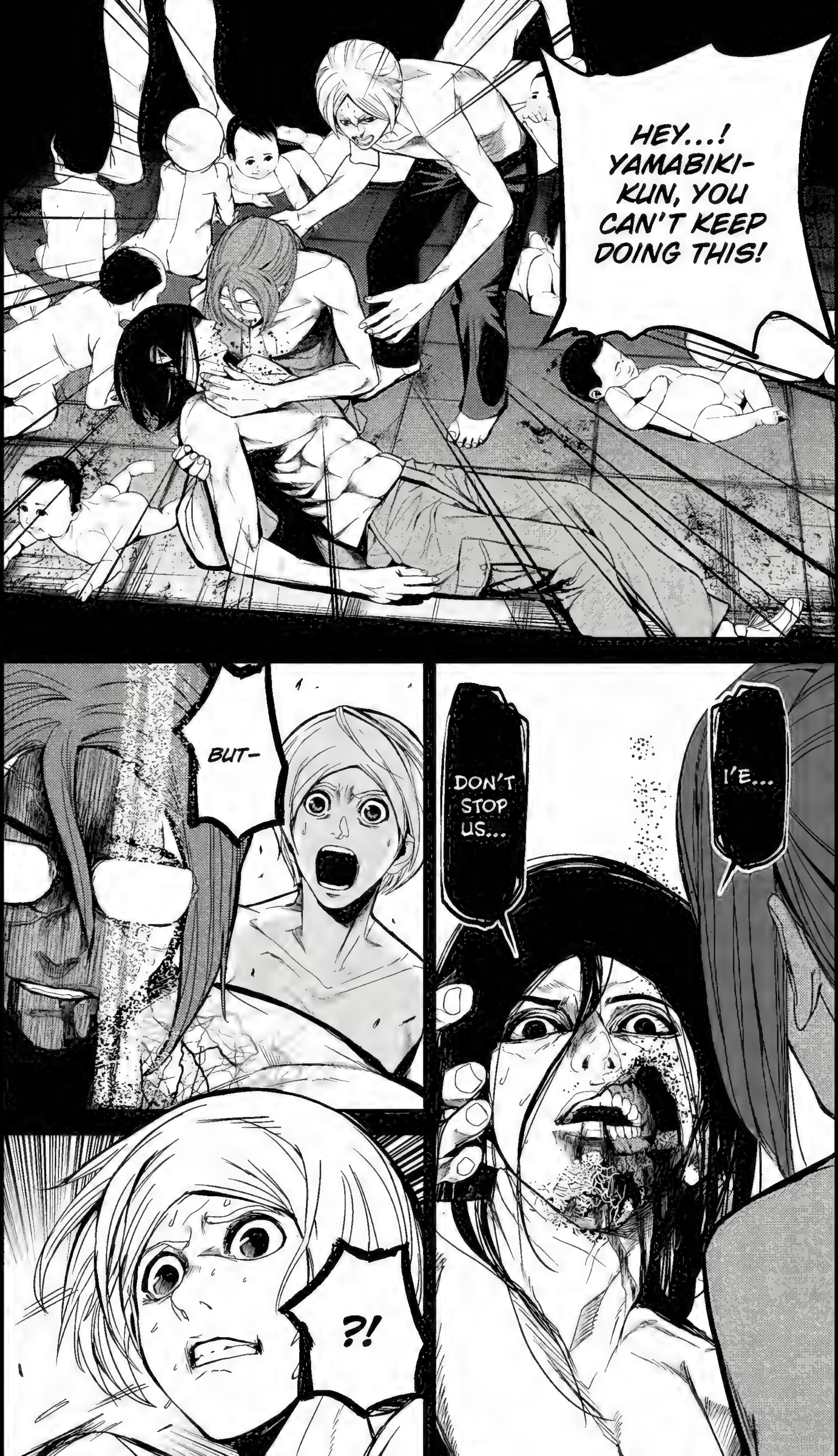

...IN THE END, ALL LIFE IS FUNDAMENTALLY FLUID.
W H O O S H

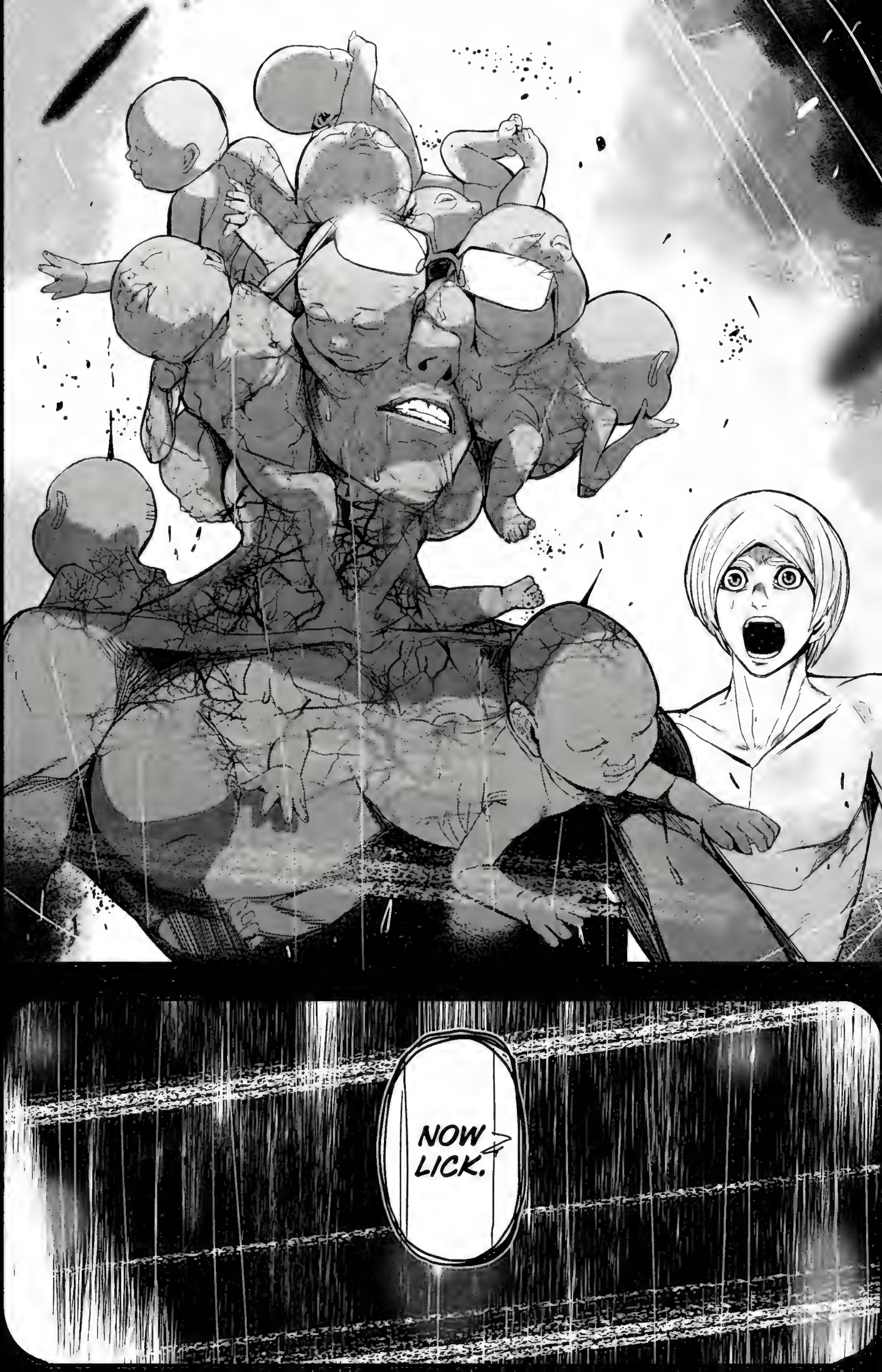

ARE THESE THINGS...
...GROWING?
ISN'T THAT RIGHT,
MOTHER?

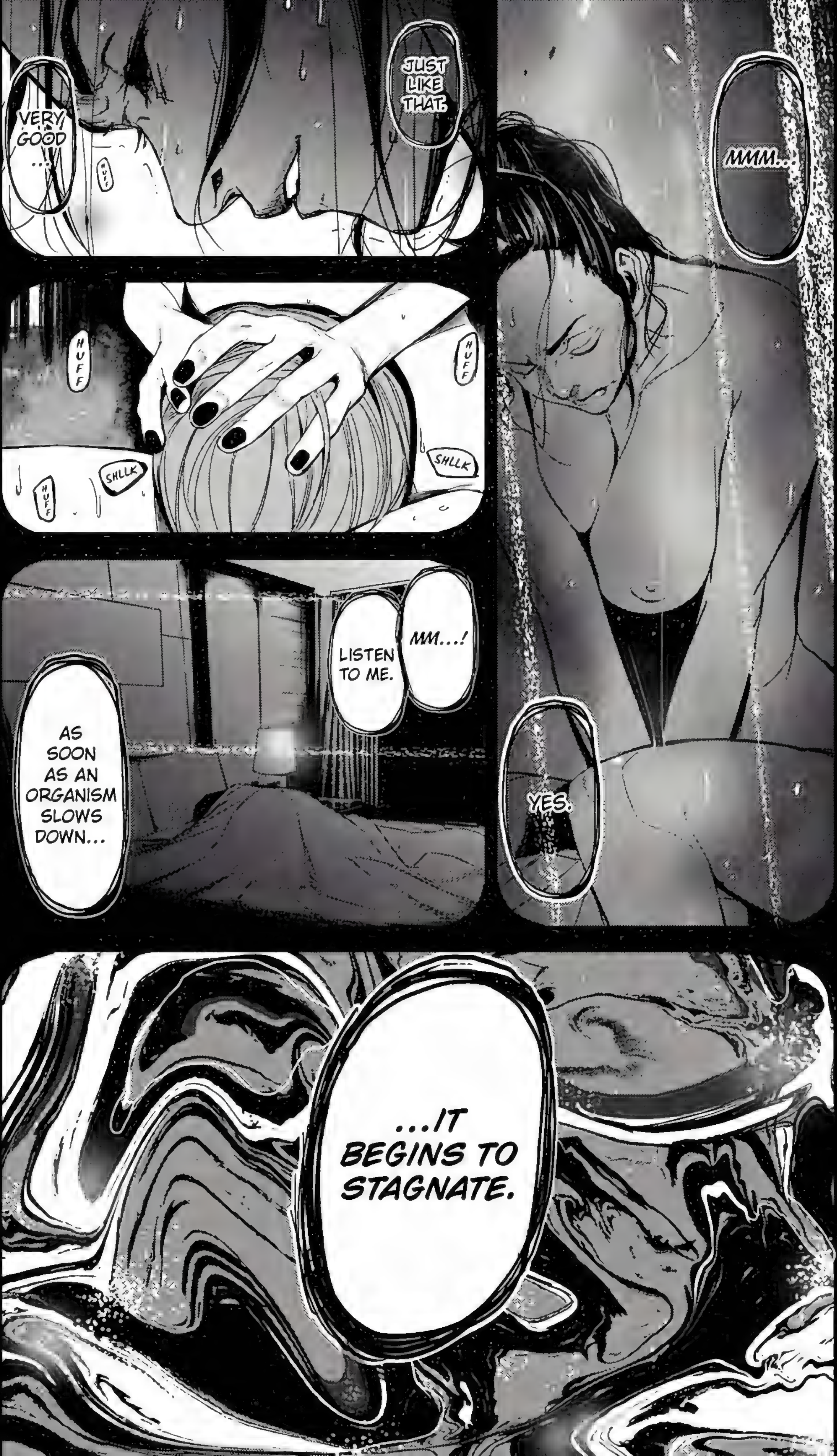

HEY...
IT'S DADDY!
ZSHH
YANK

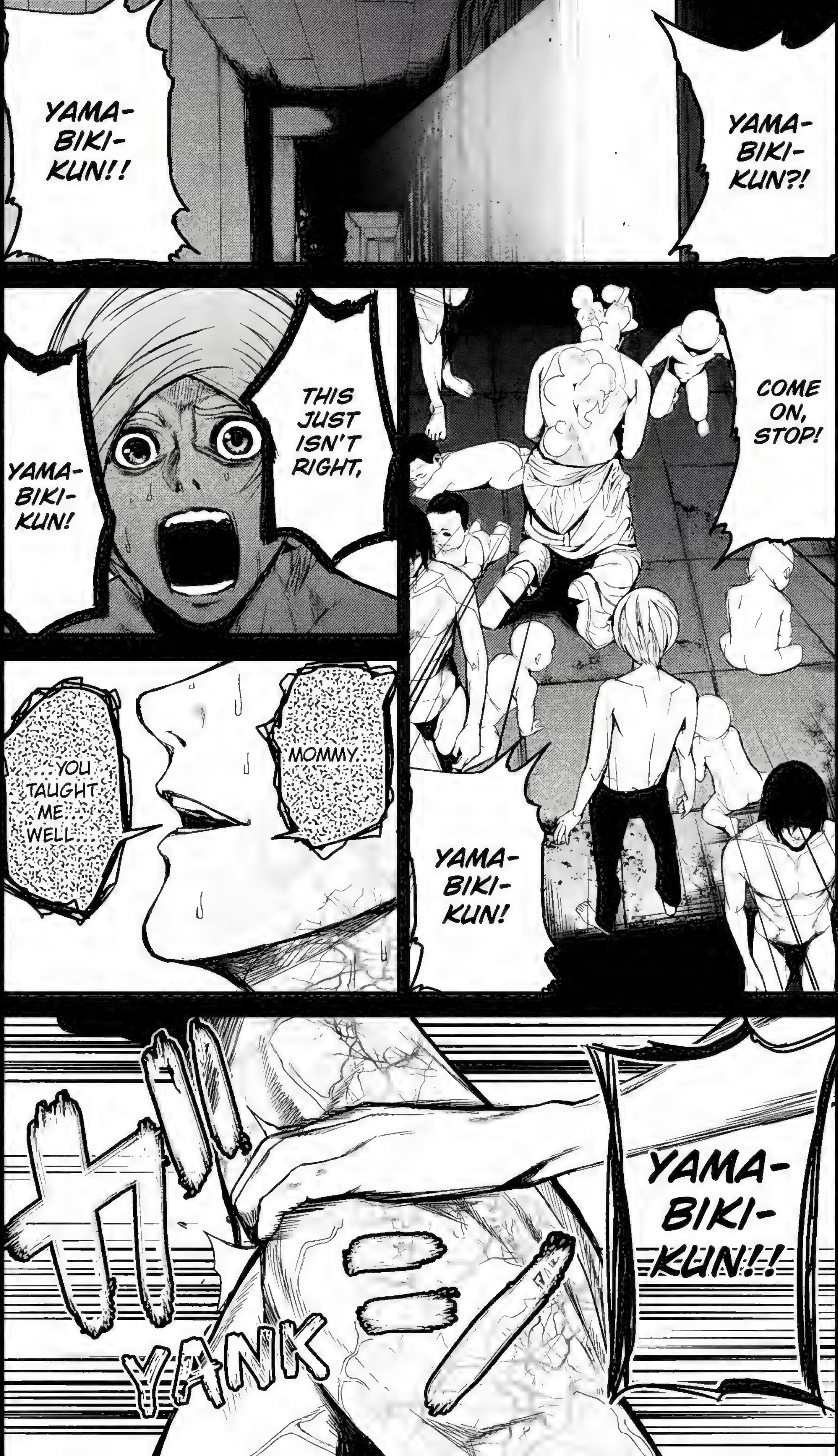

AAH!
MOMMY,
DADDY WENT AWAY!
THAT'S RIGHT.
PROCREATION. THAT'S ALL MEN ARE GOOD FOR.
HMPH.
COME WITH ME.

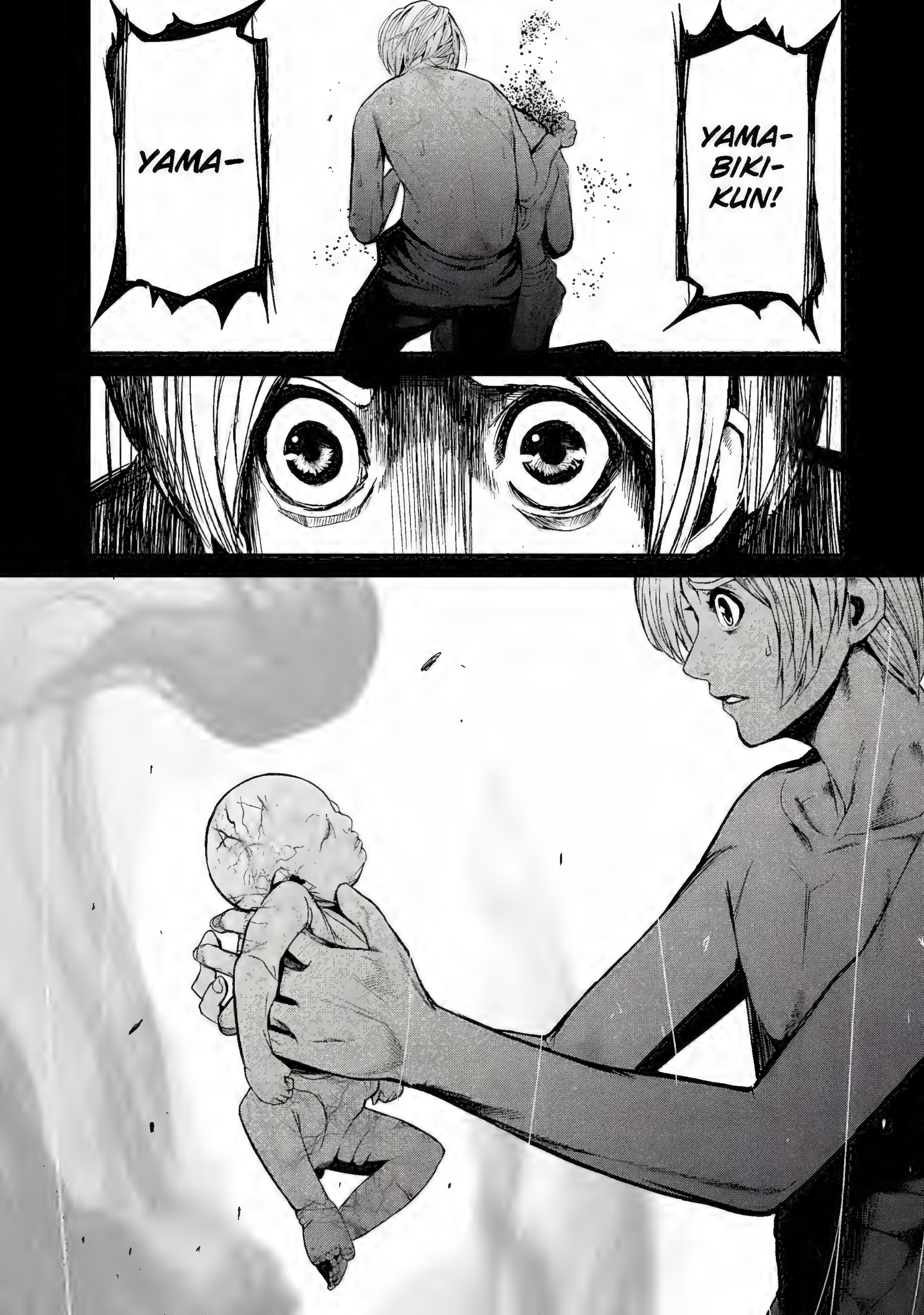

GO ON.
TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES.
...
...
OKAY.
GOOD BOY.
NNGH ...!
GSHHK

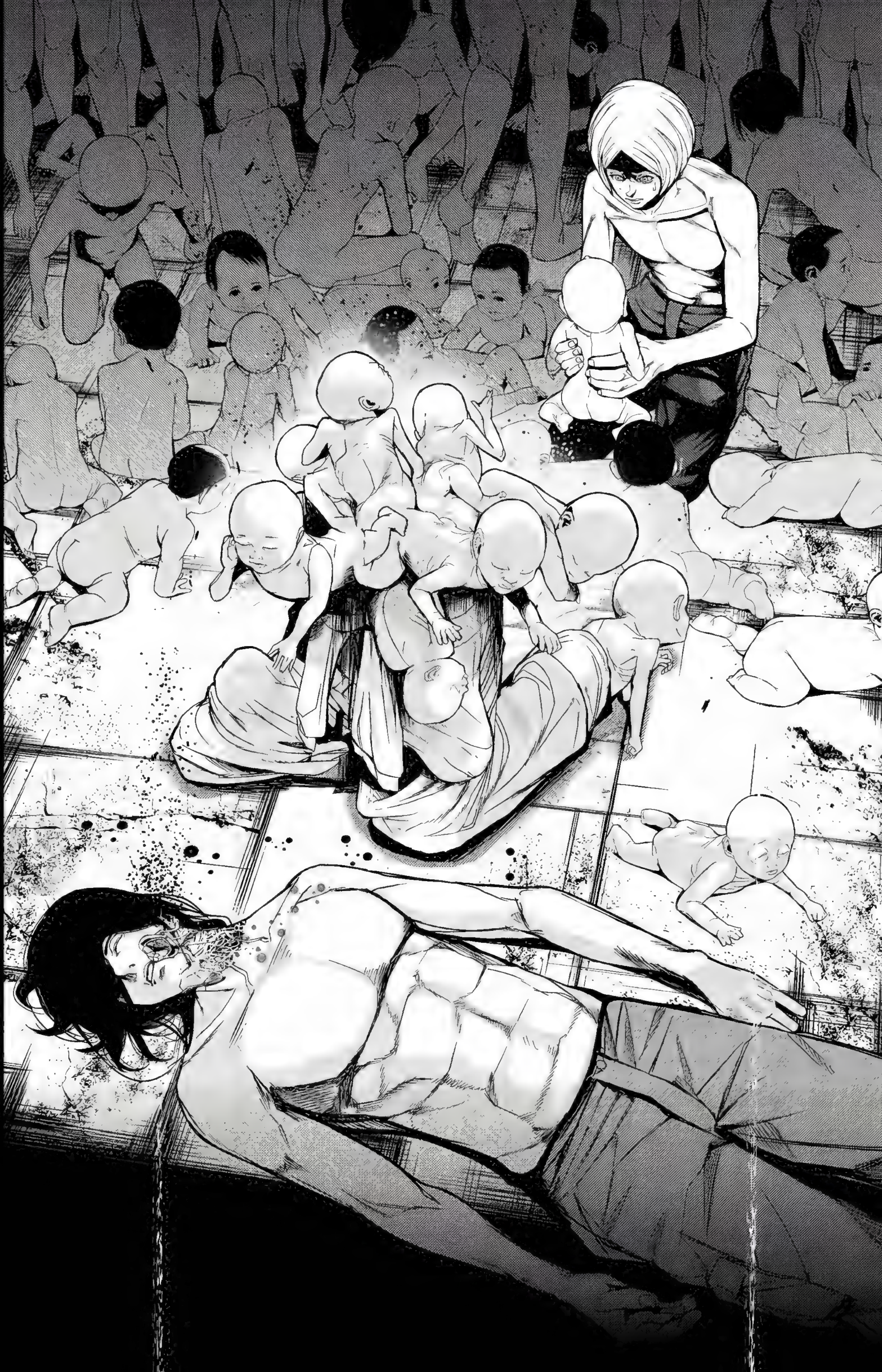

HEY...! YAMABIKI-KUN, YOU CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS!
I'E...
DON'T STOP US...
BUT-
?!

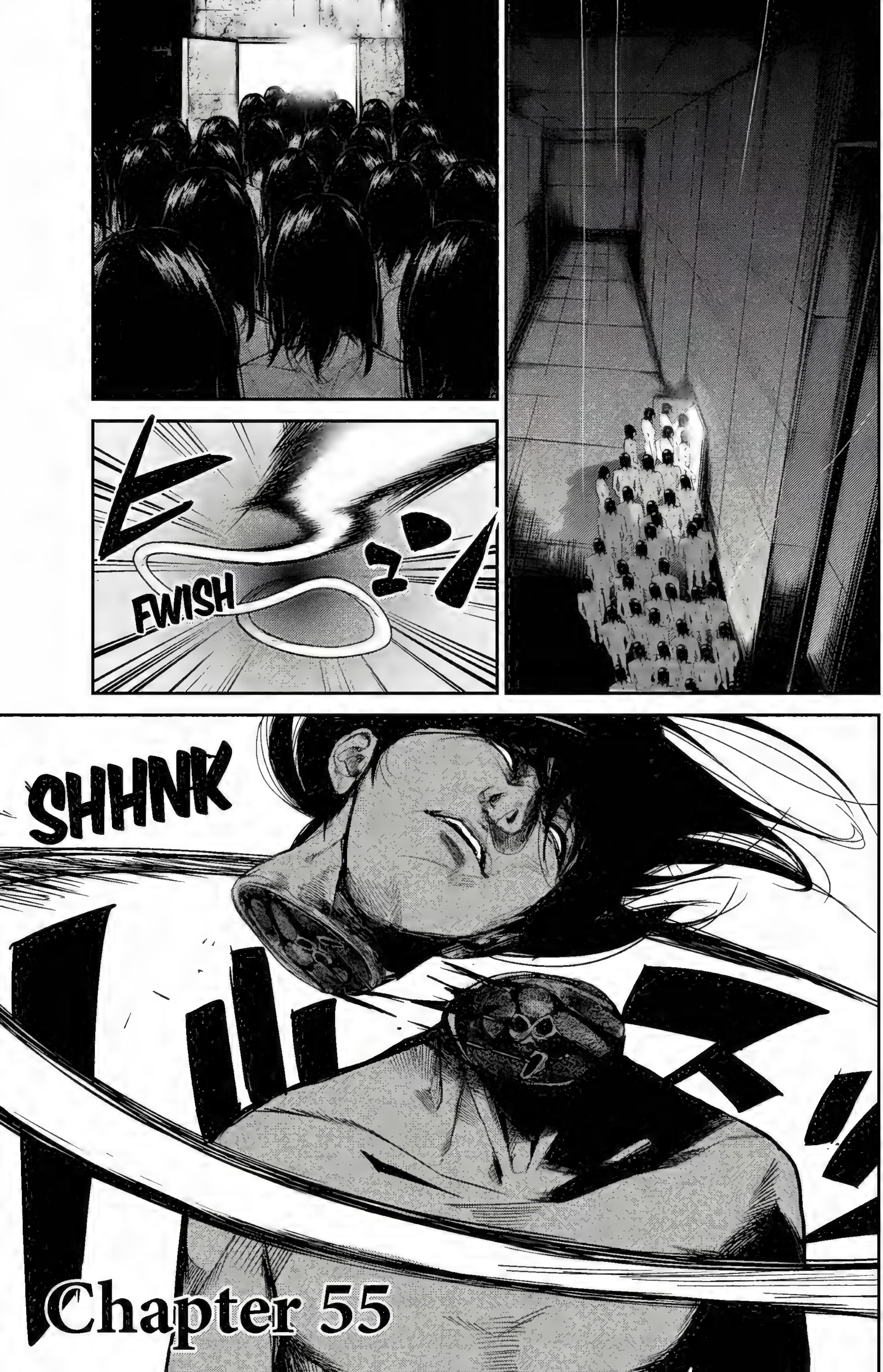

NOW LICK.


MMM...
JUST LIKE THAT.
VERY GOOD...
HUFF
HUFF
SHLLK
SHLLK
HUFF
HUFF
YES.
MM...!
LISTEN TO ME.
AS SOON AS AN ORGANISM SLOWS DOWN...
...IT BEGINS TO STAGNATE.

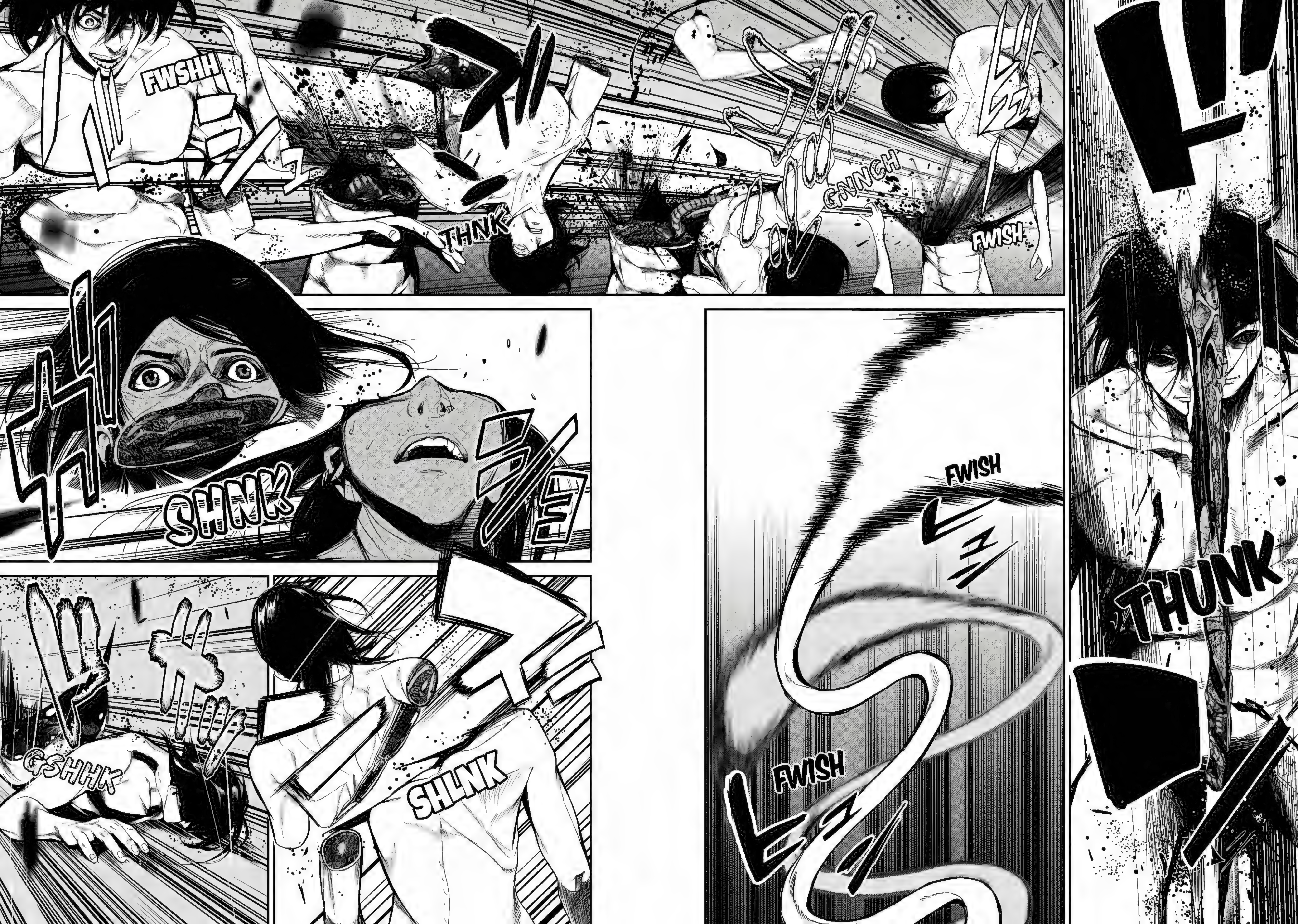

YAMA-BIKI-KUN?!
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!!
COME ON, STOP!
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!
THIS JUST ISN'T RIGHT,
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!
MOMMY.
YOU TAUGHT ME WELL.
YAMA-BIKI-KUN!!
YANK

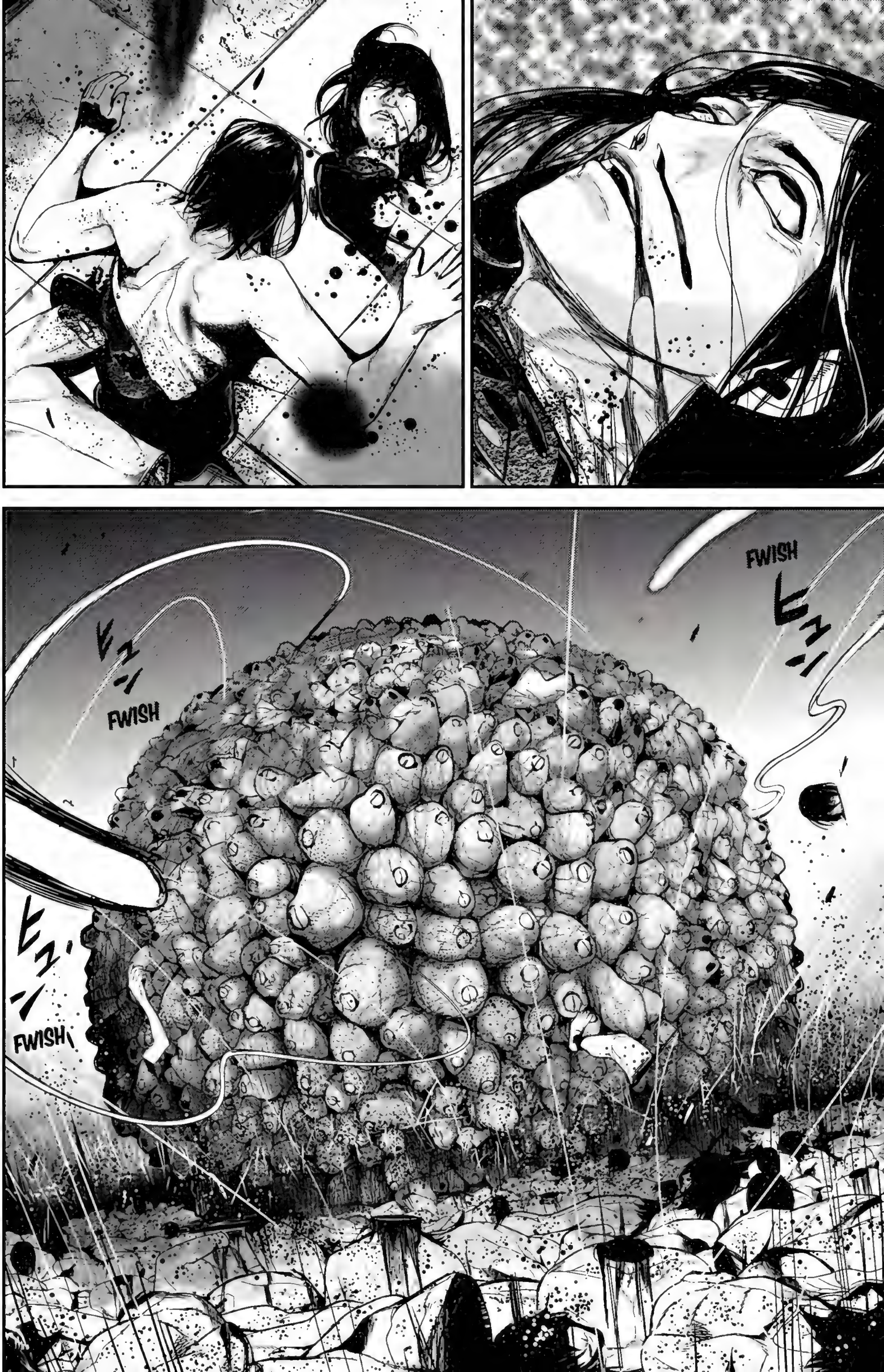

YAMA-BIKI-KUN!
YAMA-

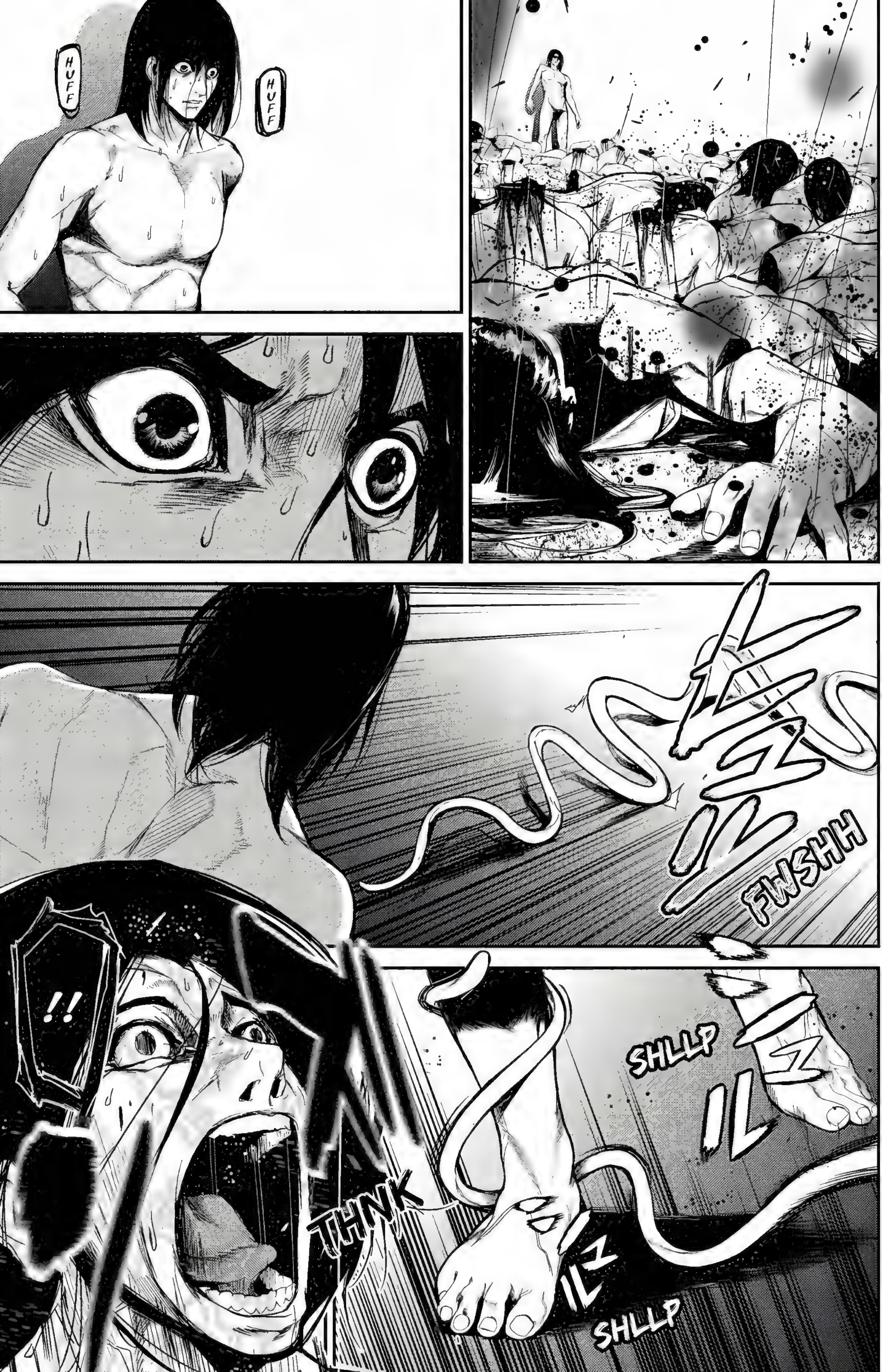


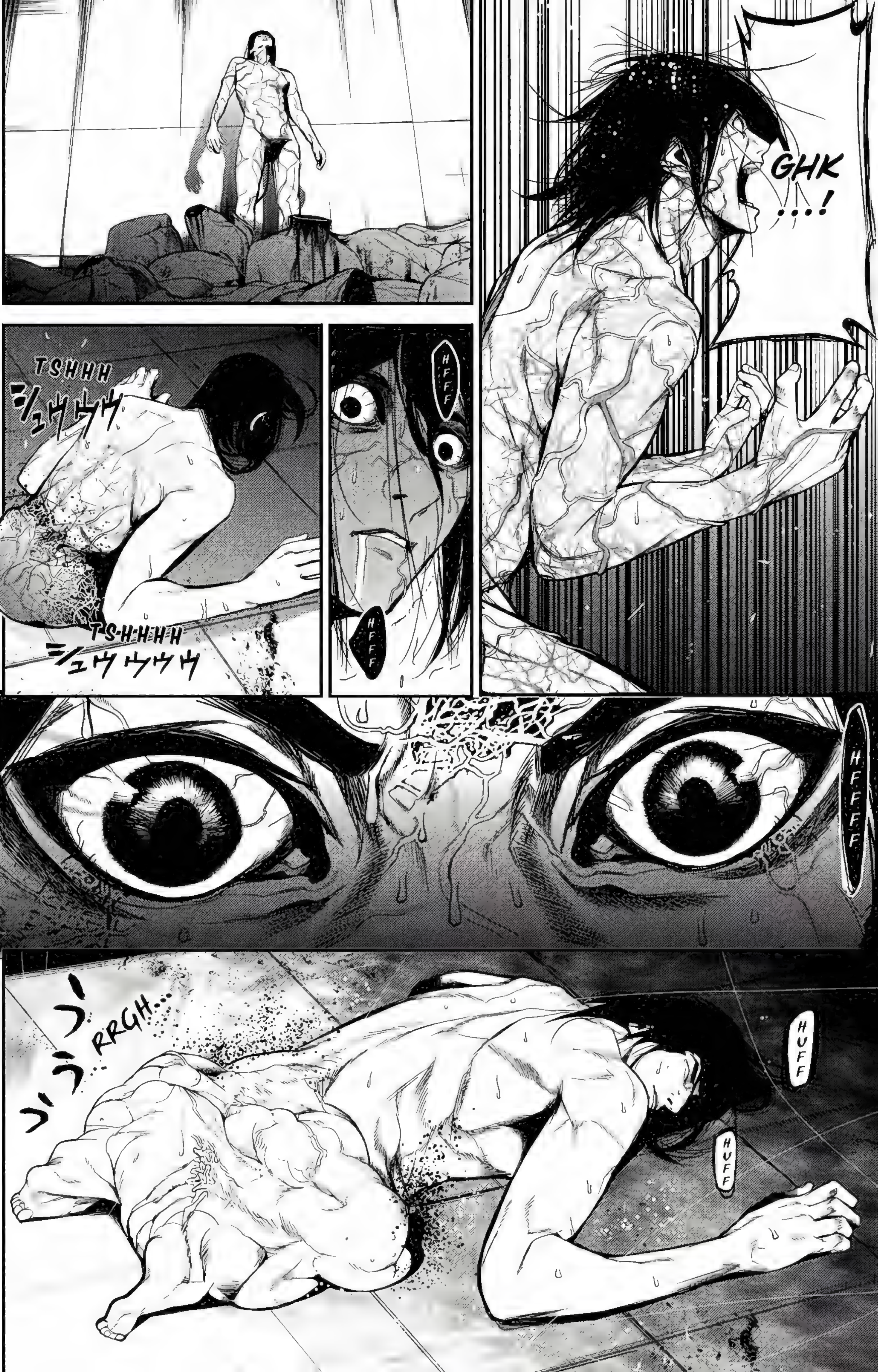

ヒュン
FWISH
SHHNK

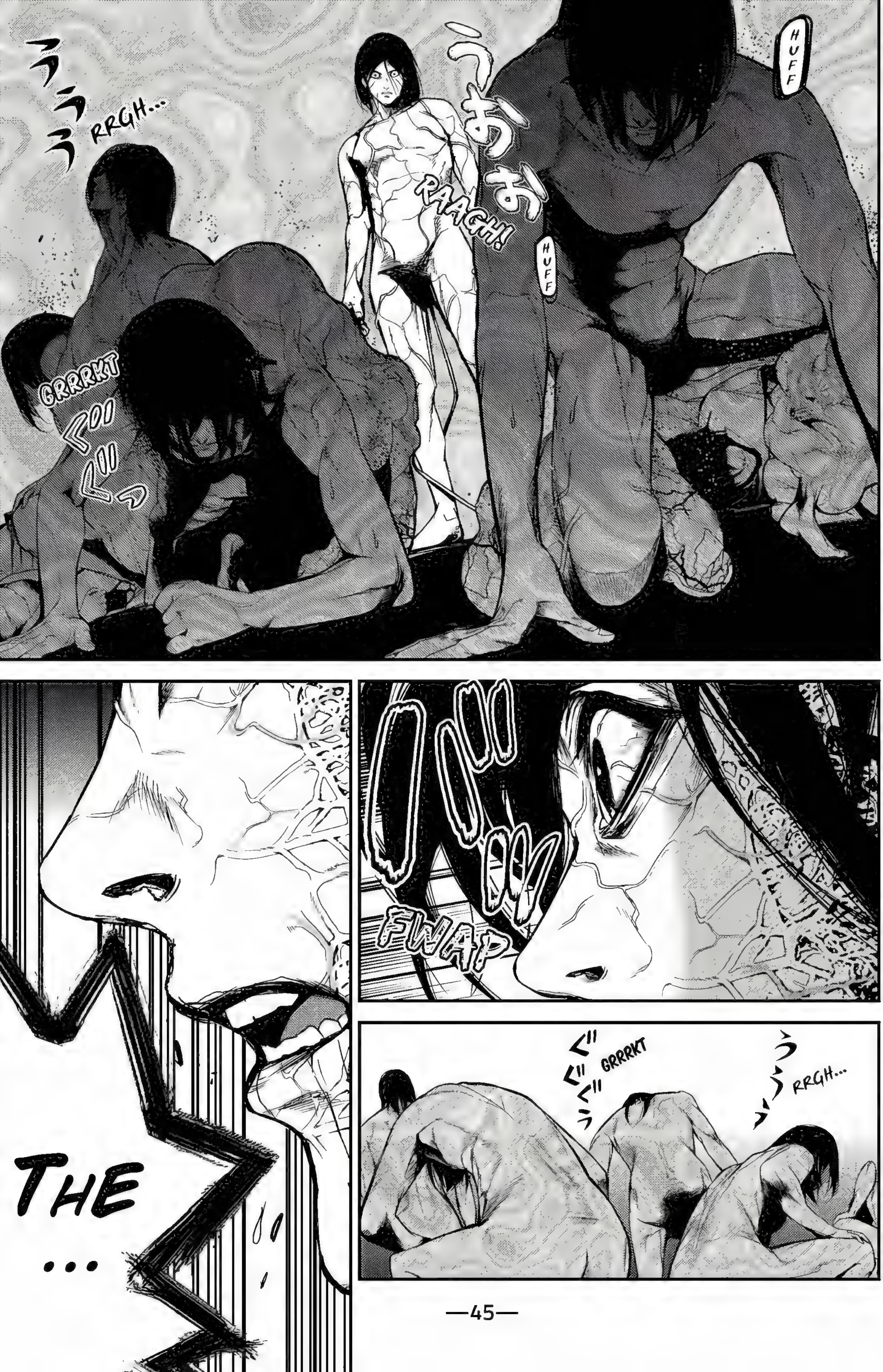
Chapter 55

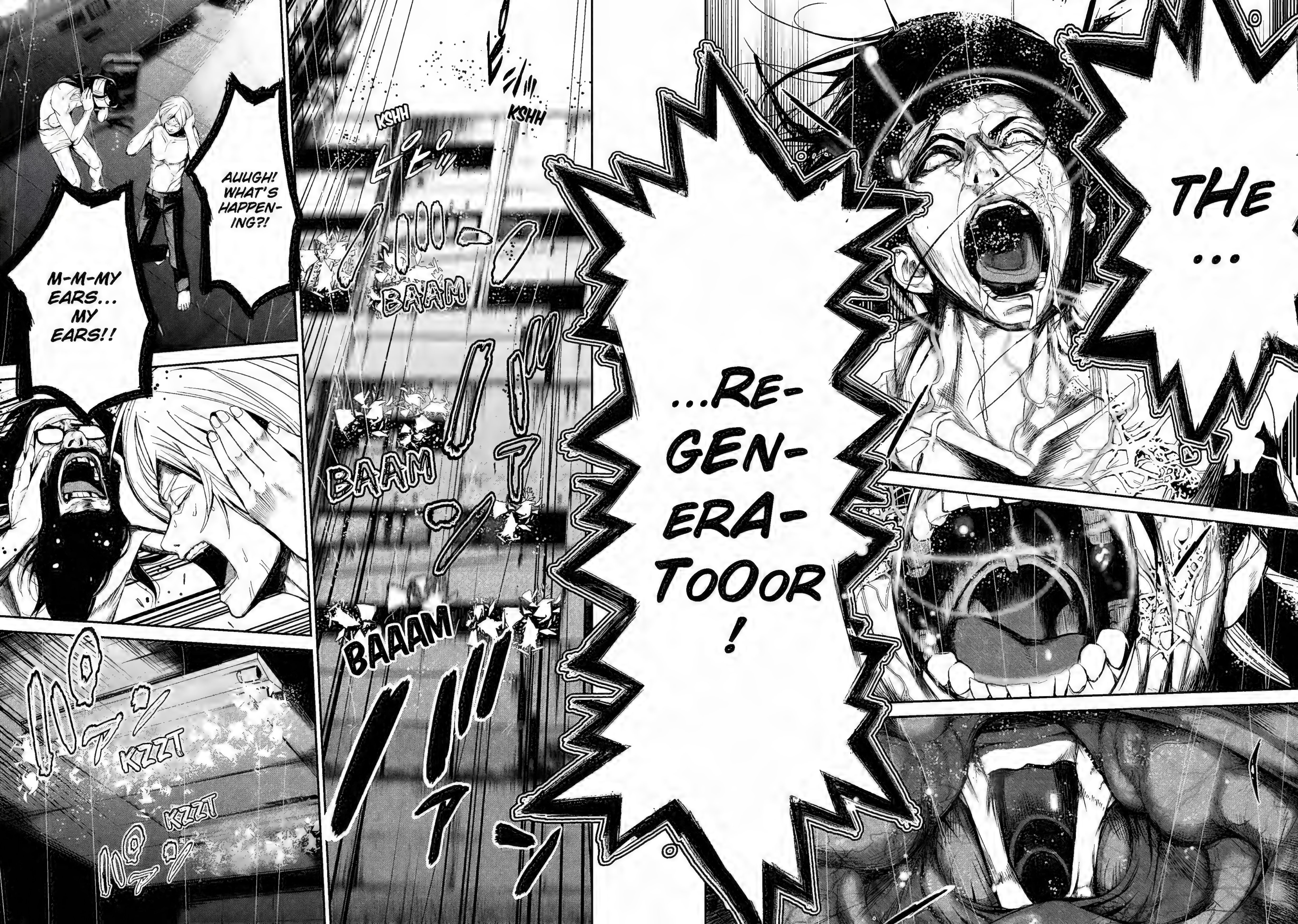

THUNK
FWISH
GNNCH
THNK
FWSHH
FWISH
FWISH
SHNK
SHLNK
GSHHK

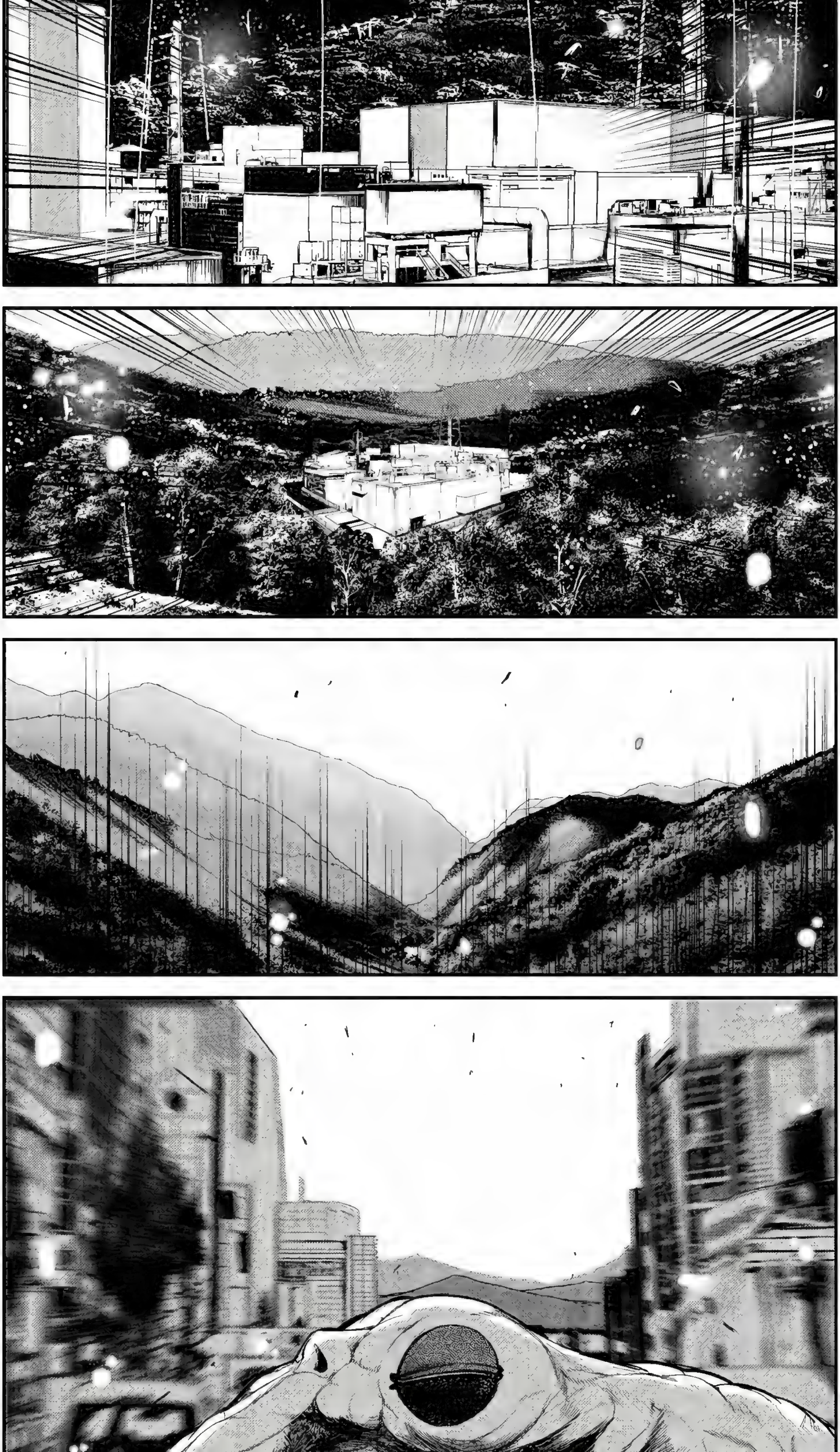

FWISH
ヒュン
ヒュン
FWISH
ヒュン
FWISH

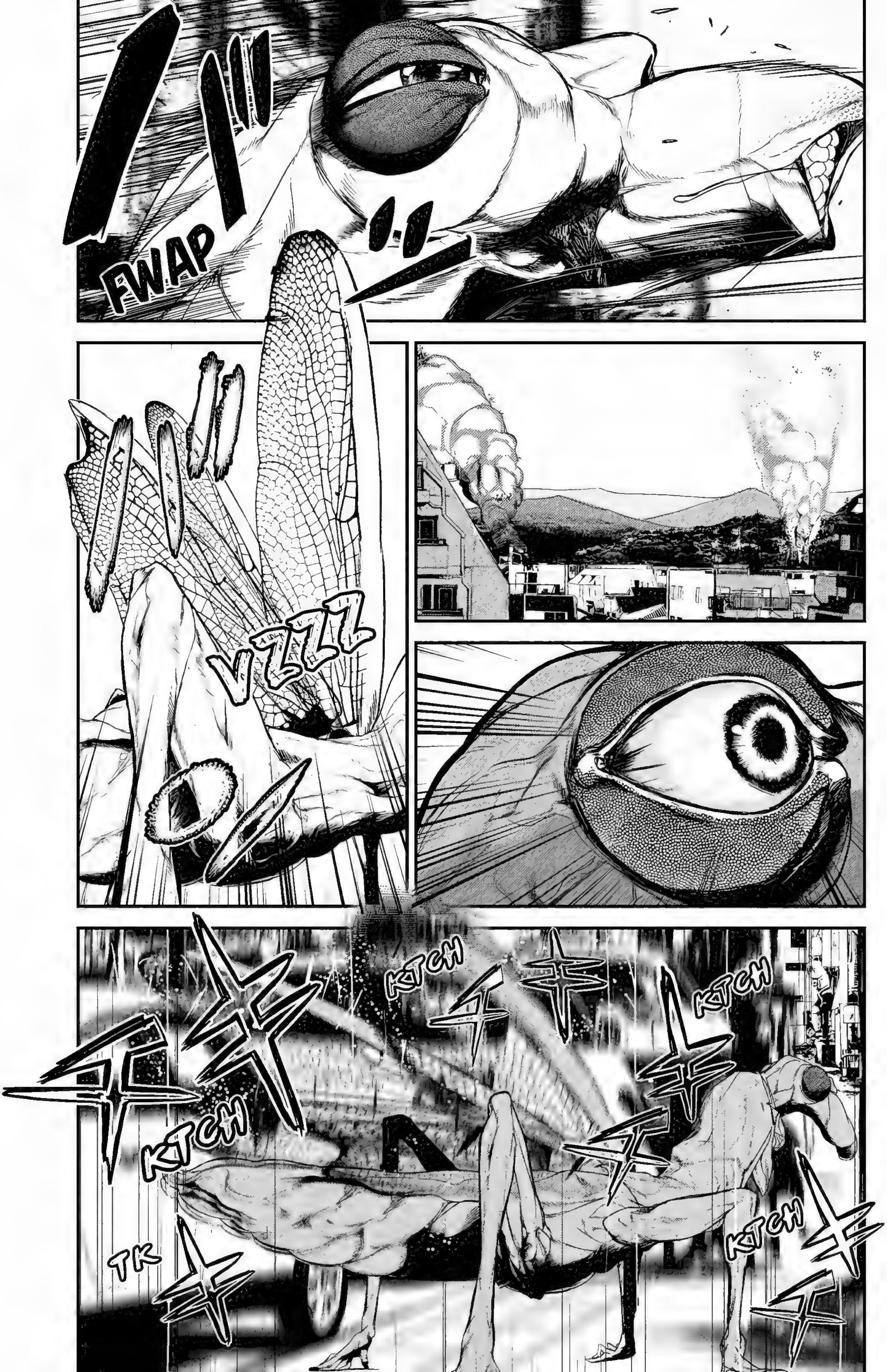

HUFF
HUFF
FWSHH
SHLLP
!!
THNK
SHLLP

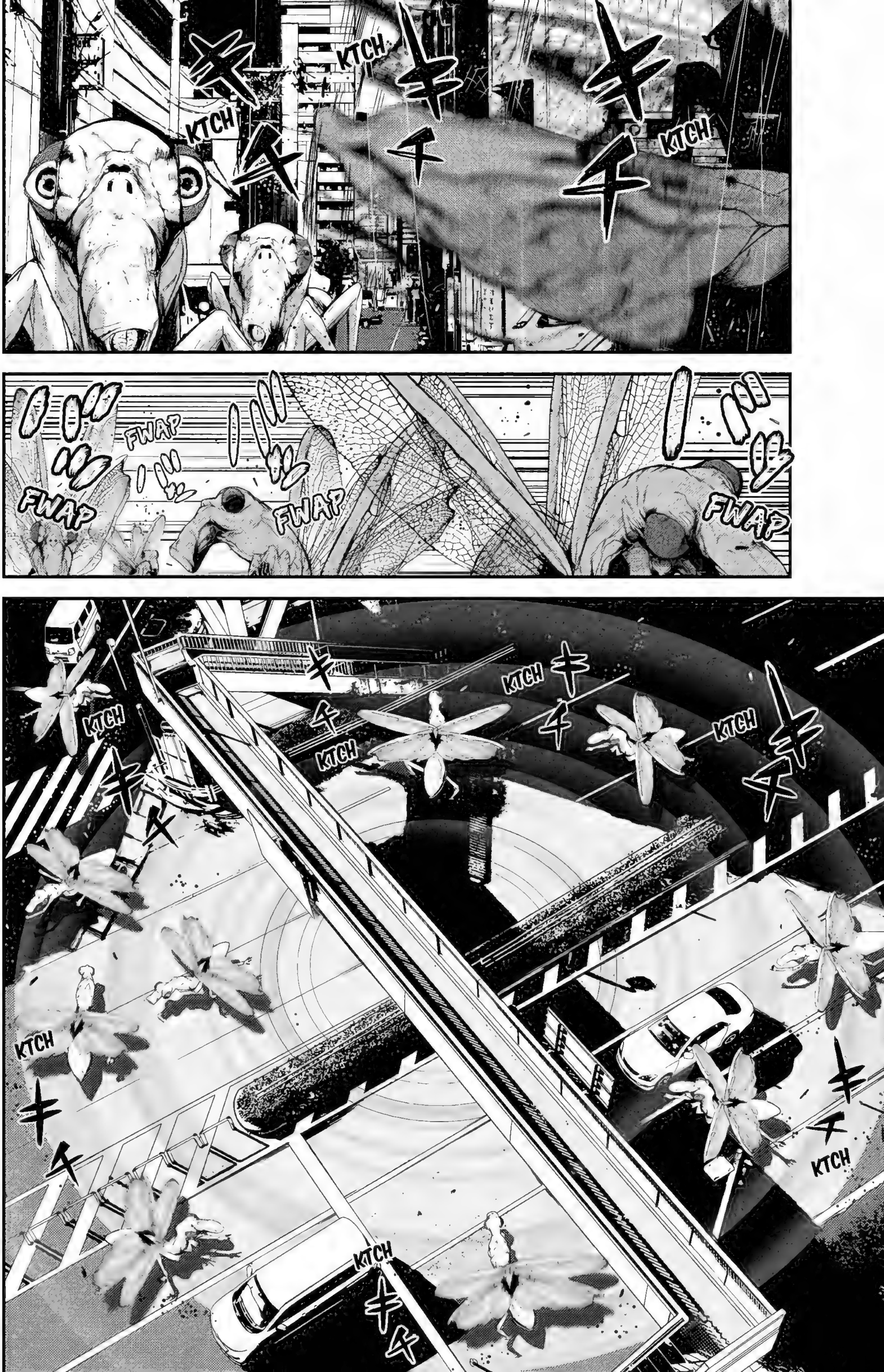

GHK…!
HFFF
HFFF
TSHHH
シュウウウ
TSHHHH
シュウウウウ
HFFFFF
HFFFF
HUFF
HUFF
うう…
う
RRGH…

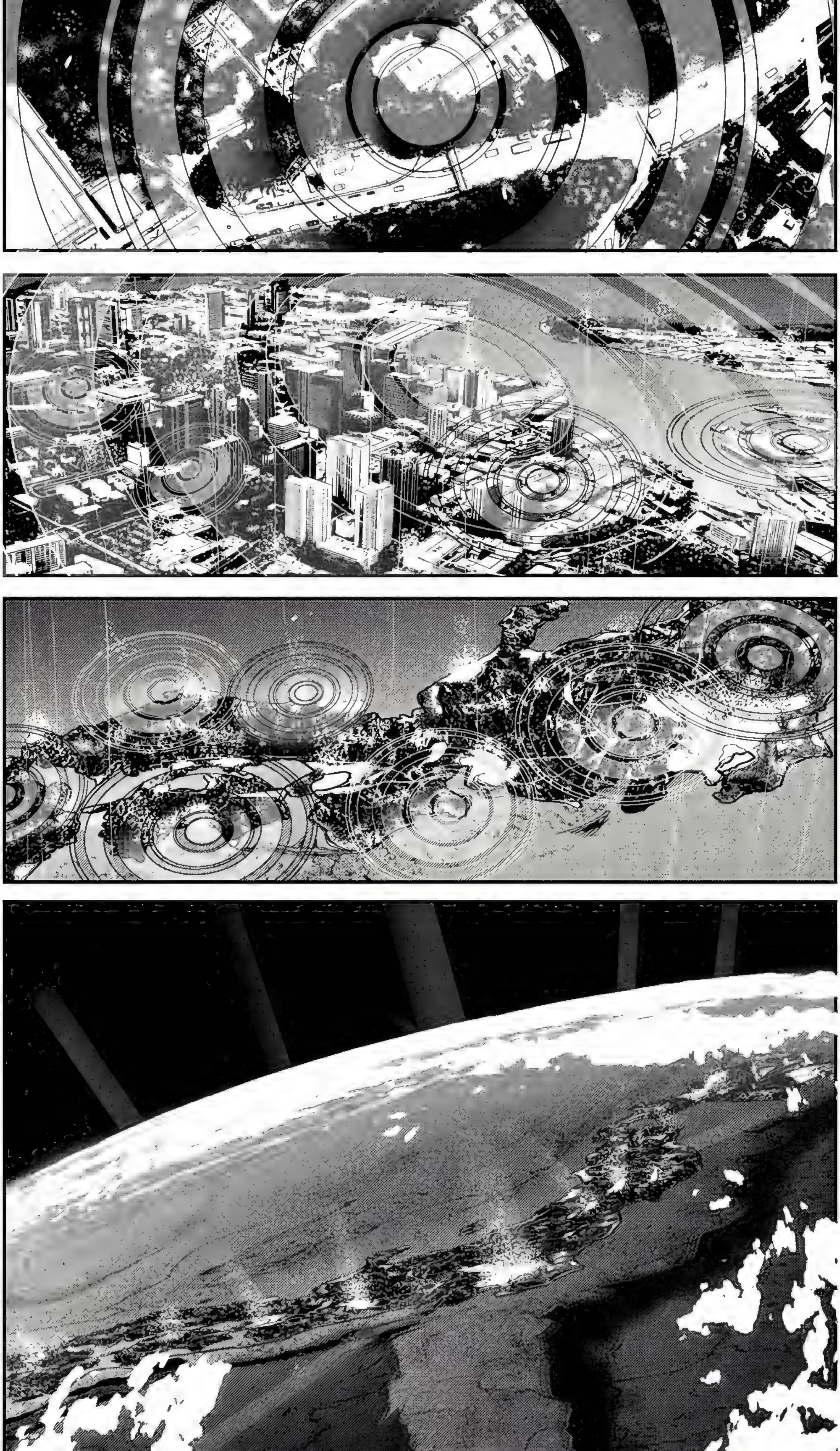

HUFF
うおお
RAAGH!
HUFF
ううう
RRGH...
ぐぐっ
GRRRKT
バッ
FWAP
ぐぐぐう
GRRRKT
うぅ
RRGH...
THE ...

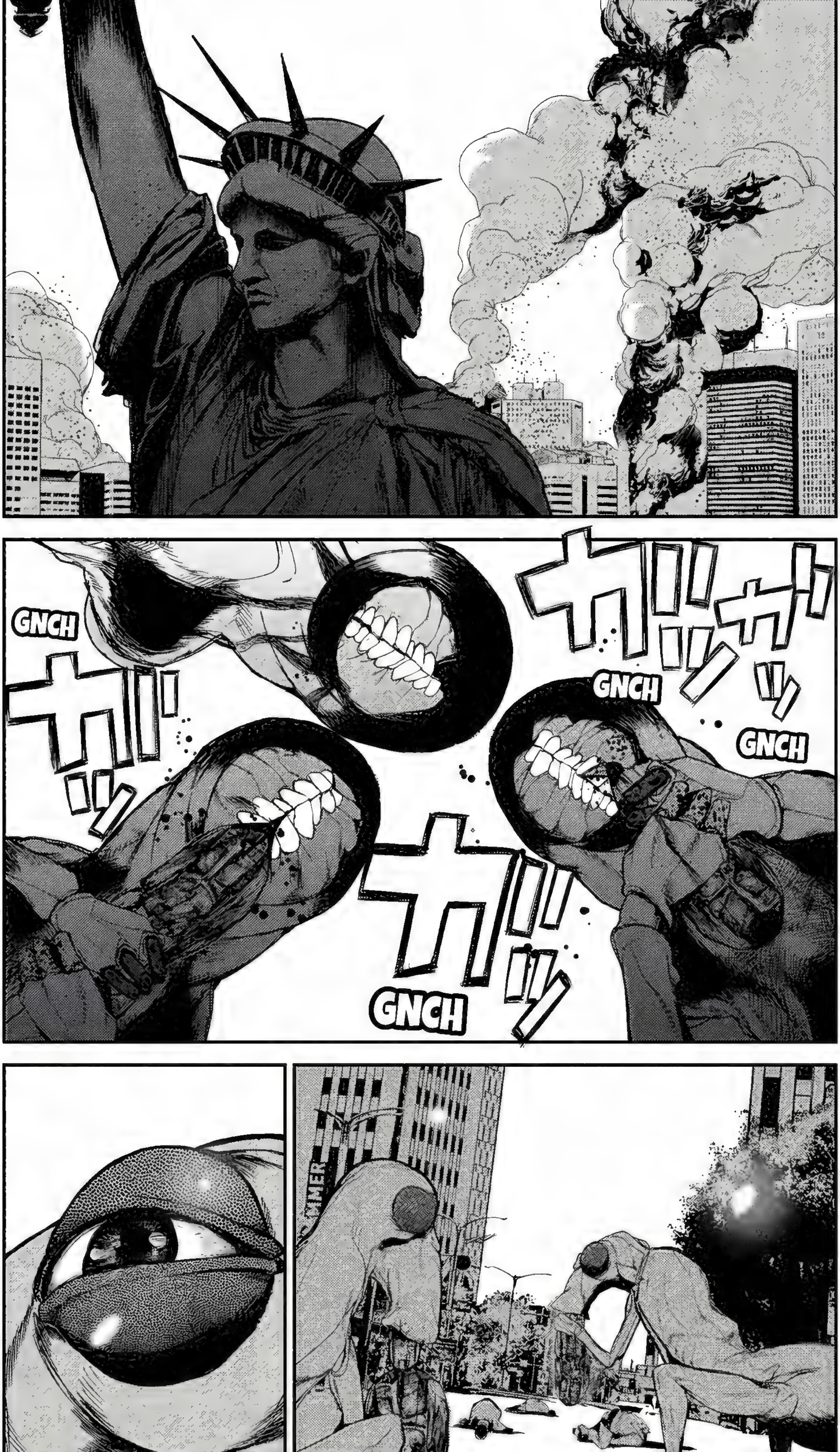

THE...
...RE-GEN-ERA-TOOOR!
KSHH
KSHH
BAAM
BAAM
BAAAM
AUUGH! WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
M-M-MY EARS... MY EARS!!
KZZT
KZZT

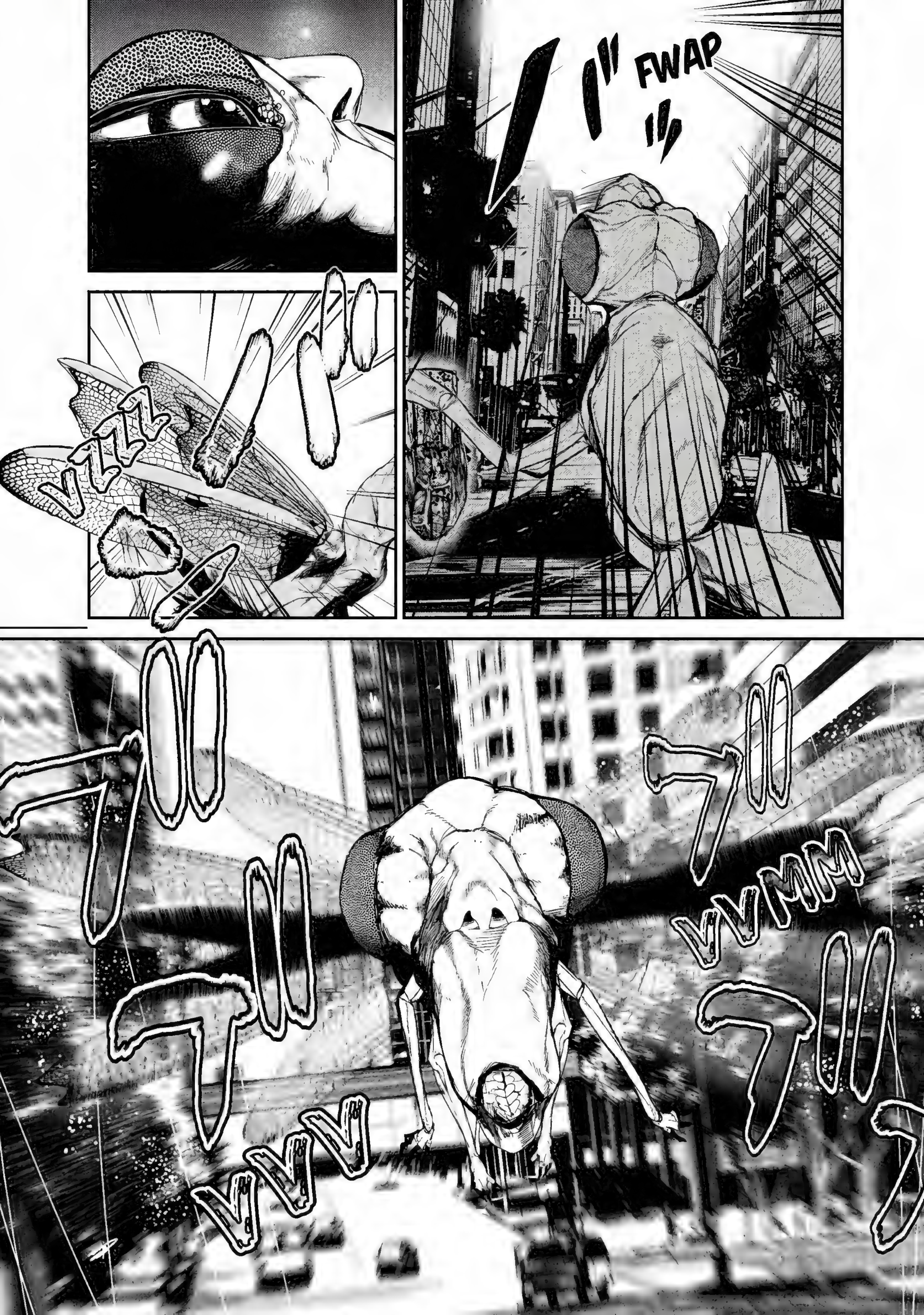


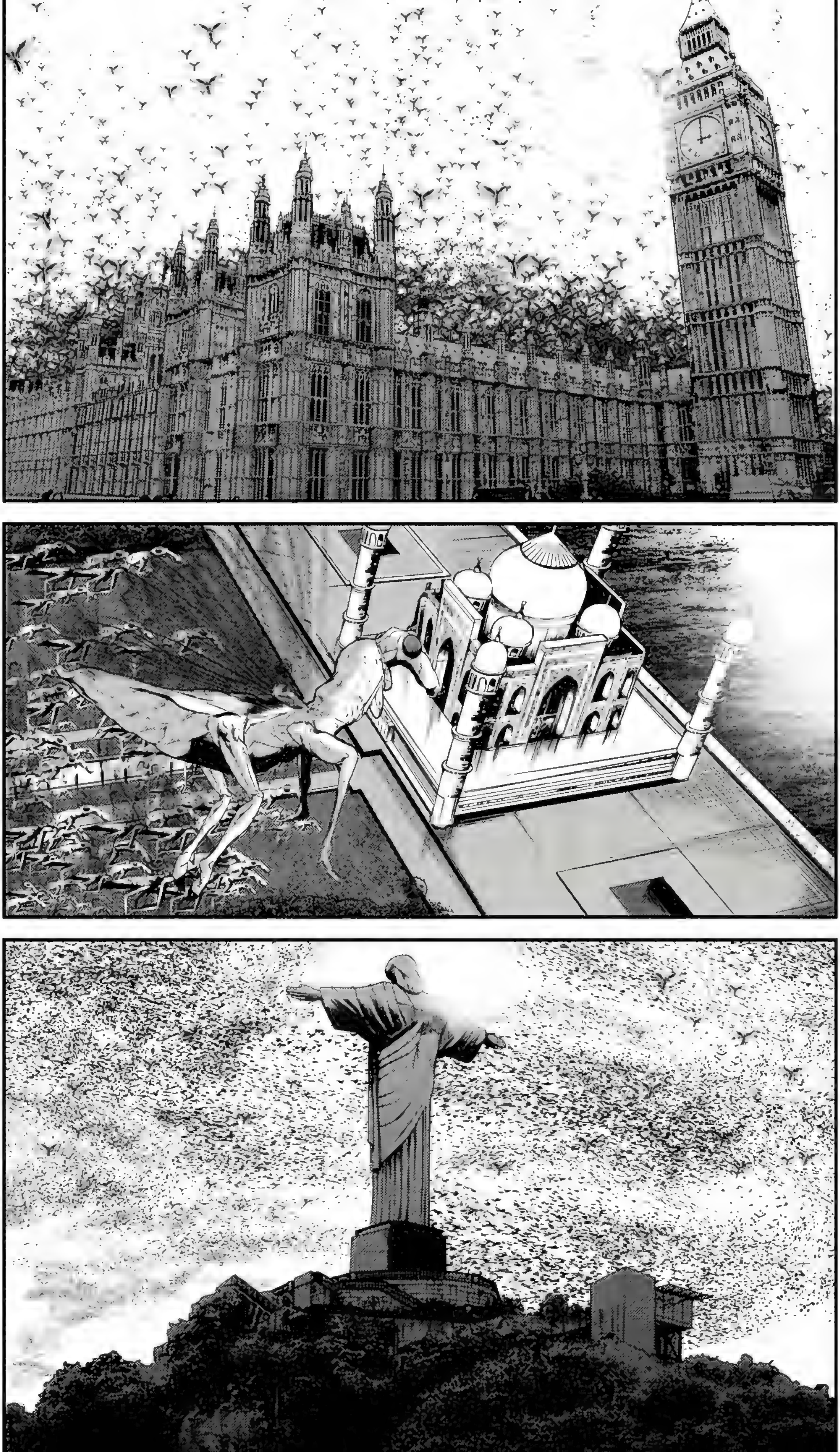

FWAP
VZZZ
KTCH
KTCH
KTCH
KTCH
TK

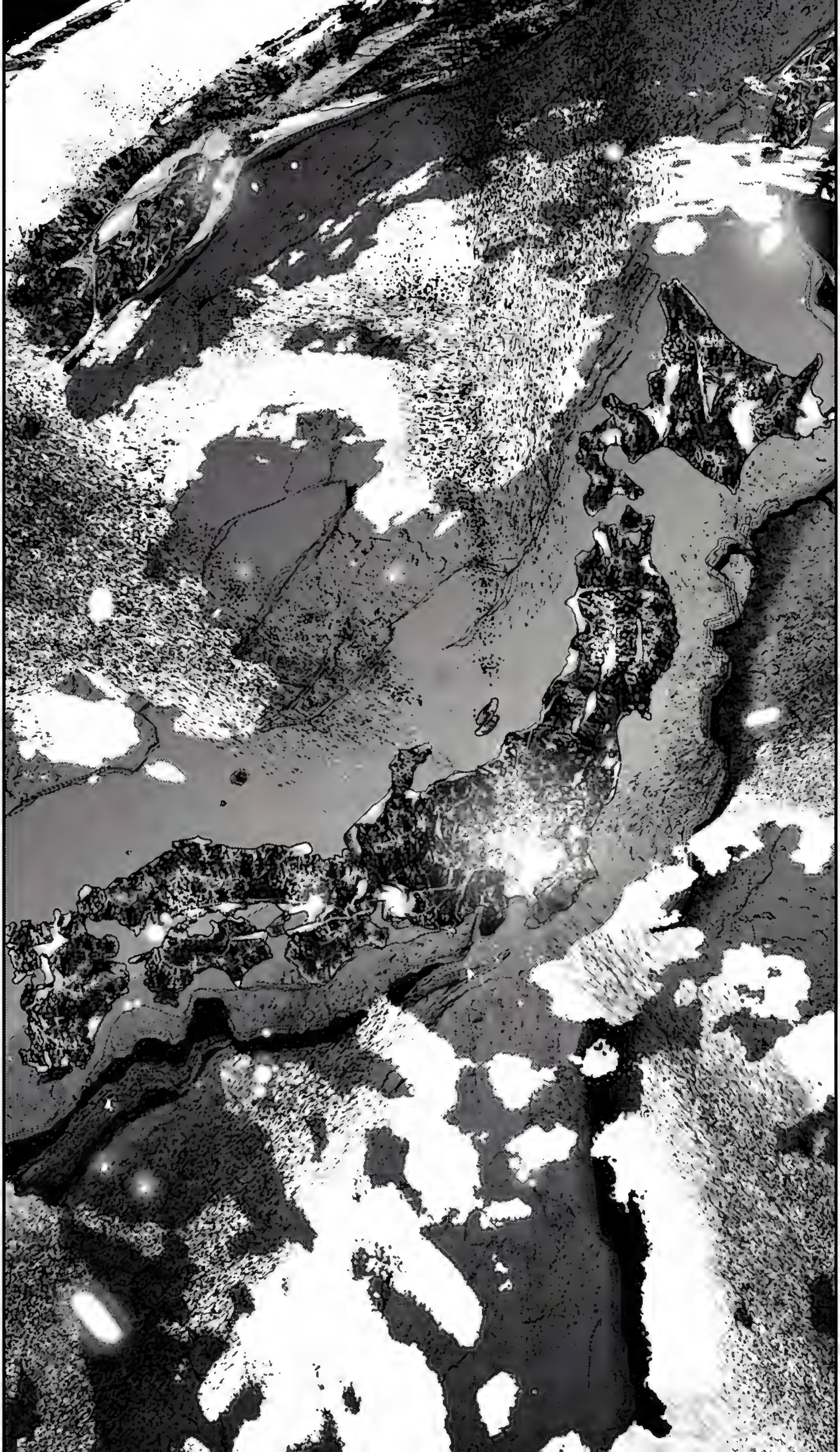

KTCH
KTCH
KTCH
FWAP
FWAP
FWAP
FWAP
KTCH
KTCH
KTCH
KTCH
KTCH
KTCH
KTCH

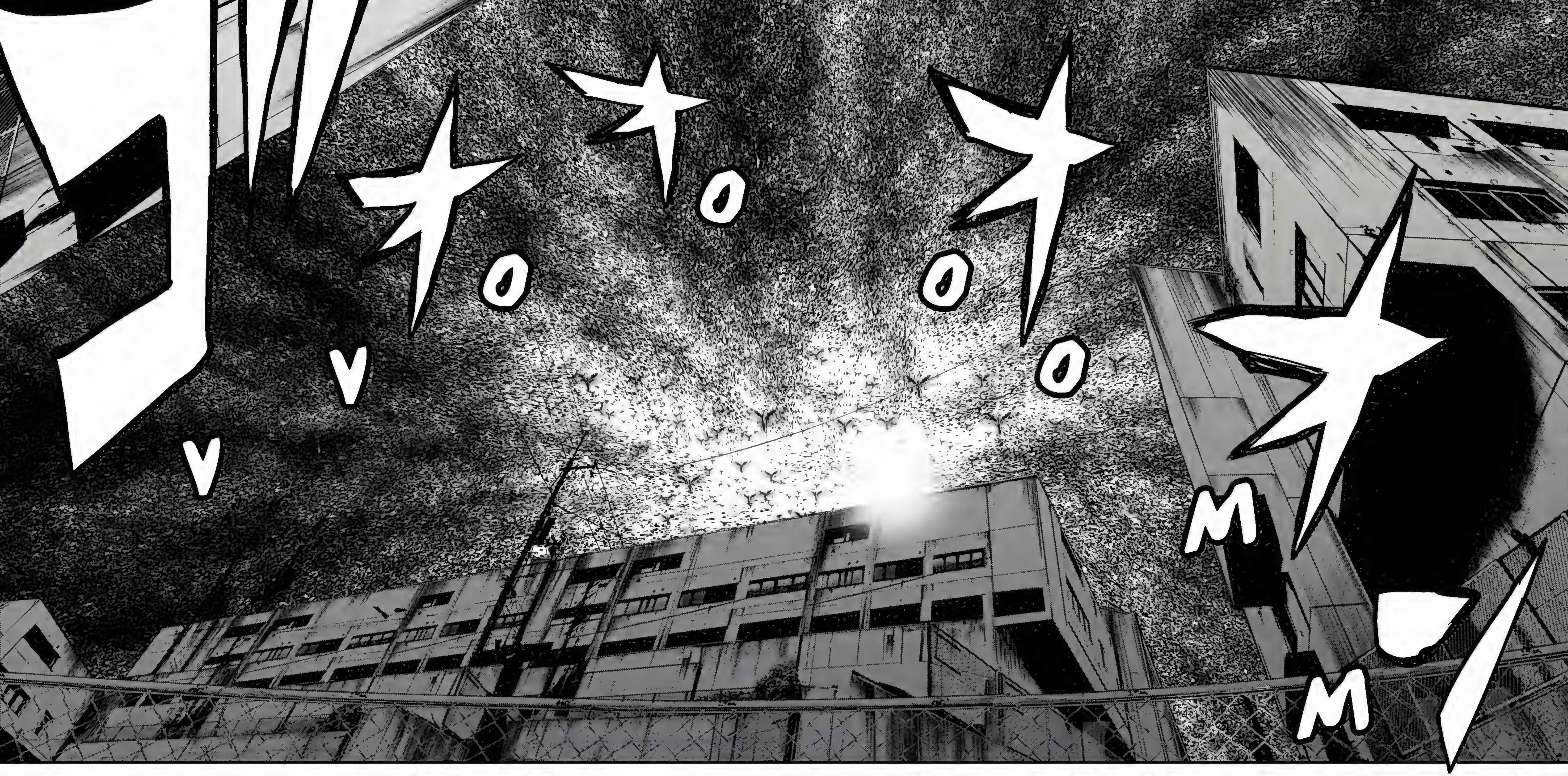


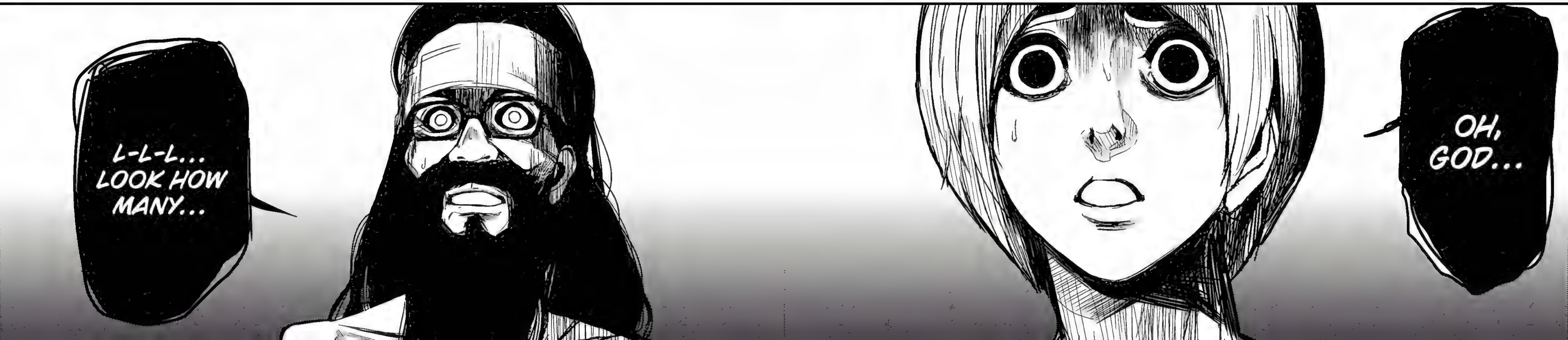

ガッガッ
GNCH
GNCH
ガッ
GNCH
ガッ
GNCH
MMER


FWAP
VZZZ
ブ
ブ
VVMM
ブ
ブ
ブ
VVVV

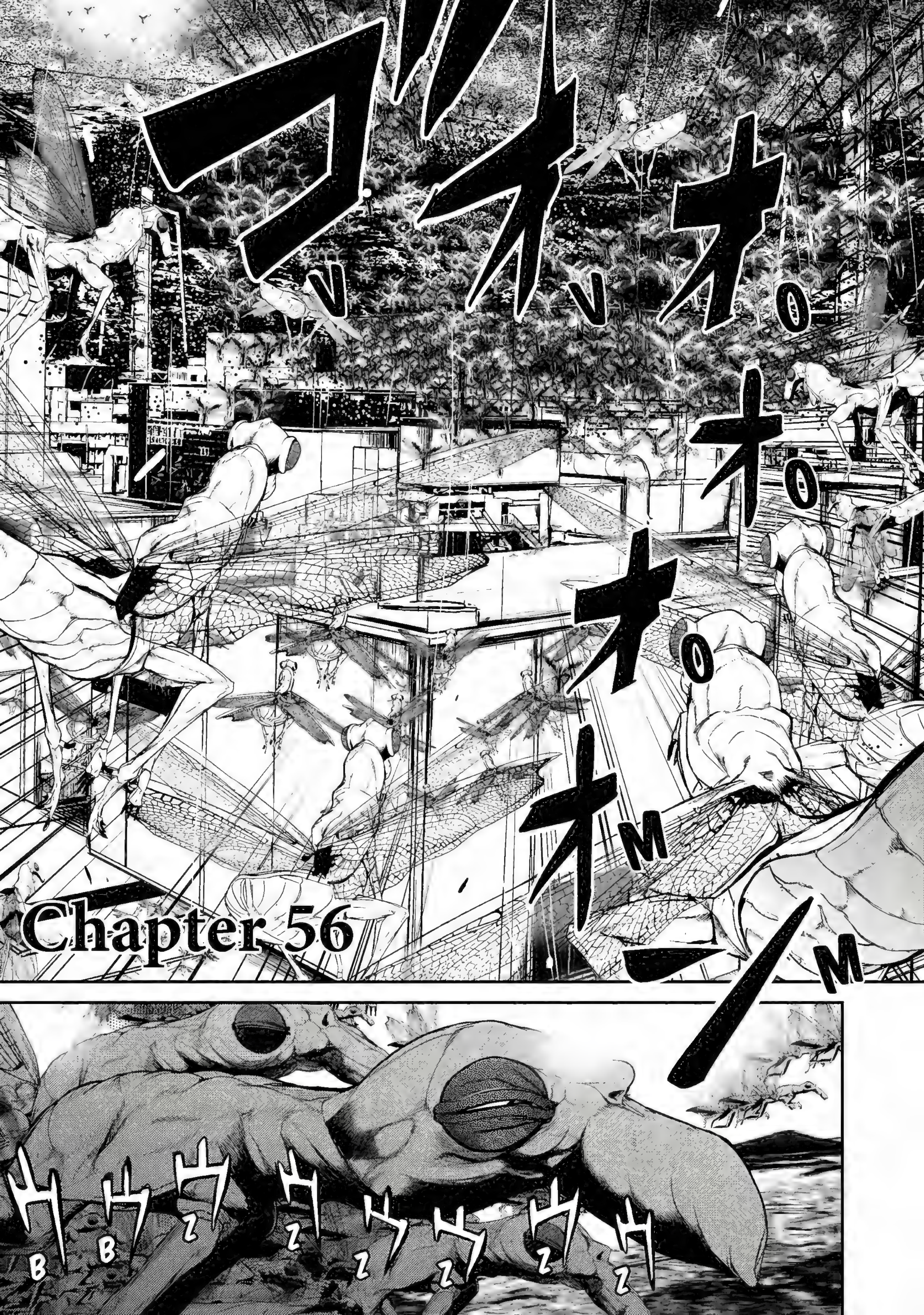





ゴォォォォォ
VVVOOOOMM

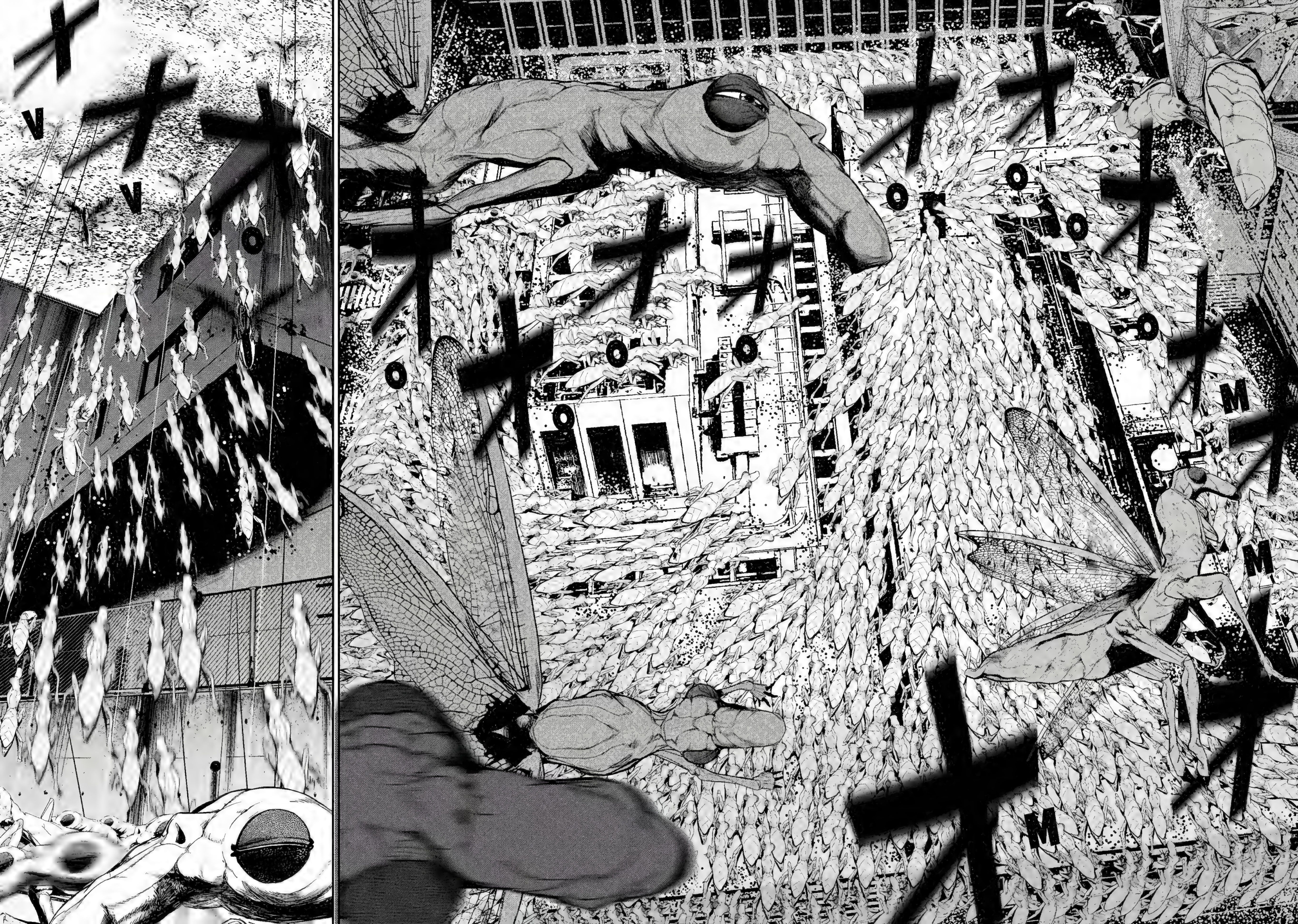

OH, GOD...
L-L-L... LOOK HOW MANY...

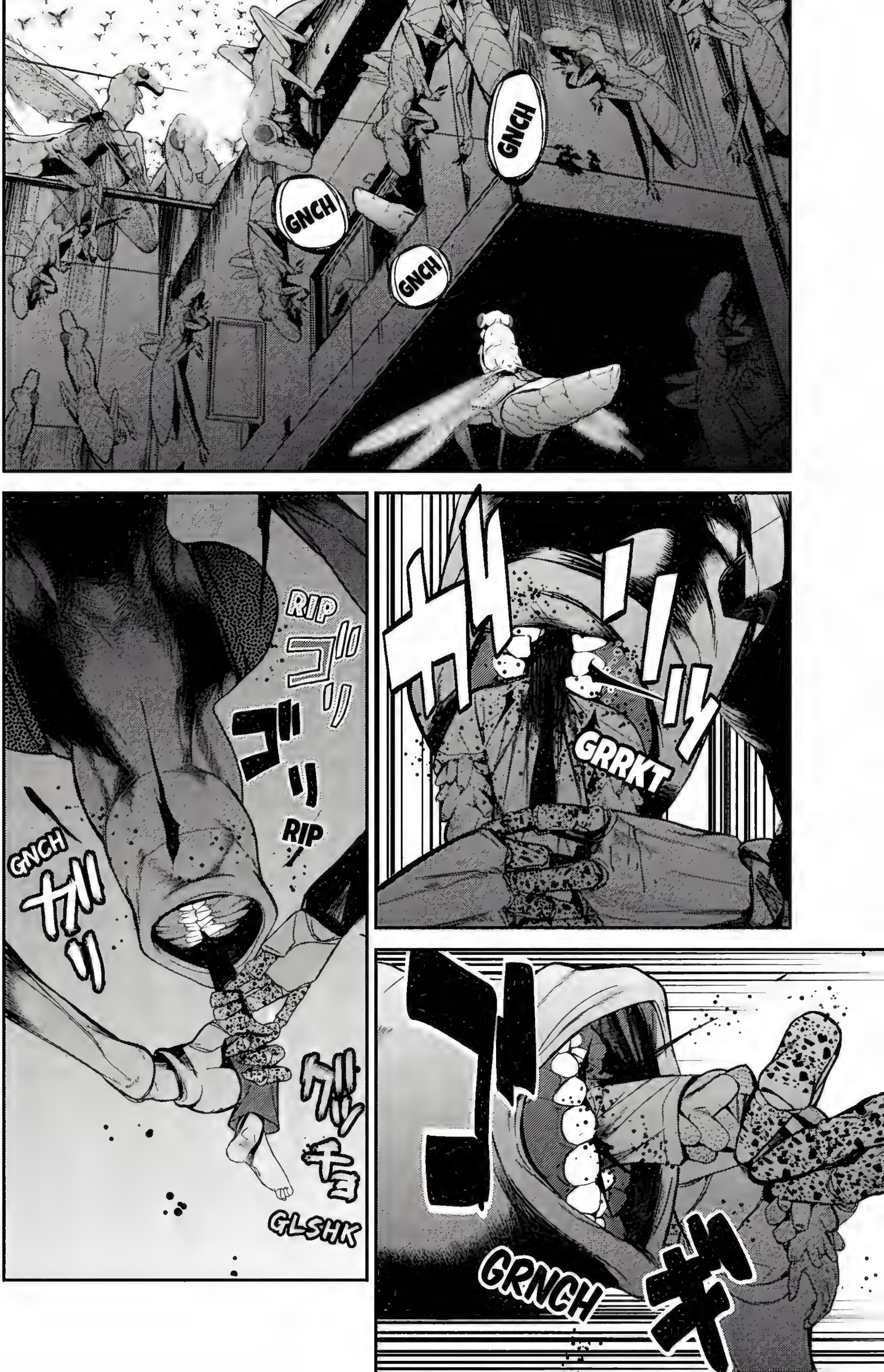
STARVING
ANONYMOUS

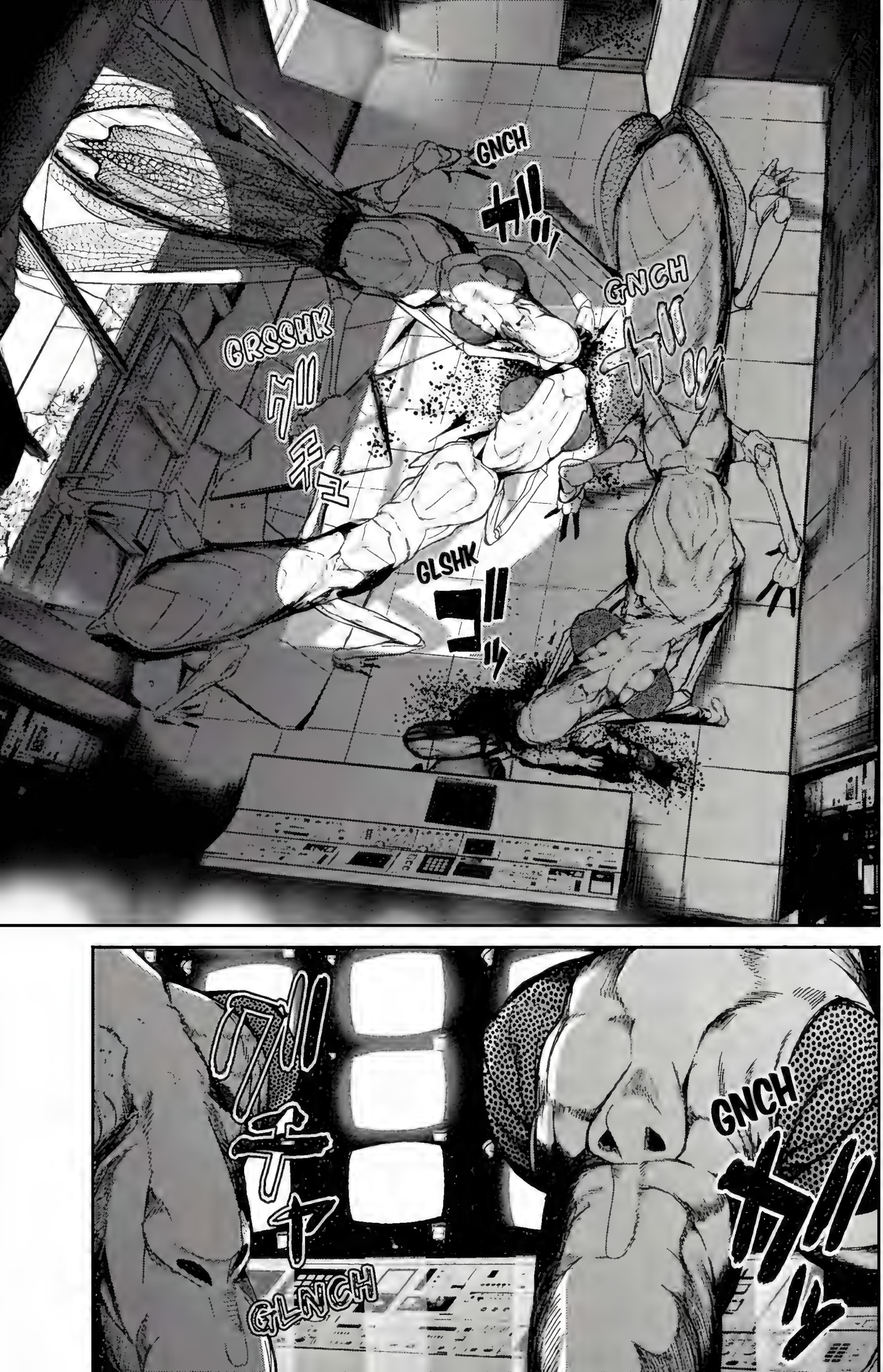


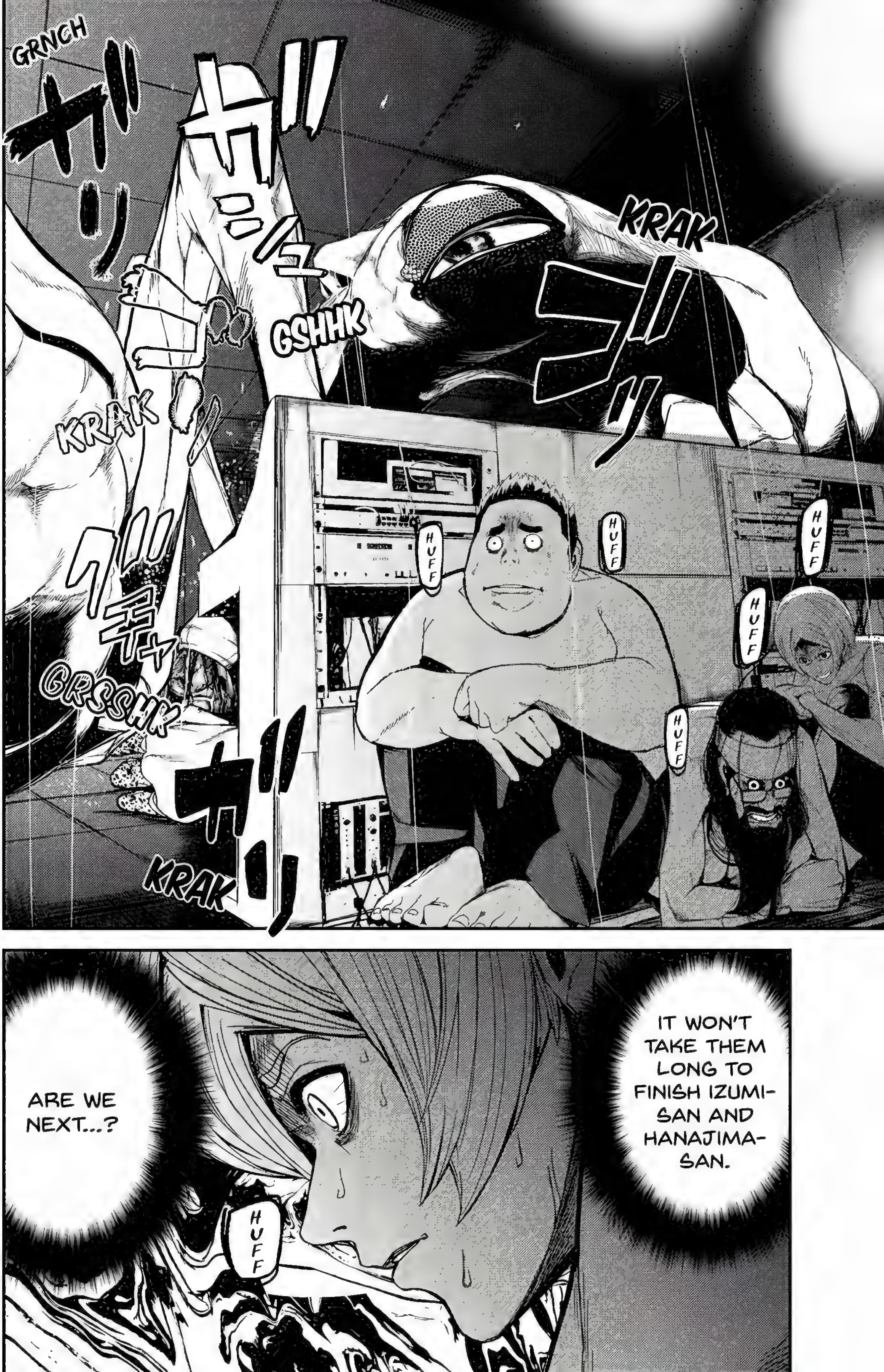
Chapter 56

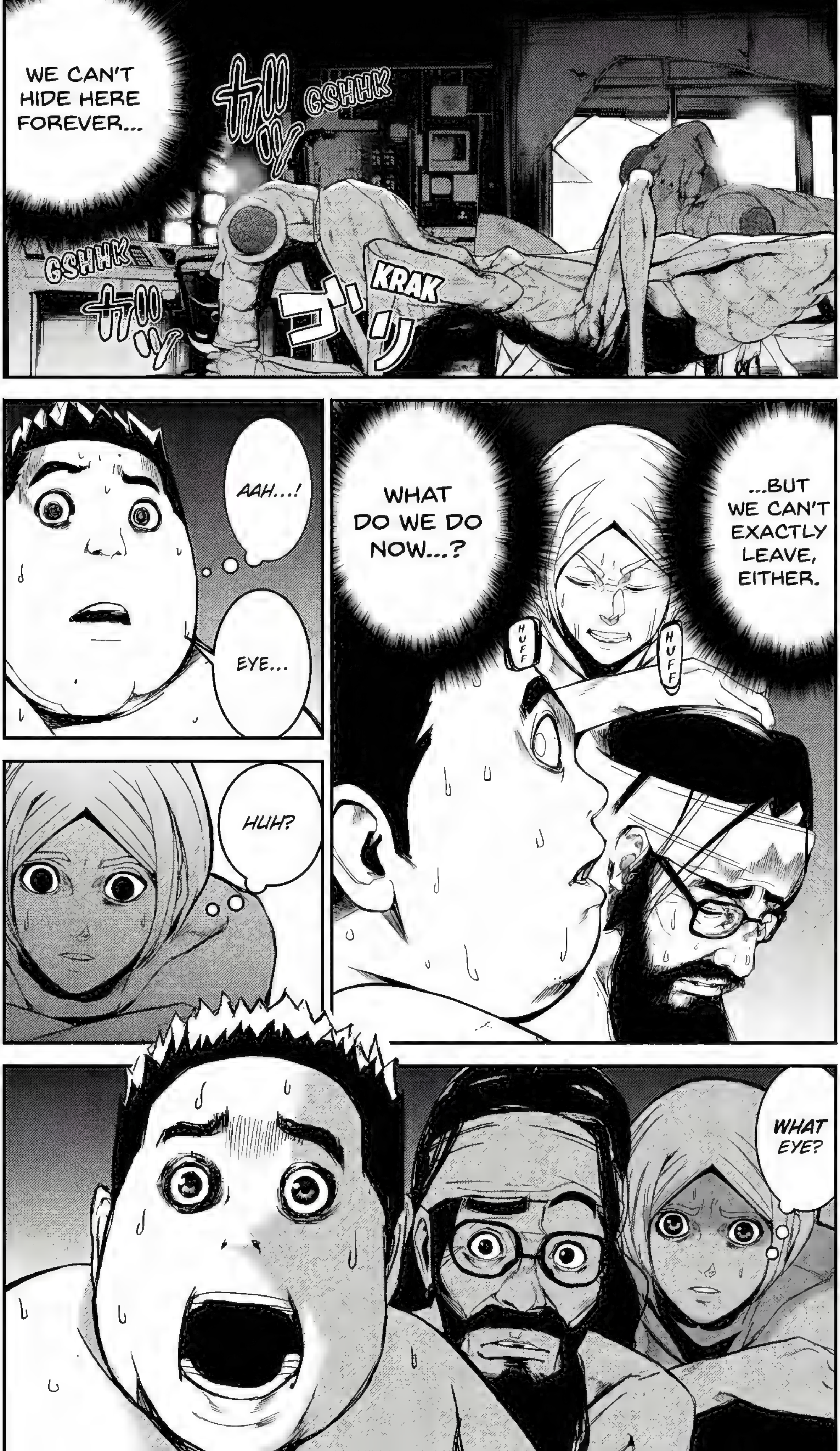
ゴヴォオオオオーン
VVOOOMM
ヴヴヴヴヴヴヴヴ
BBZZZZZZ

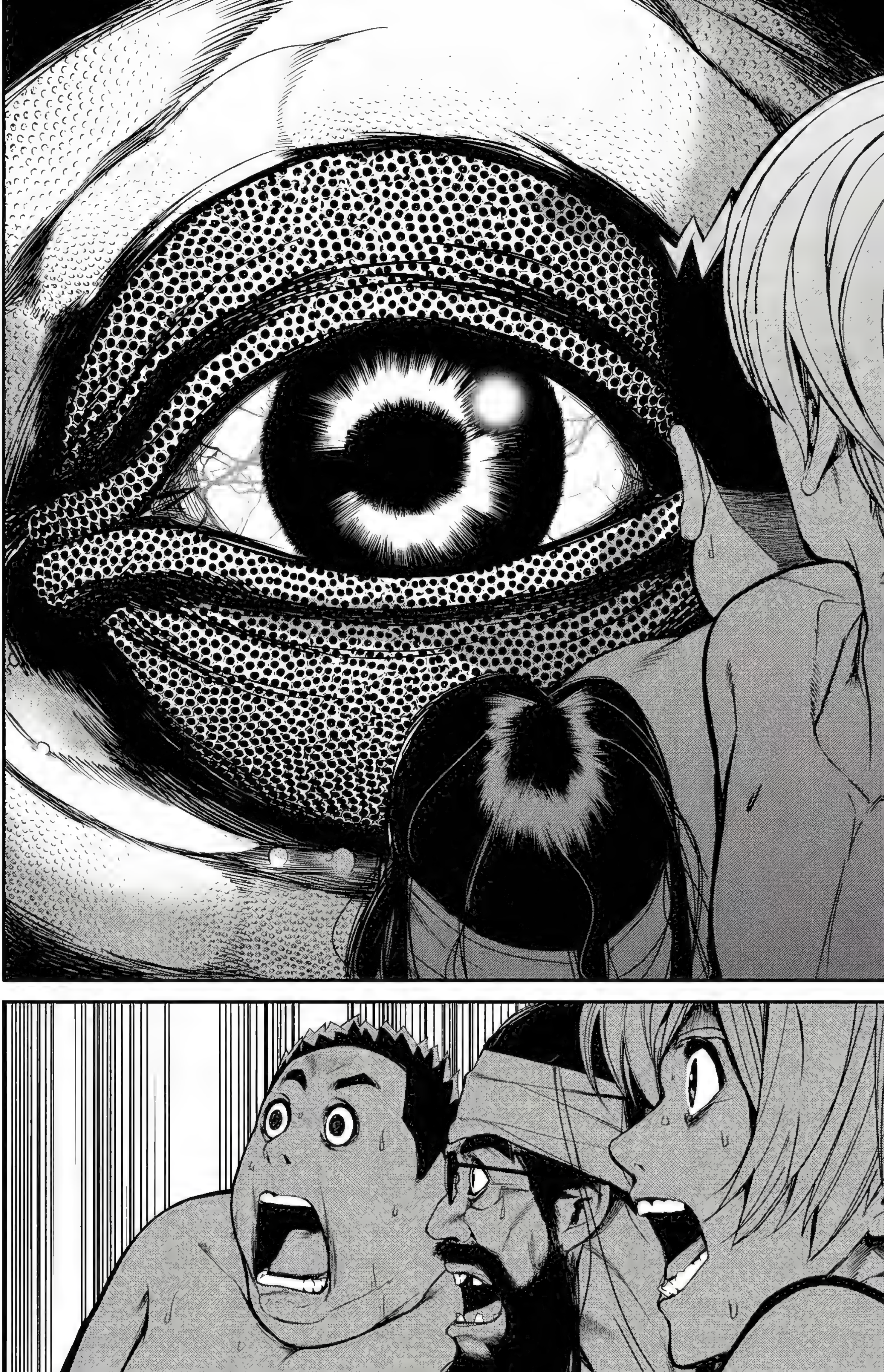

オオオオオオオオオオオ
VVOOOOOOOONMMM

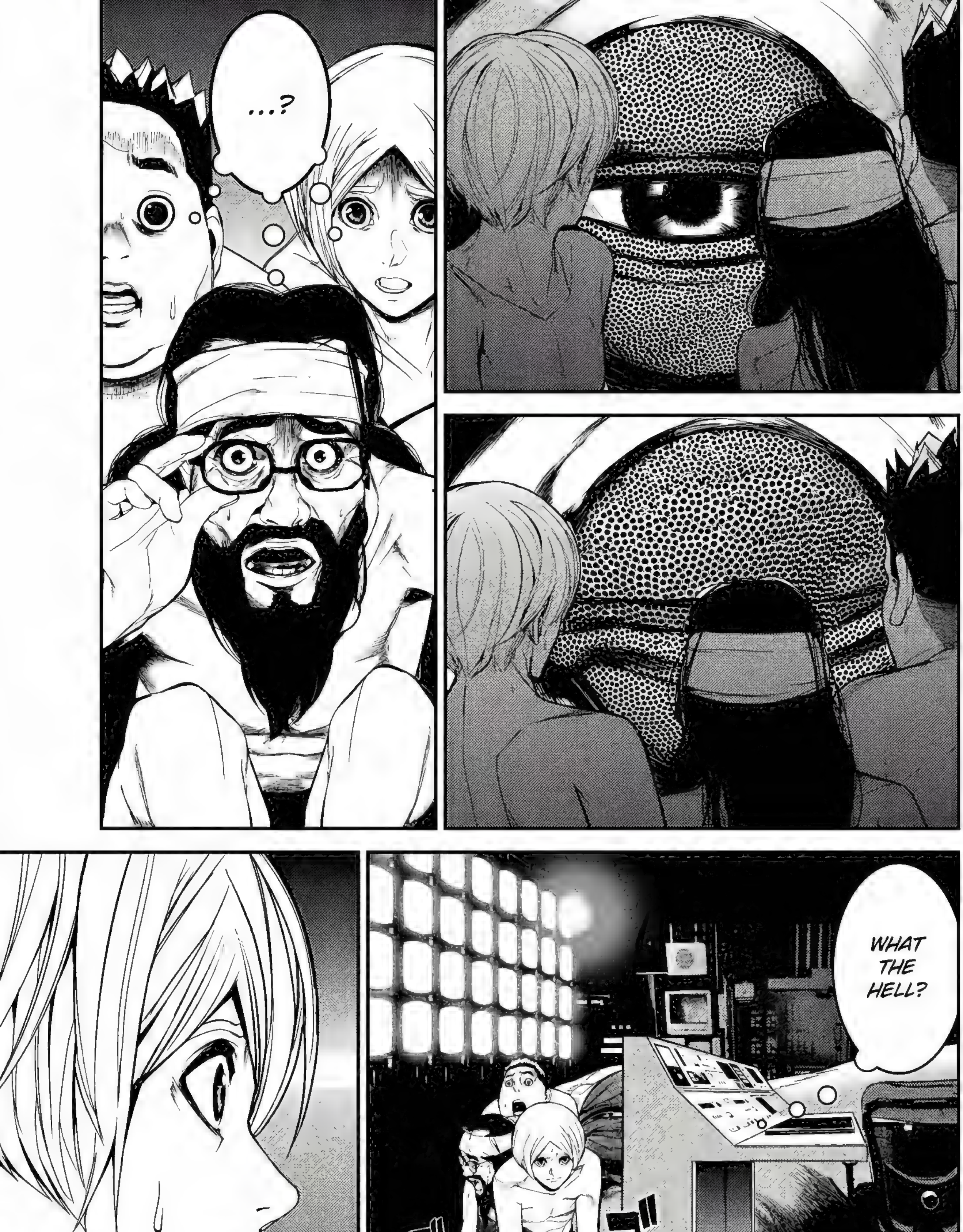

GNCH
GNCH
GNCH
ガリッ
GRRKT
RIP
ゴリ
ゴリ
RIP
GNCH
ガリ
グッチョ
GLSHK
ゴ
ギ
GRNCH

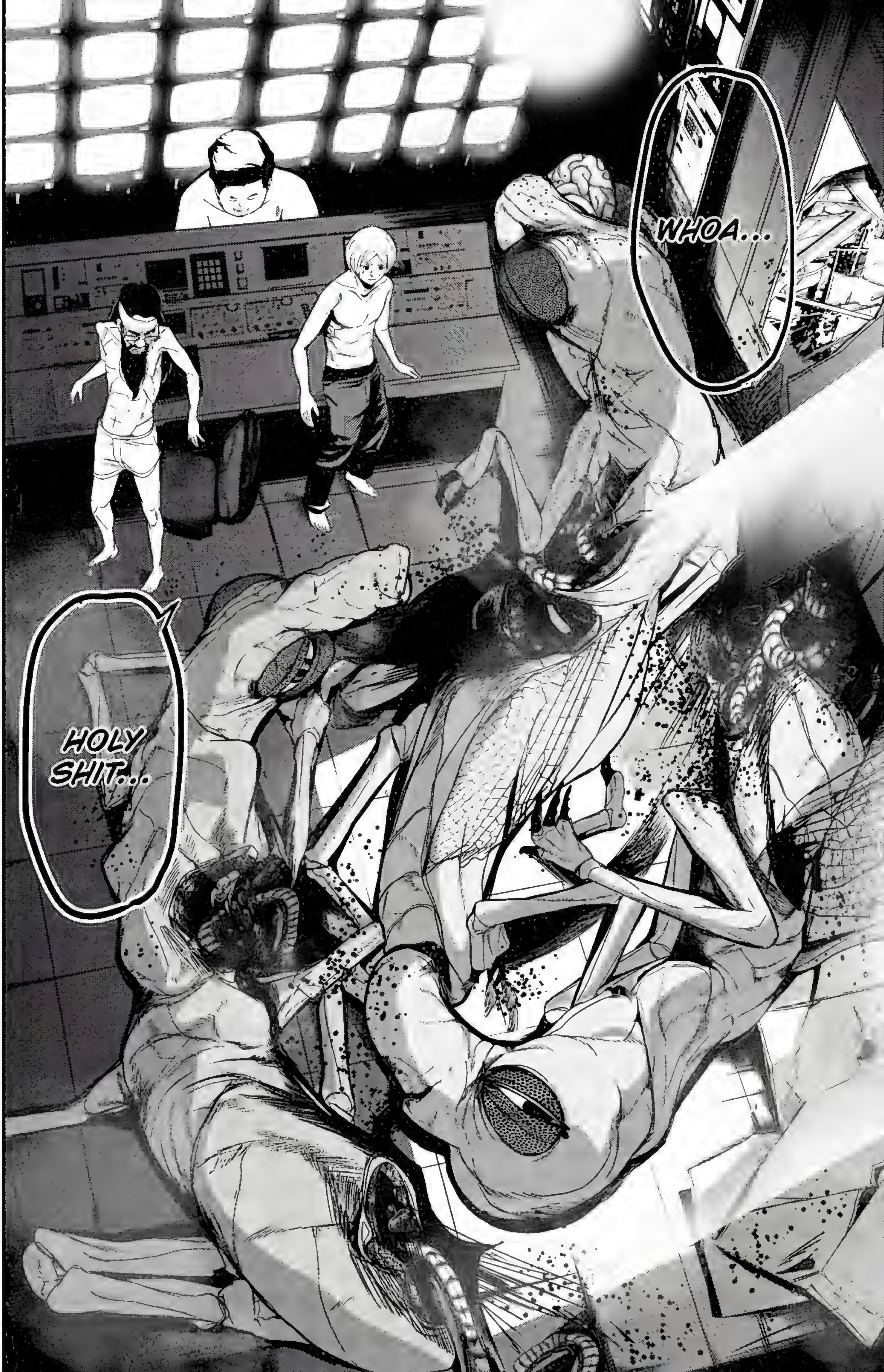

GNCH
ガリッ
GNCH
ガリッ
GRSSHK
グリチュ
GLSHK
ゴリッ
GNCH
ガリッ
GLNCH
グリチャ

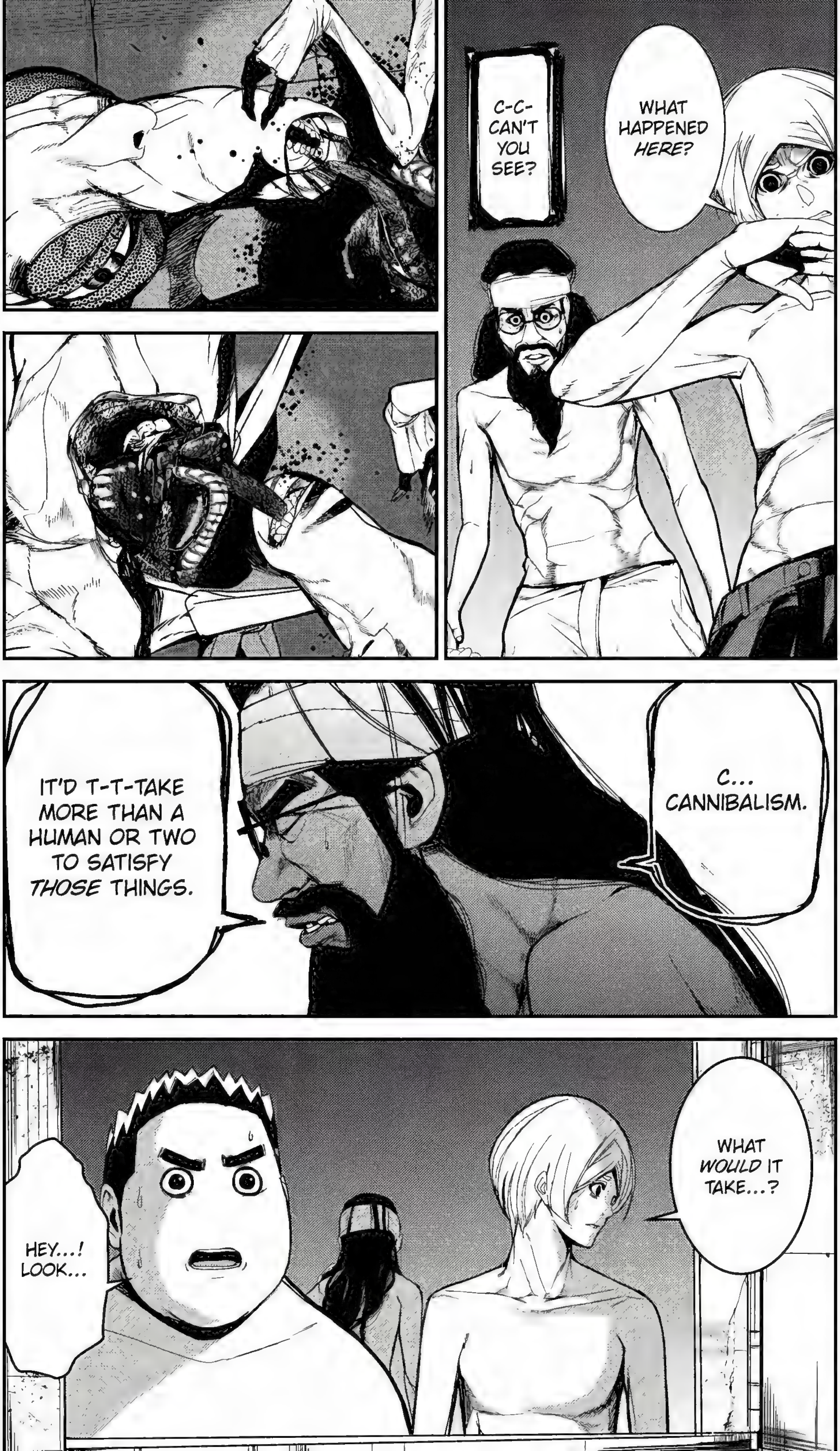

KRAK
GRNCH
GSHHK
KRAK
GRSSHK
KRAK
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
IT WON'T TAKE THEM LONG TO FINISH IZUMI-SAN AND HANAJIMA-SAN.
ARE WE NEXT...?
HUFF

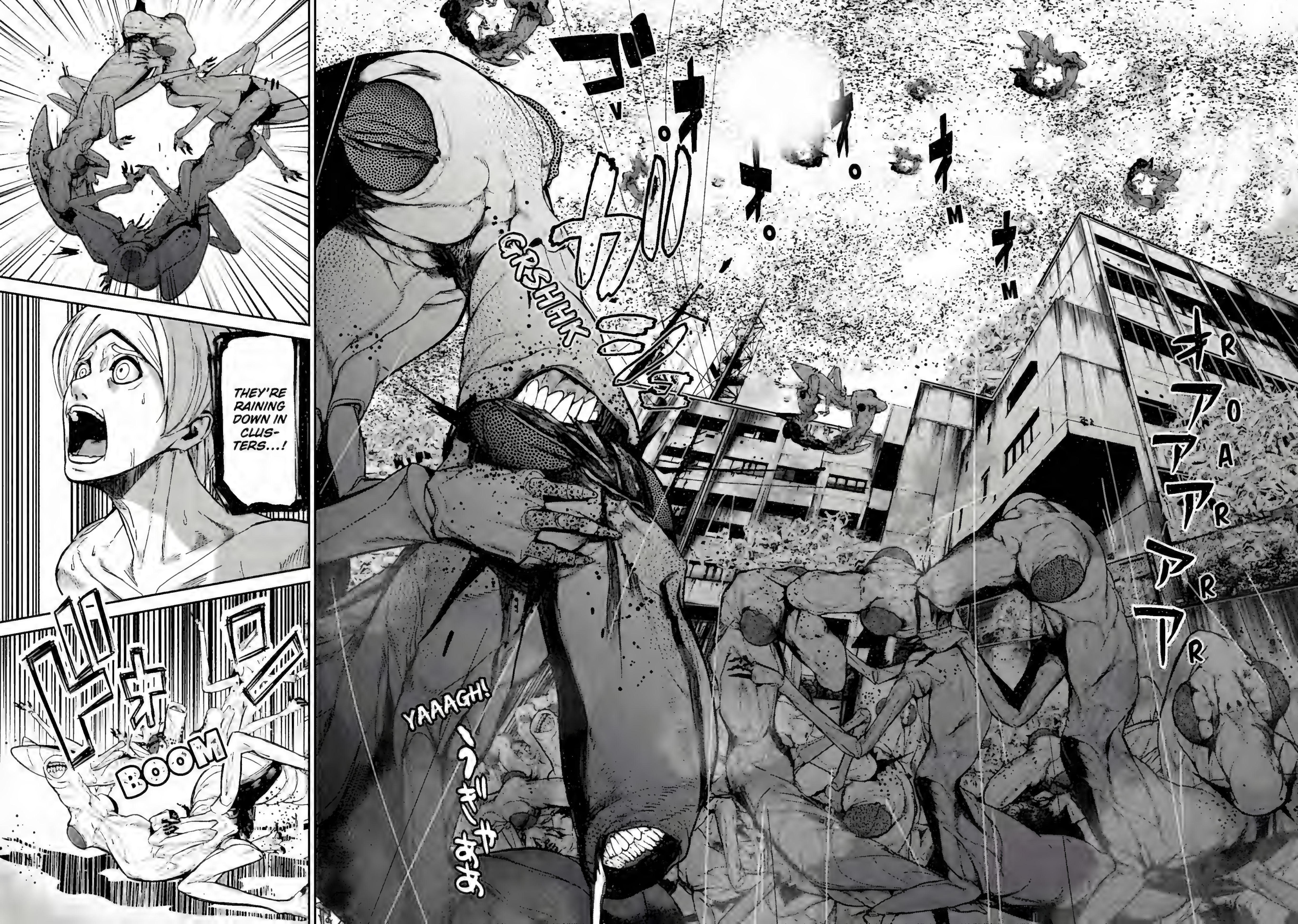

WE CAN'T HIDE HERE FOREVER...
カリッ
GSHHK
カリッ
GSHHK
ゴリ
KRAK
...BUT WE CAN'T EXACTLY LEAVE, EITHER.
WHAT DO WE DO NOW...?
HUFF
HUFF
AAH...!
EYE...
HUH?
WHAT EYE?

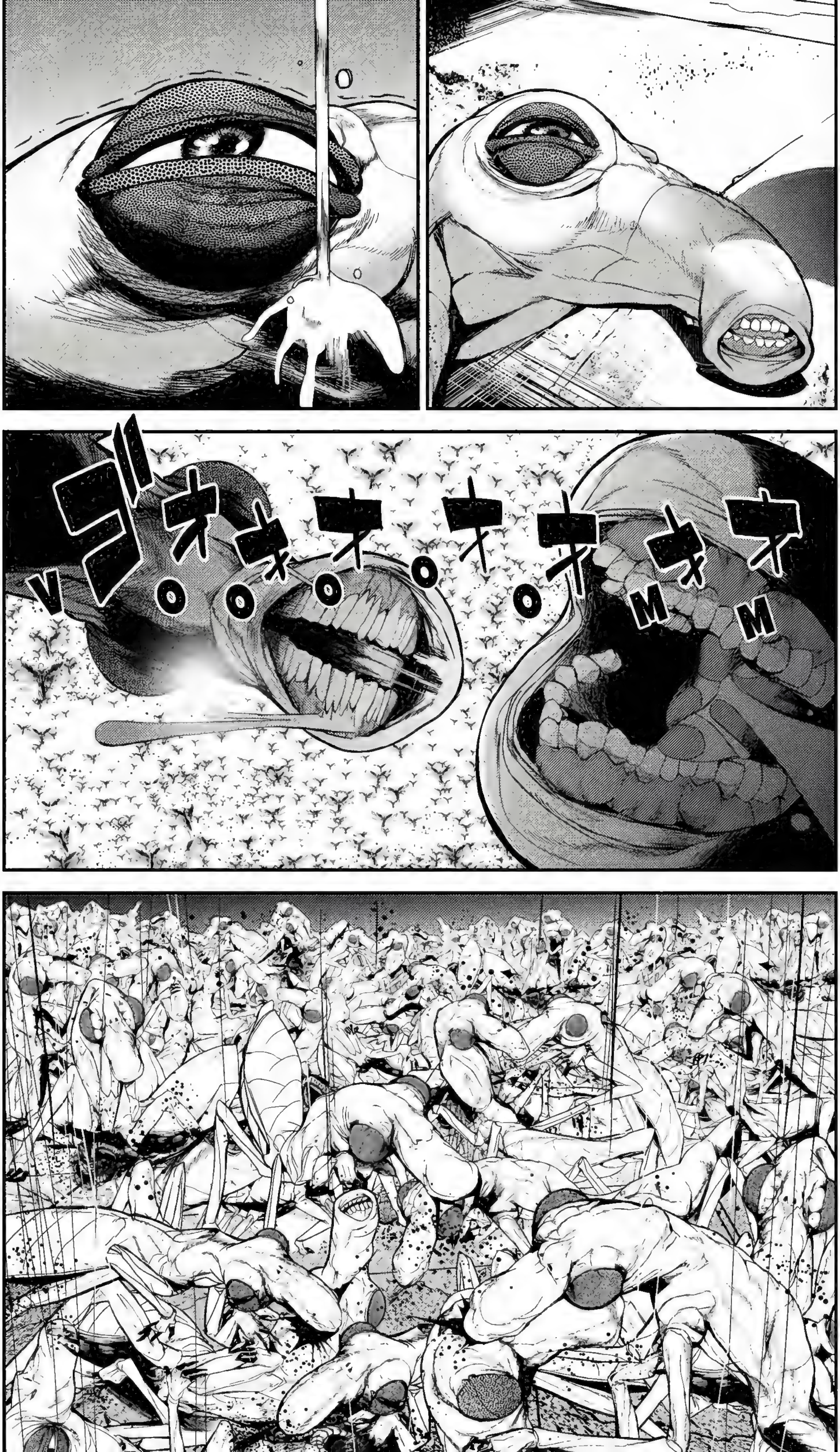


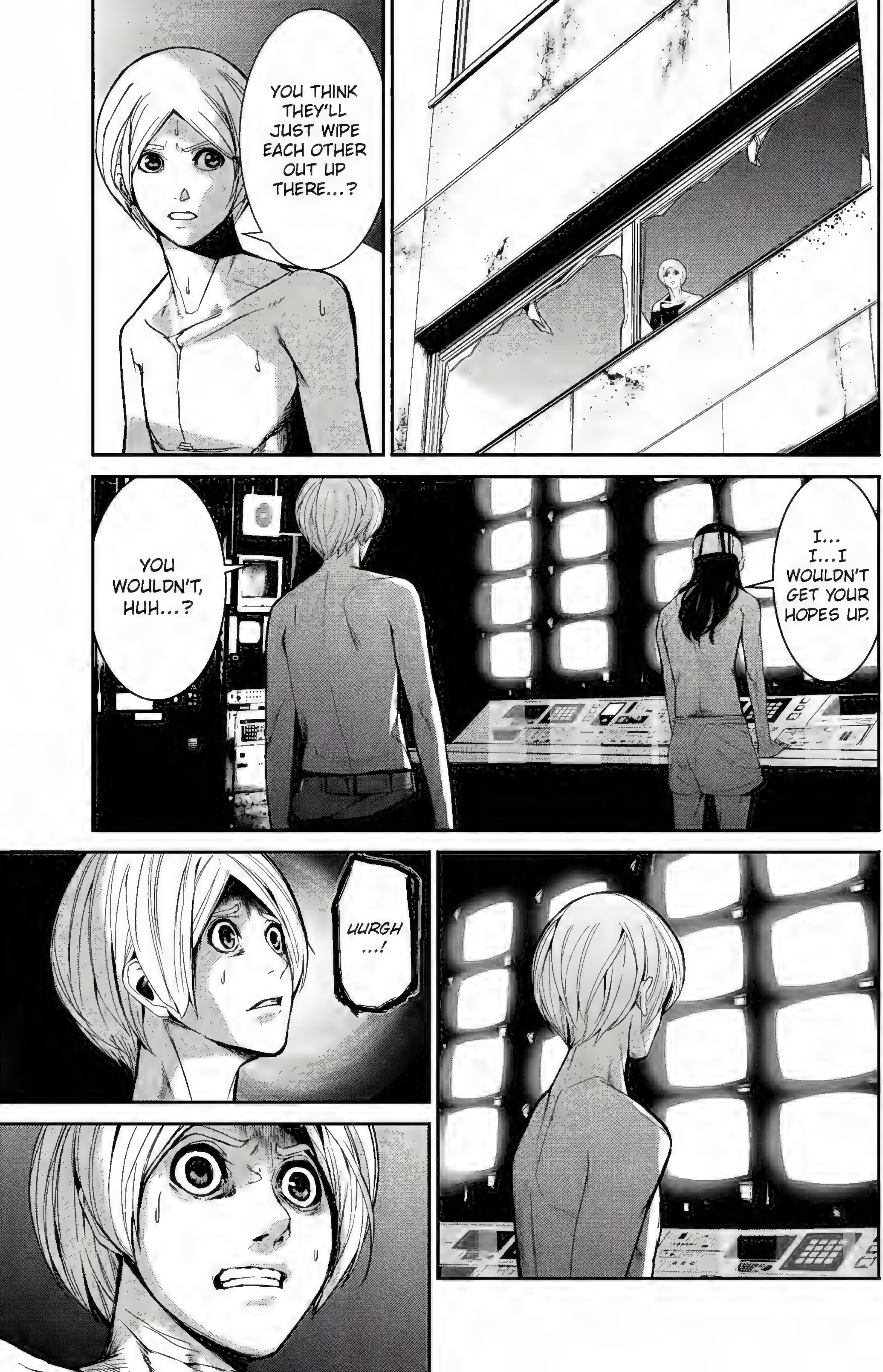

...?
WHAT THE HELL?
ゴン
CLONK
ゴン
CLONK

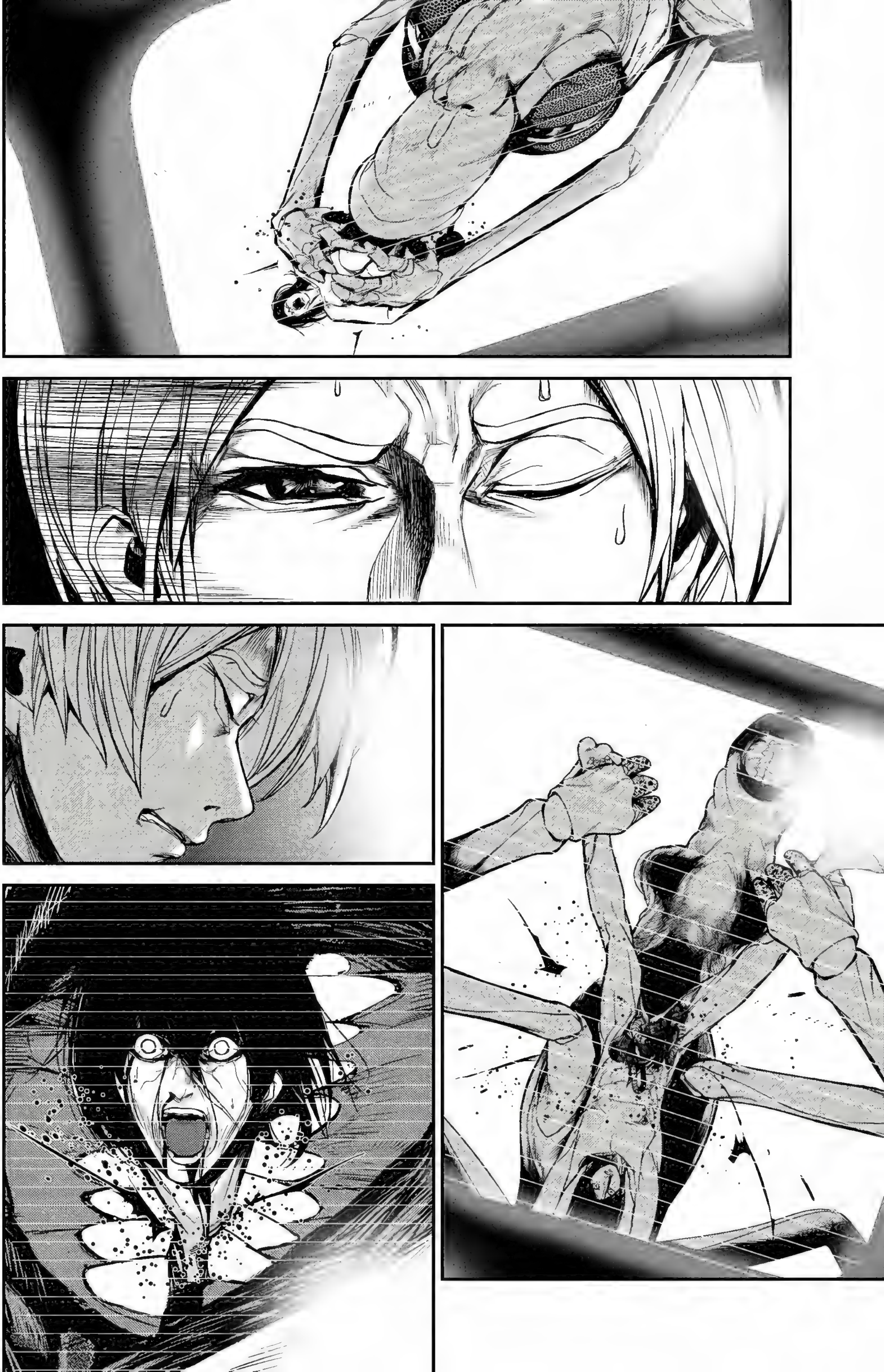

WHOA...
HOLY SHIT...

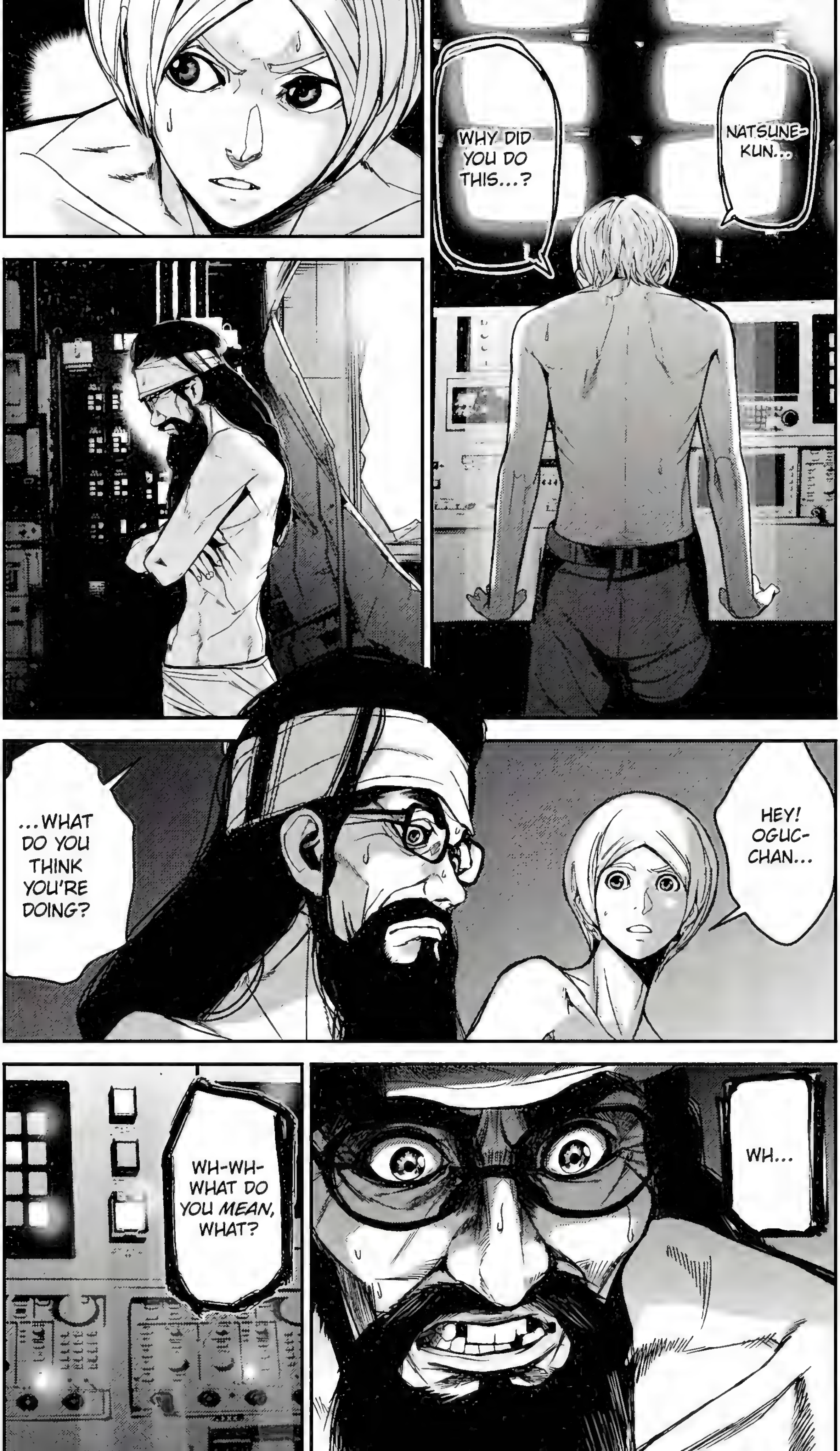

WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
C-C-CAN'T YOU SEE?
C... CANNIBALISM.
IT'D T-T-TAKE MORE THAN A HUMAN OR TWO TO SATISFY THOSE THINGS.
WHAT WOULD IT TAKE...?
HEY...! LOOK...

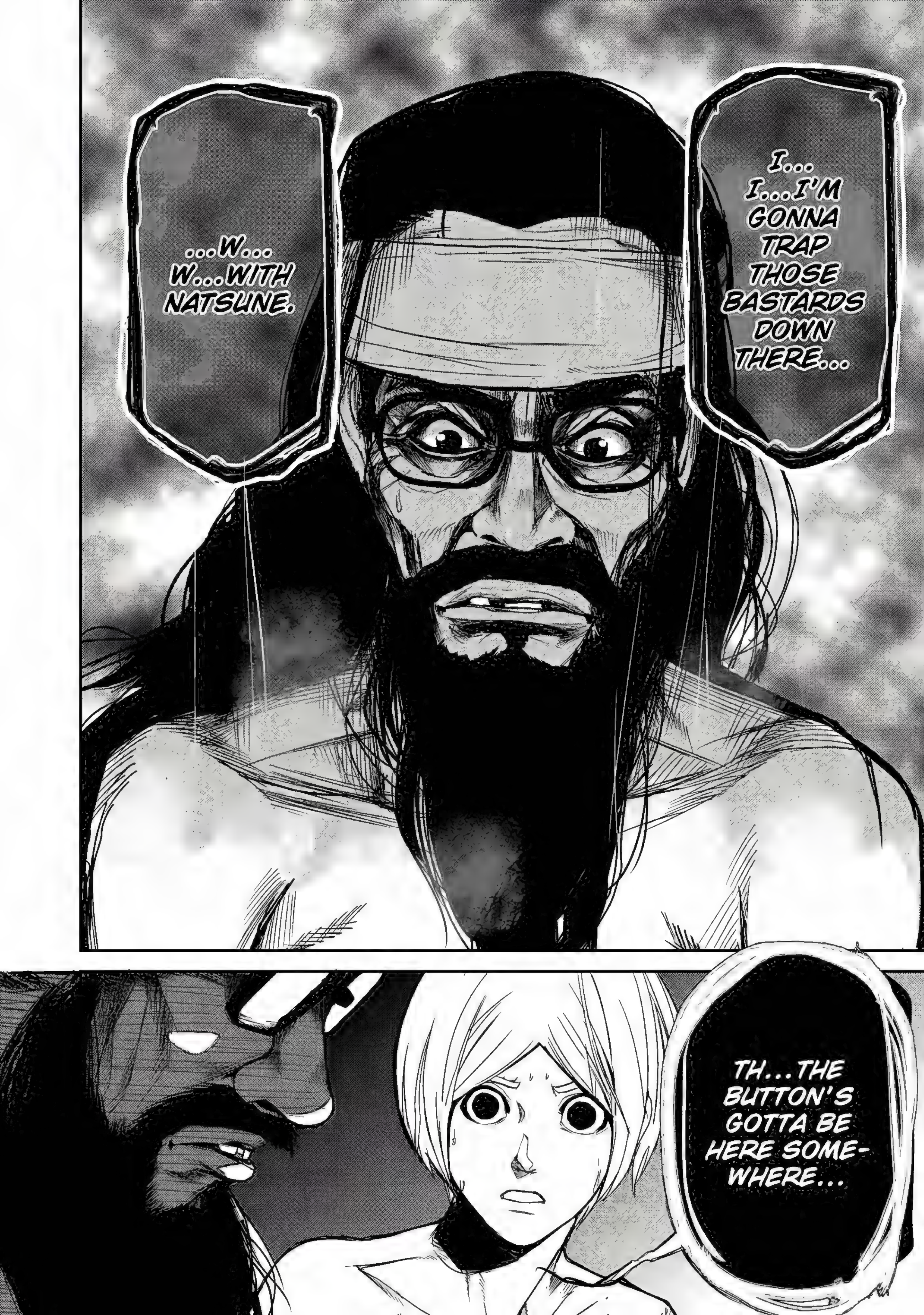

ゴォォォォォォ
VOOOMMM
オアアアアア
ROARRRR
ガリッ
GRSHHK
うぎゃあああ
YAAAGH!
THEY'RE RAINING DOWN IN CLUSTERS...!
ドオ
BOOM

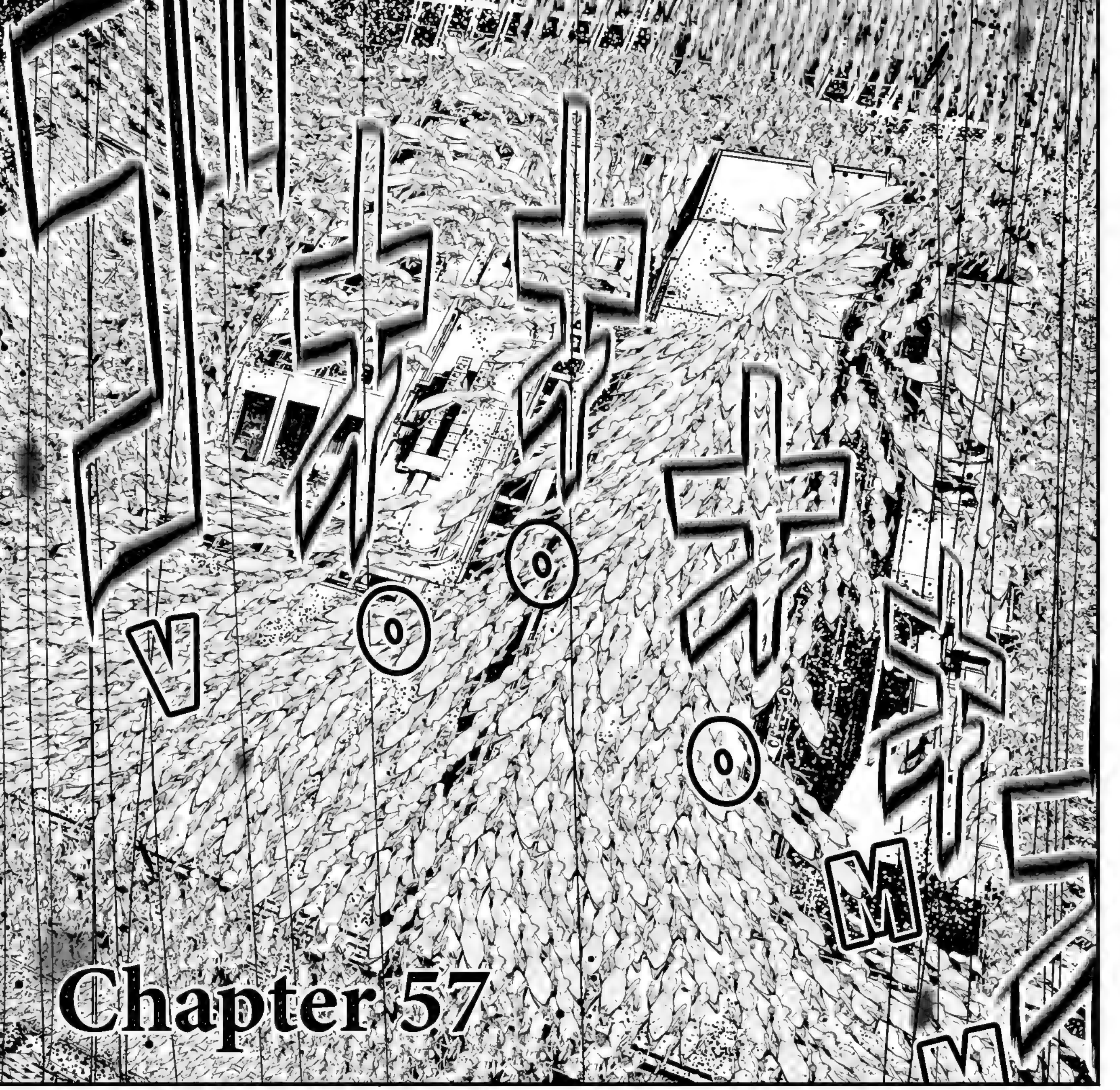

ヴォオオオオオオオ
VOOOOOMM


YOU THINK THEY'LL JUST WIPE EACH OTHER OUT UP THERE...?
I... I...I WOULDN'T GET YOUR HOPES UP.
YOU WOULDN'T, HUH...?
UURGH ...!

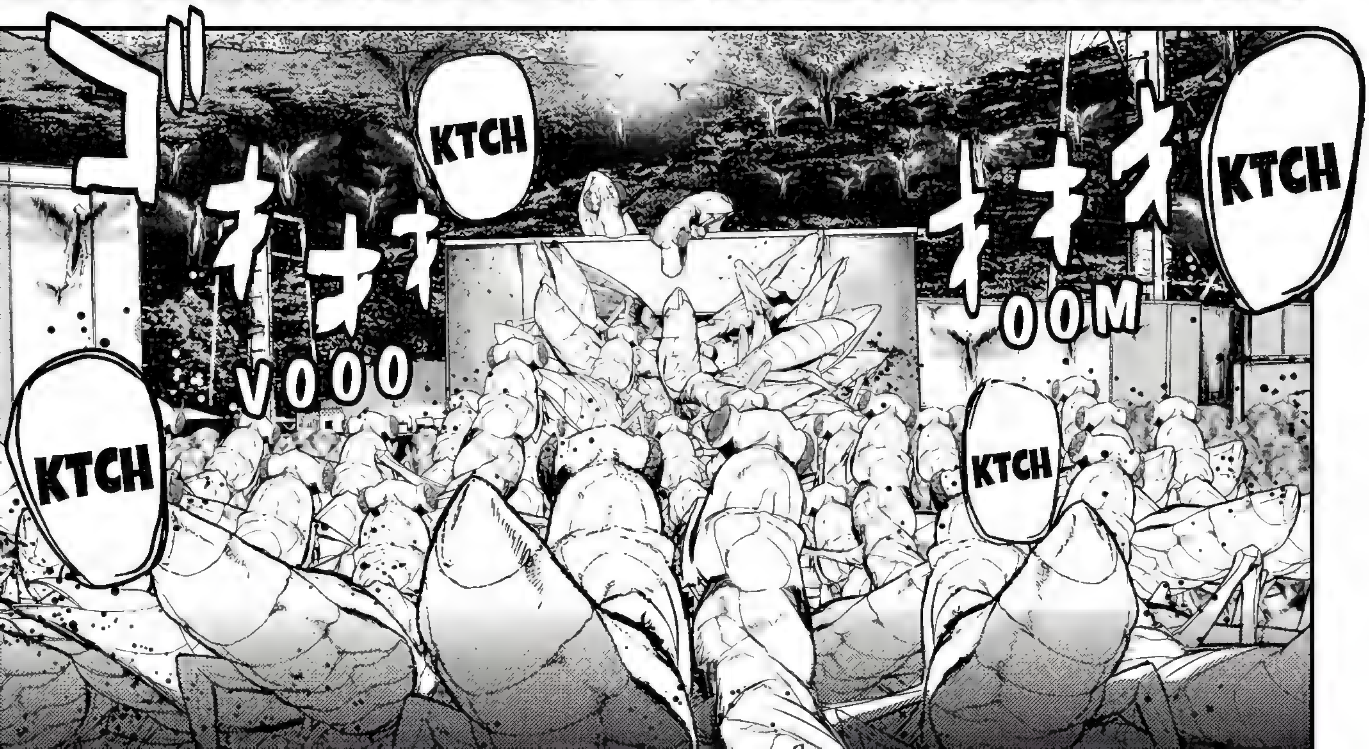



NATSUNE-KUN...
WHY DID YOU DO THIS...?
HEY! OGUC-CHAN...
...WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
WH...
WH-WH-WHAT DO YOU *MEAN*, WHAT?

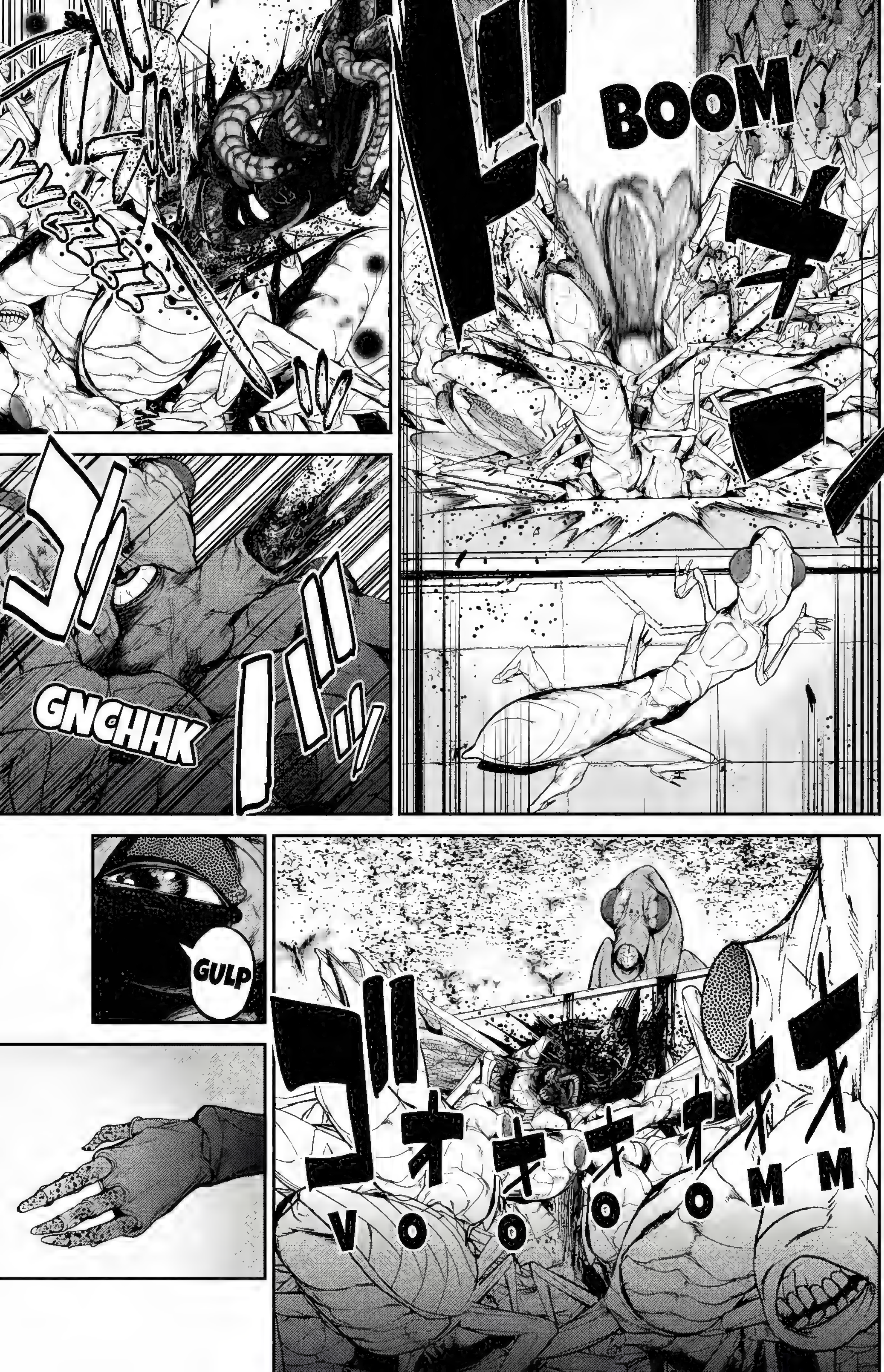

I... I...I'M GONNA TRAP THOSE BASTARDS DOWN THERE...
...W... W...WITH NATSUNE.
TH...THE BUTTON'S GOTTA BE HERE SOMEWHERE...

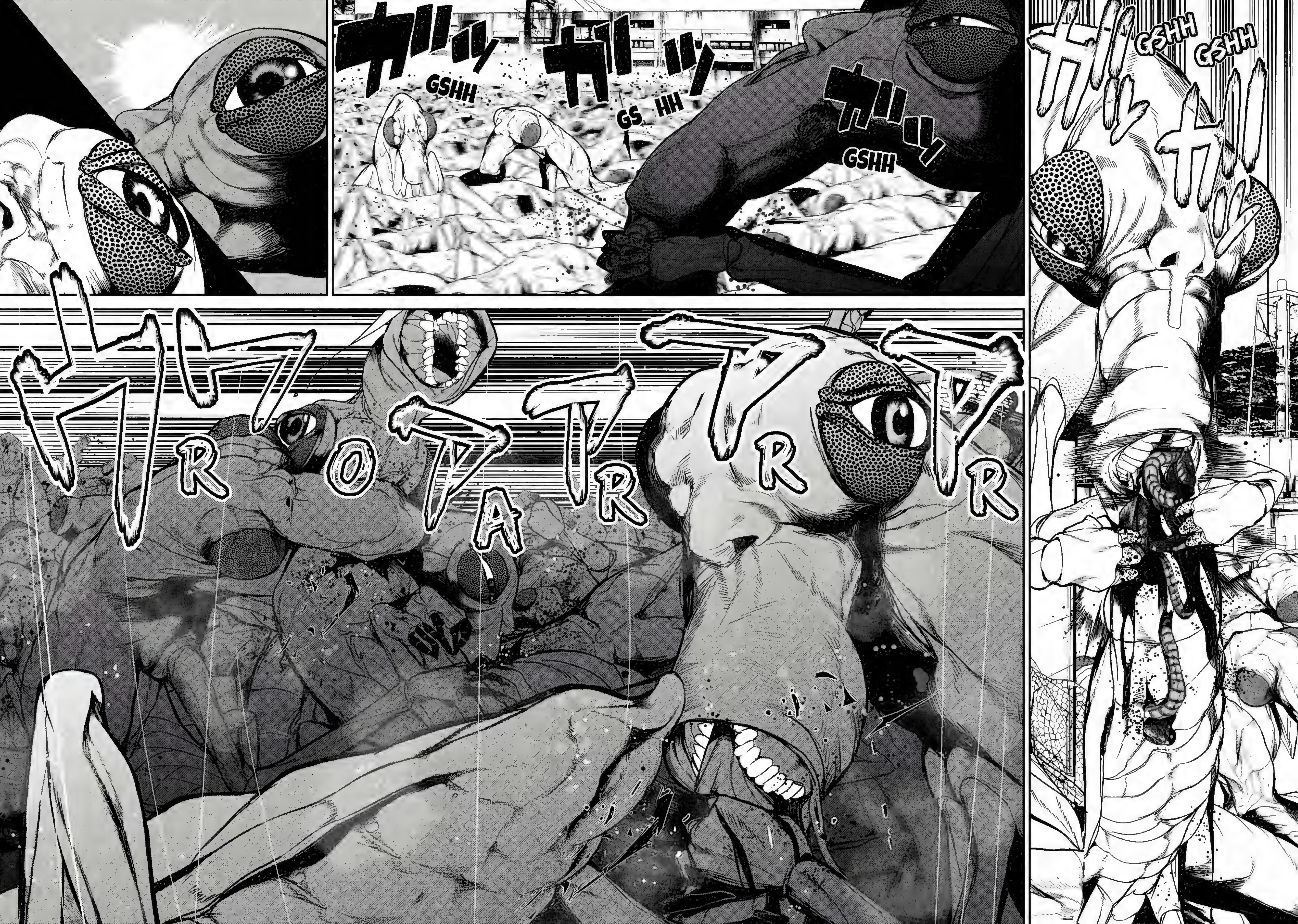

ゴッォォォォォ
V
O
O
O
M
M

Chapter 57


KTCH
ゴォォォォ
VOOO
ォォォ
OOM
KTCH
KTCH
KTCH

KTCH
KTCH
KTCH
RRGH...
GEH...
LLLGH...
ブブブブブブ
VZZZZZ
ブォオオオオオオオ
VOOOOOOOMM
...
ブルブルブル
VZZ


BOOM
GNCHHK
GULP
VOOOOMM


ガリッ
GSHH
GSHH
ガリッ
GSHH
ガリッ
GS HH
ガリッ
GSHH
ROARRR

アアアアアアアア
RAHHHHHH
THRMP
ザワ
THRMP
ザワ
THRMP
ザワ
THRMP
ザワ
ザワ
THRMP
ザワ
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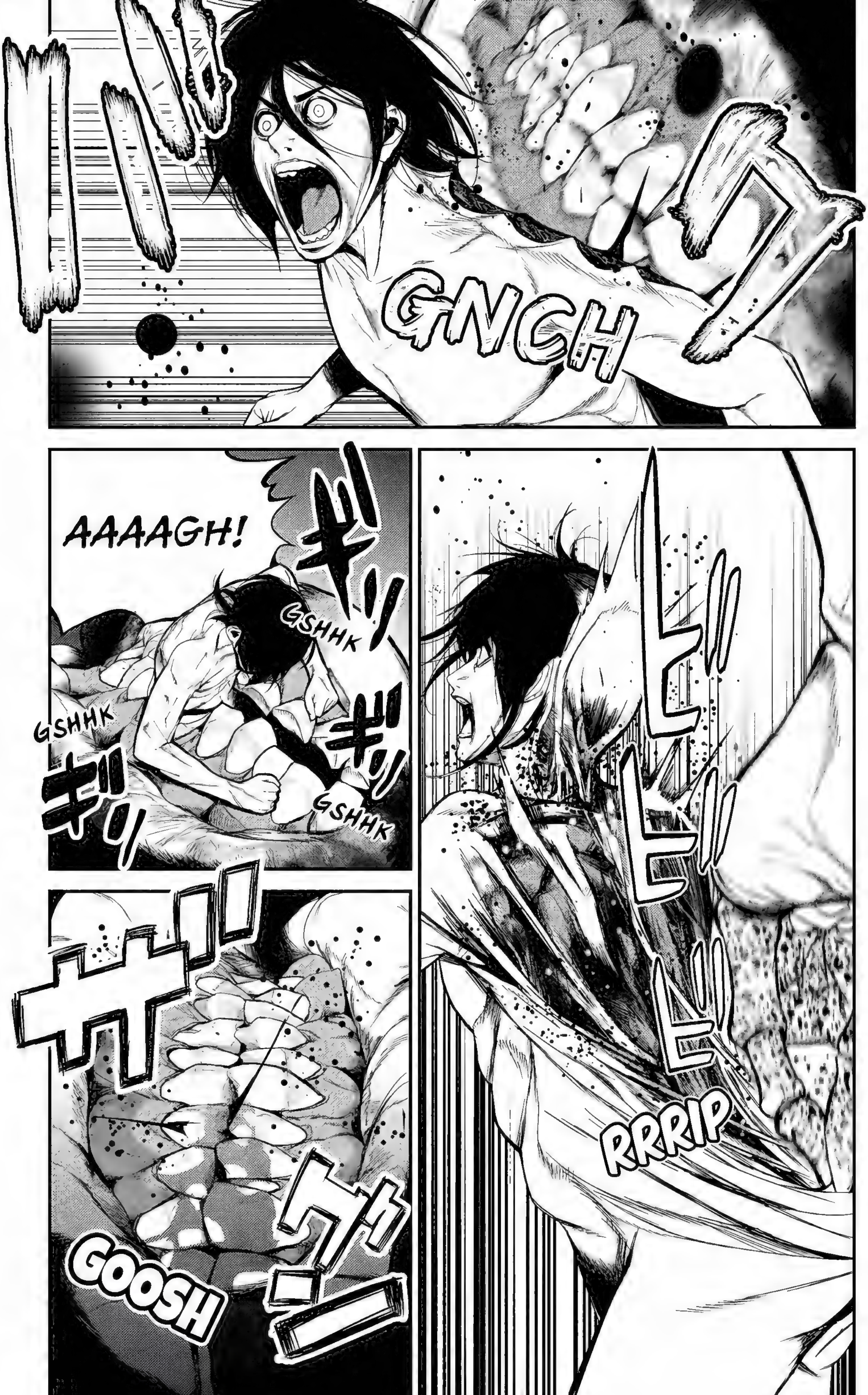
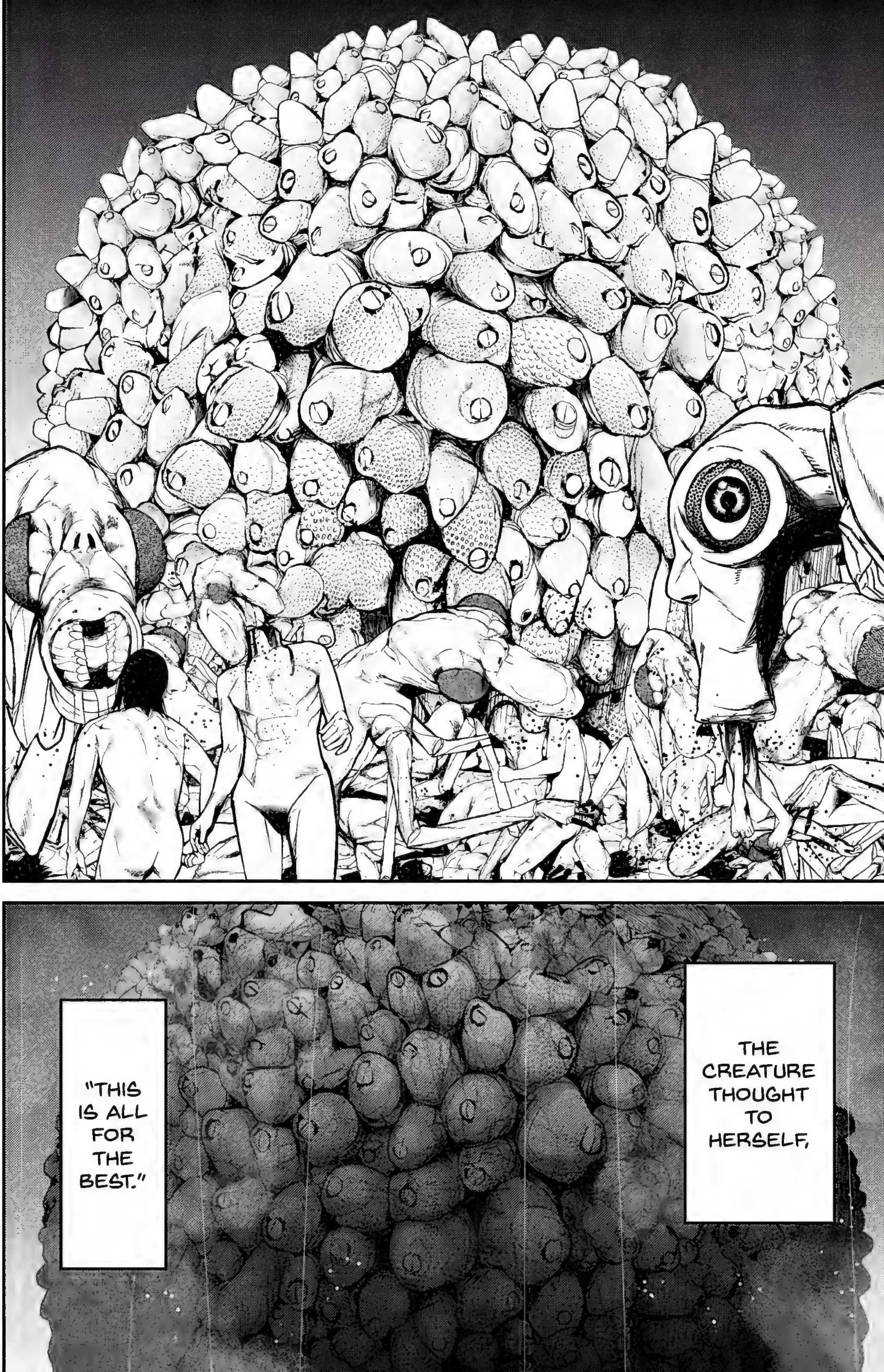
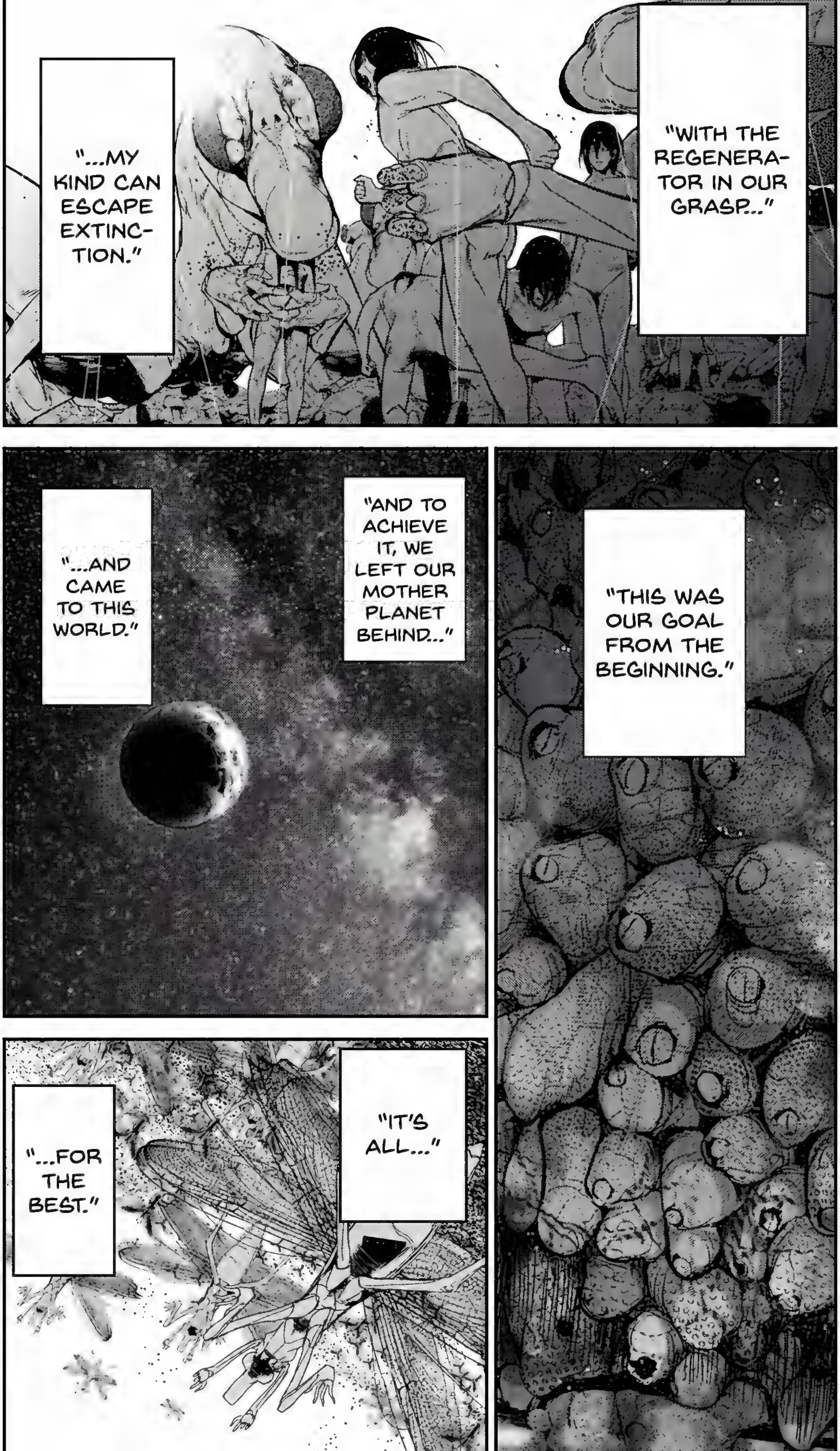
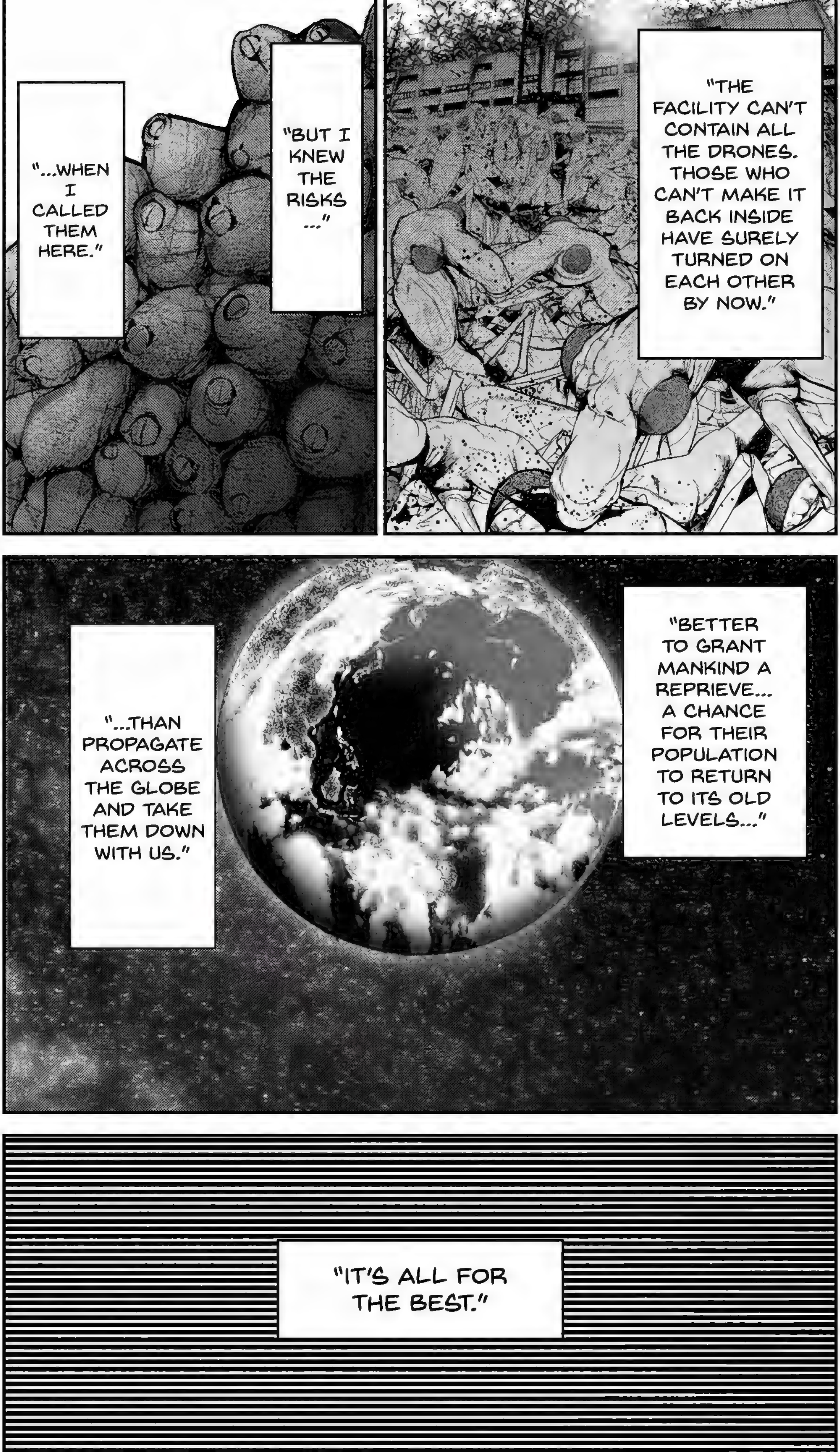
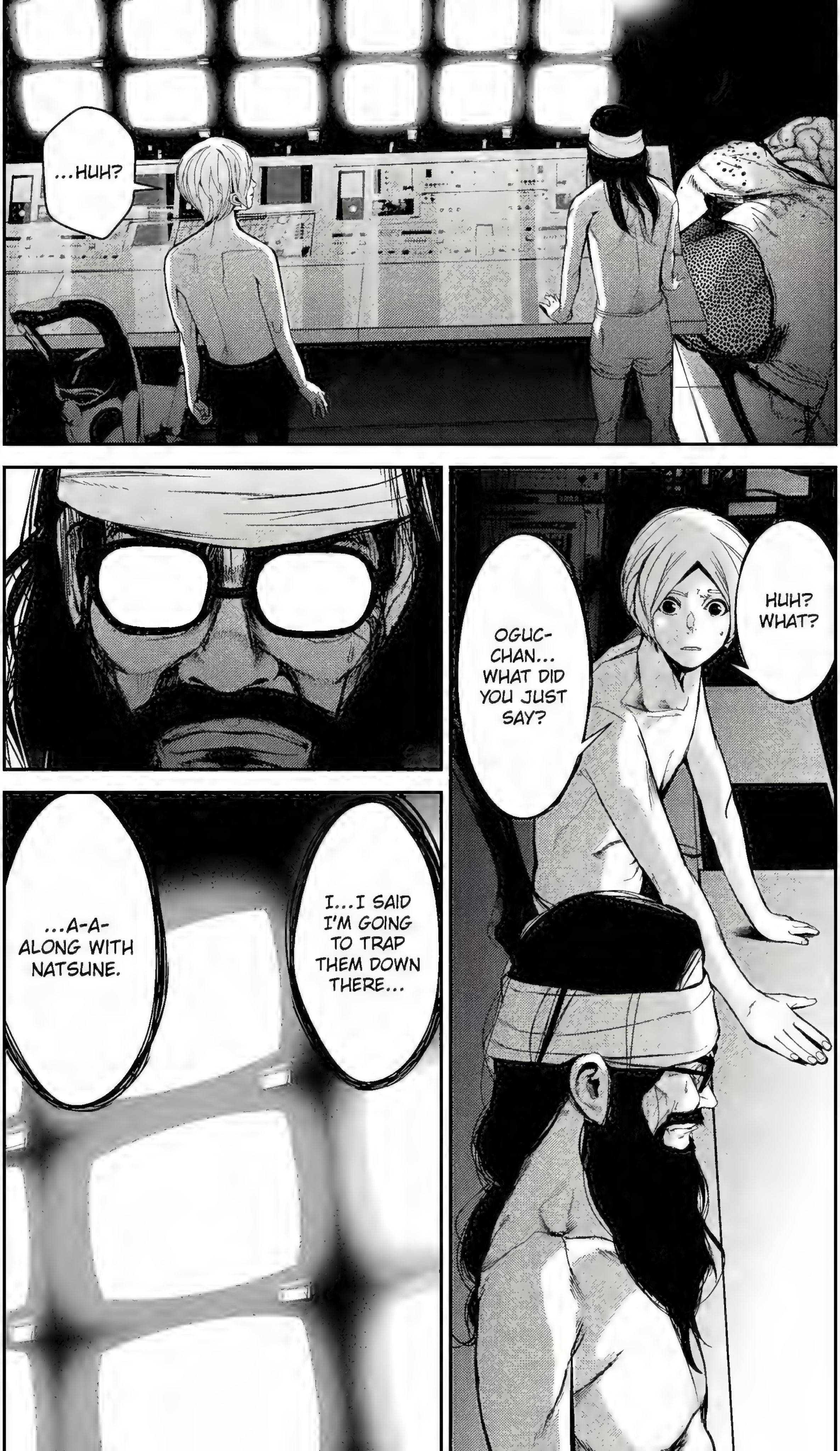
THRMP
ザワ
THRMP

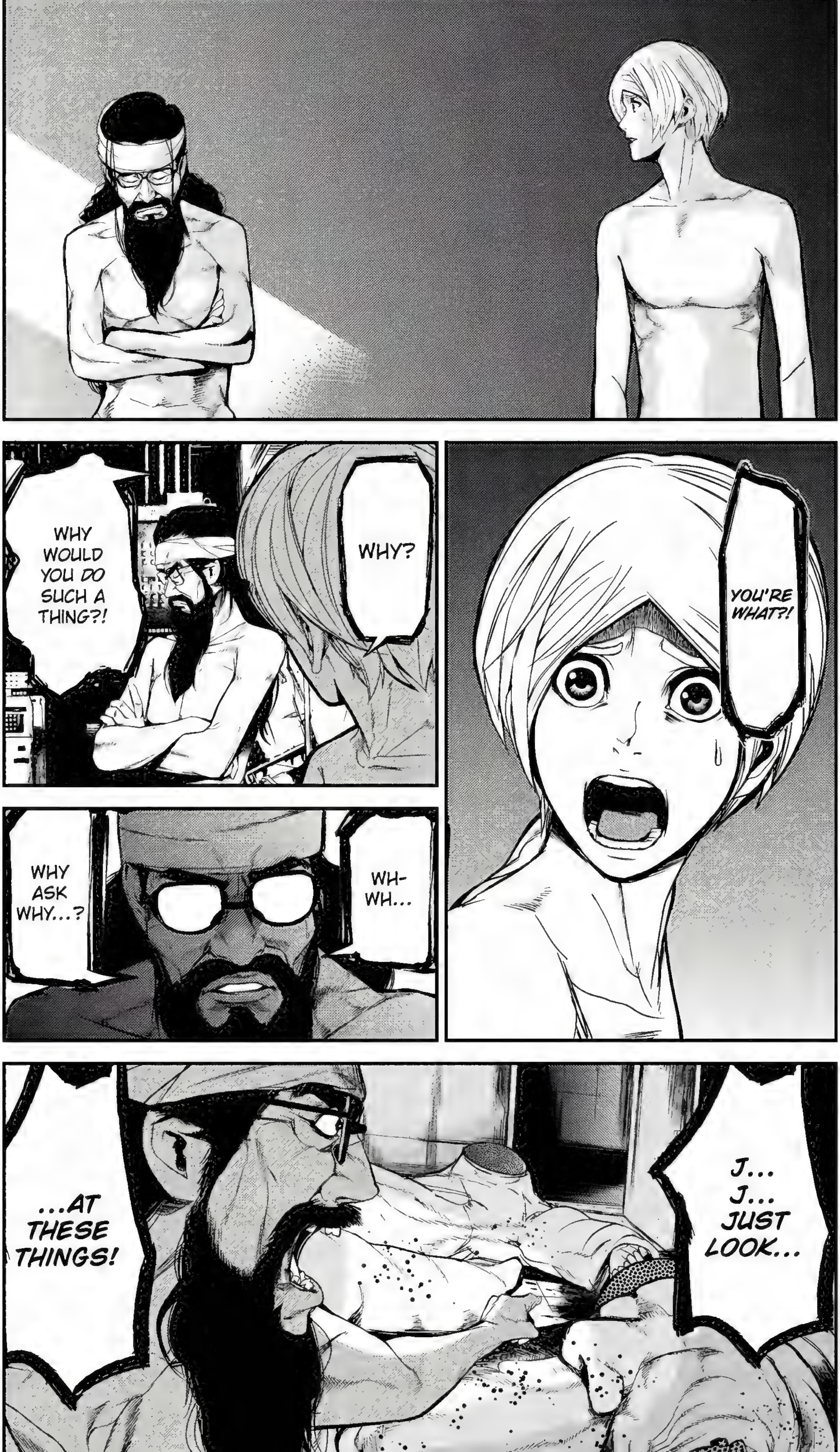

GNCH
ビ!!
ビ!!
ビ!!
RRRIP
AAAAGH!
ギリッ
GSHHK
ギリッ
GSHHK
ギリッ
GSHHK
GOOSH

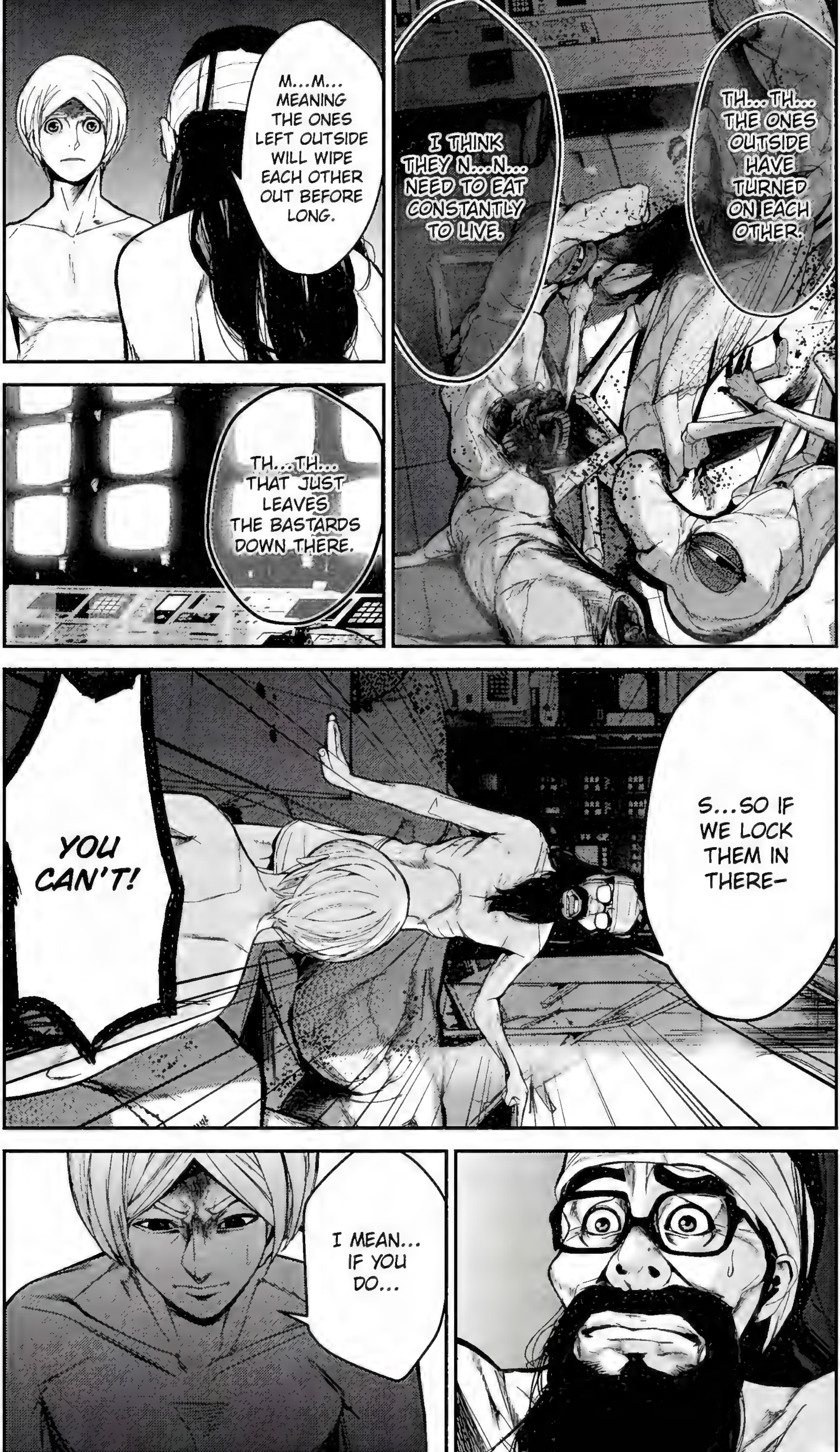

THE CREATURE THOUGHT TO HERSELF,
"THIS IS ALL FOR THE BEST."

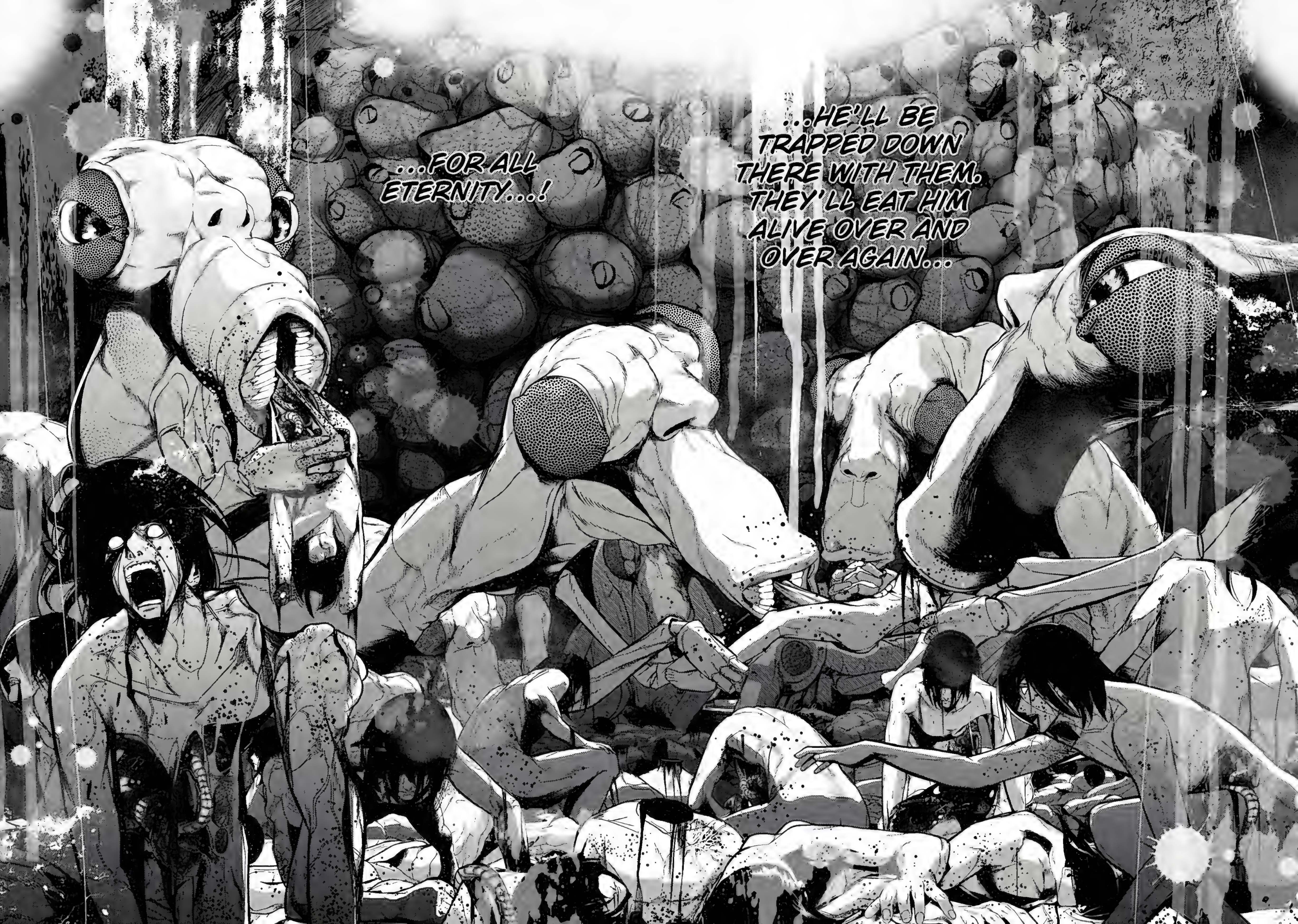

"WITH THE REGENERATOR IN OUR GRASP..."
"...MY KIND CAN ESCAPE EXTINCTION."
"THIS WAS OUR GOAL FROM THE BEGINNING."
"AND TO ACHIEVE IT, WE LEFT OUR MOTHER PLANET BEHIND..."
"...AND CAME TO THIS WORLD."
"IT'S ALL..."
"...FOR THE BEST."

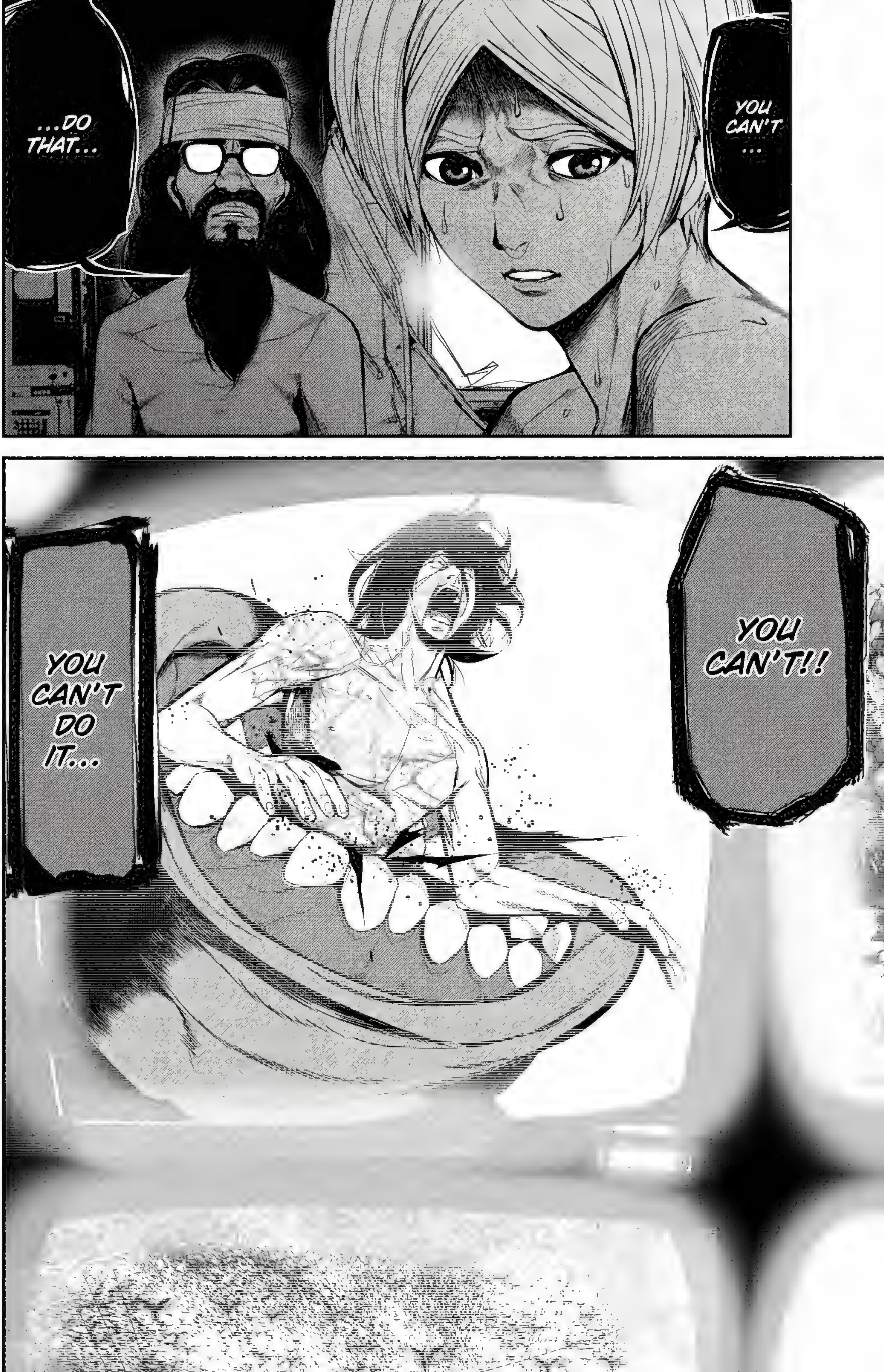

"THE FACILITY CAN'T CONTAIN ALL THE DRONES. THOSE WHO CAN'T MAKE IT BACK INSIDE HAVE SURELY TURNED ON EACH OTHER BY NOW."
"BUT I KNEW THE RISKS..."
"...WHEN I CALLED THEM HERE."
"BETTER TO GRANT MANKIND A REPRIEVE... A CHANCE FOR THEIR POPULATION TO RETURN TO ITS OLD LEVELS..."
"...THAN PROPAGATE ACROSS THE GLOBE AND TAKE THEM DOWN WITH US."
"IT'S ALL FOR THE BEST."

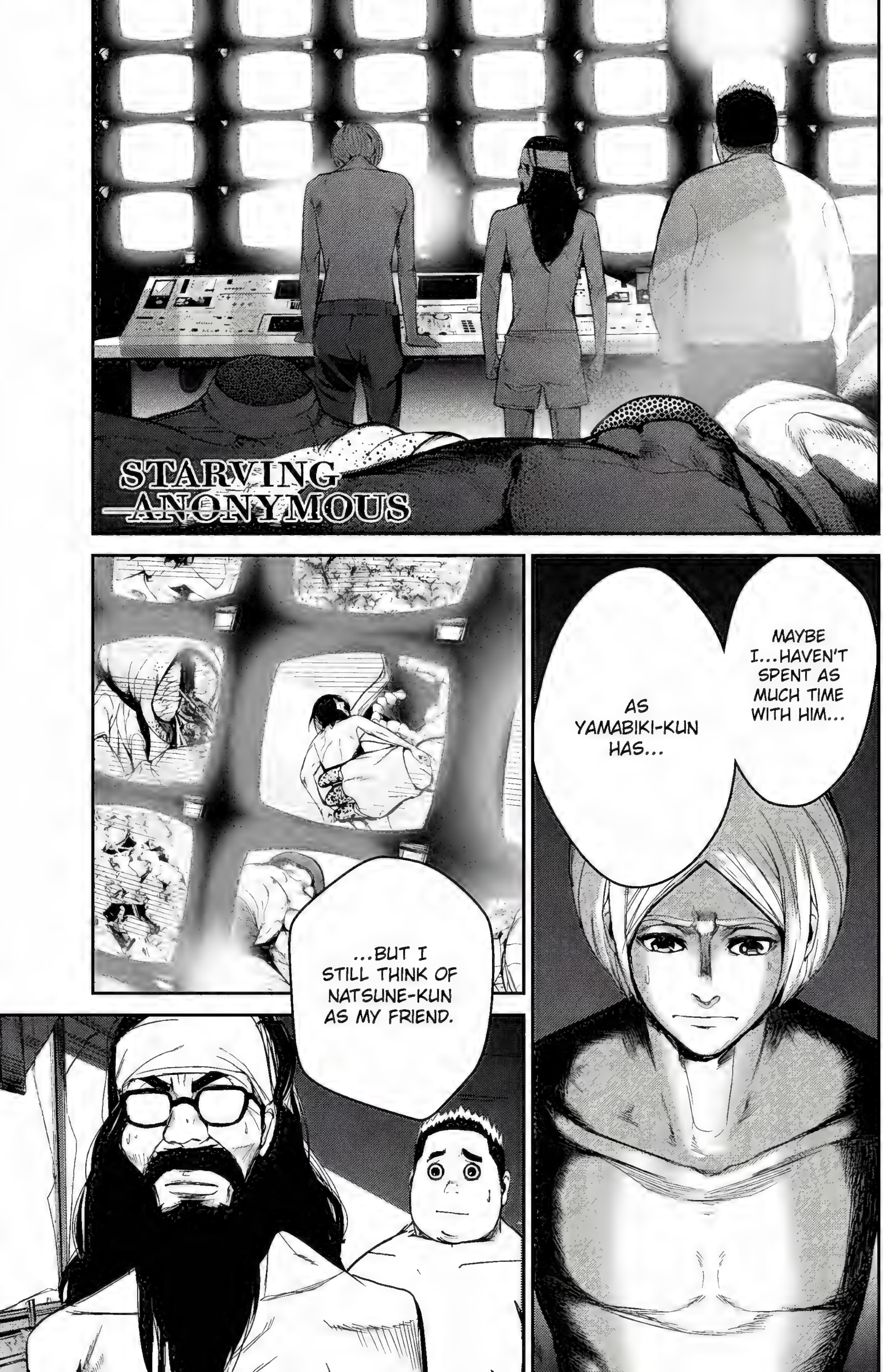

...HUH?
HUH? WHAT?
OGUC-CHAN... WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
I...I SAID I'M GOING TO TRAP THEM DOWN THERE...
...A-A-ALONG WITH NATSUNE.


YOU'RE WHAT?!
WHY?
WHY WOULD YOU *DO* SUCH A THING?!
WH- WH...
WHY ASK WHY...?
J... J... JUST LOOK...
...AT THESE THINGS!

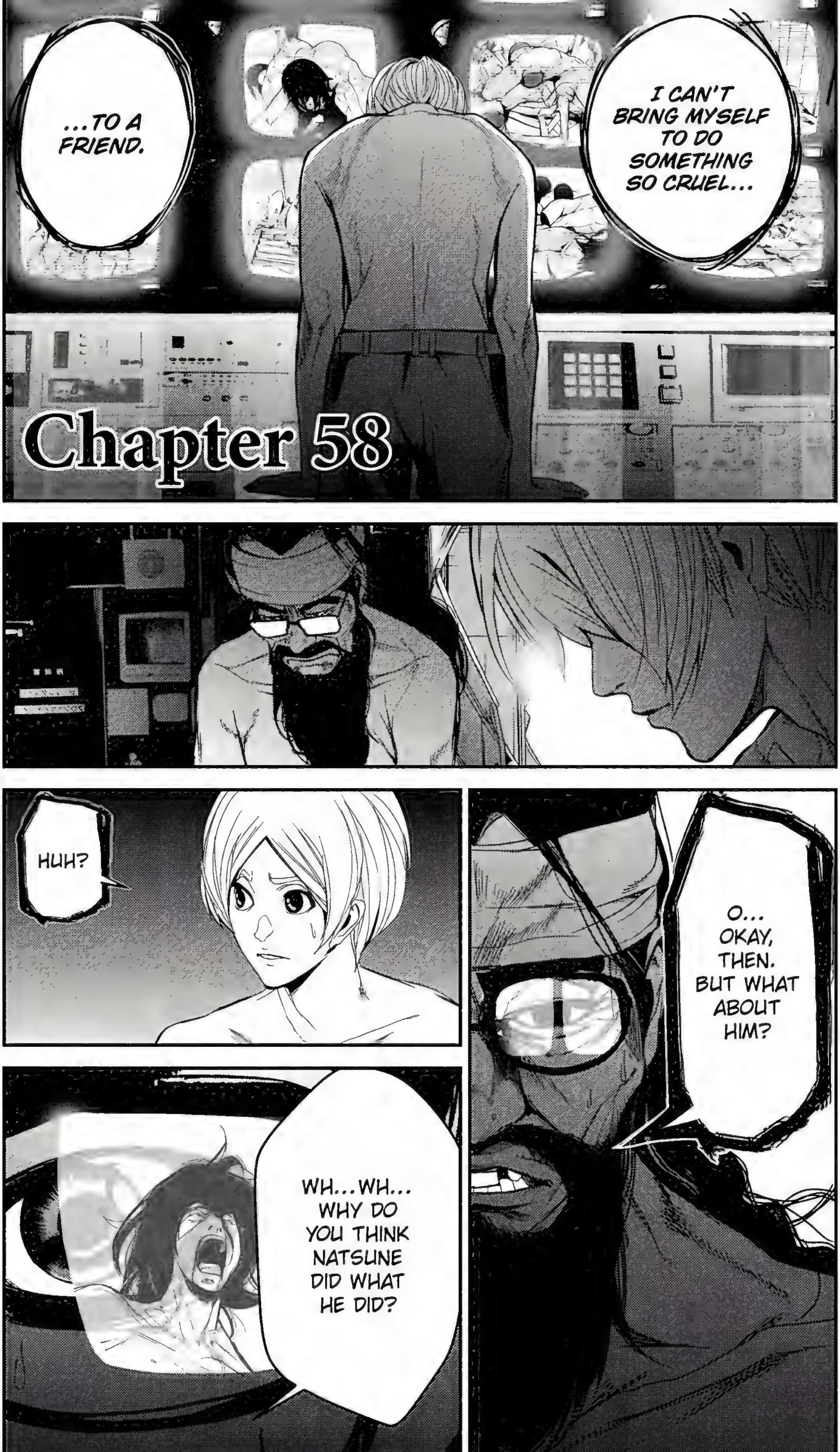

TH...TH... THE ONES OUTSIDE HAVE TURNED ON EACH OTHER.
I THINK THEY N...N... NEED TO EAT CONSTANTLY TO LIVE.
M...M... MEANING THE ONES LEFT OUTSIDE WILL WIPE EACH OTHER OUT BEFORE LONG.
TH...TH... THAT JUST LEAVES THE BASTARDS DOWN THERE.
S...SO IF WE LOCK THEM IN THERE–
YOU CAN'T!
I MEAN... IF YOU DO...

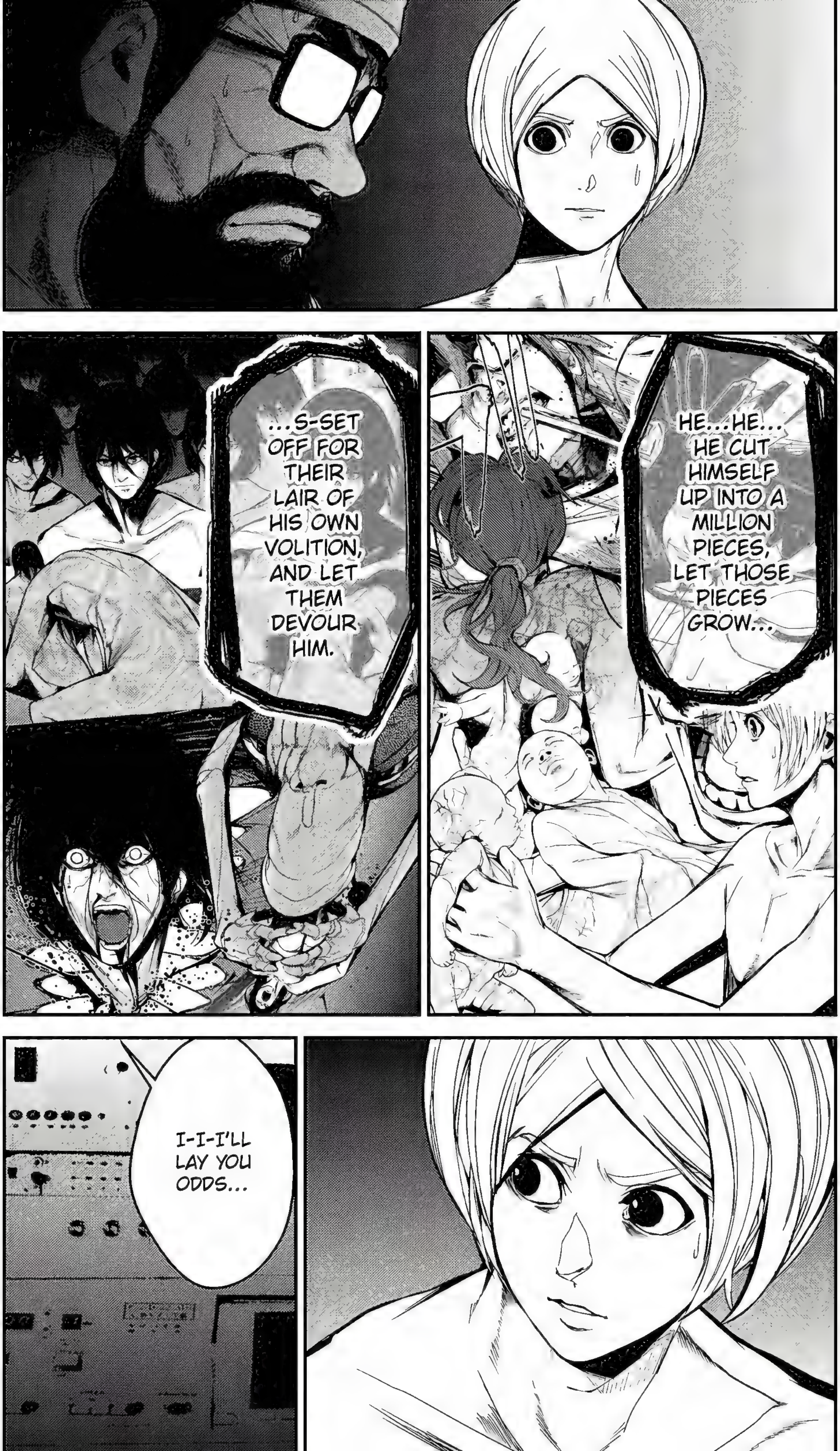

...HE'LL BE TRAPPED DOWN THERE WITH THEM. THEY'LL EAT HIM ALIVE OVER AND OVER AGAIN...
...FOR ALL ETERNITY...!

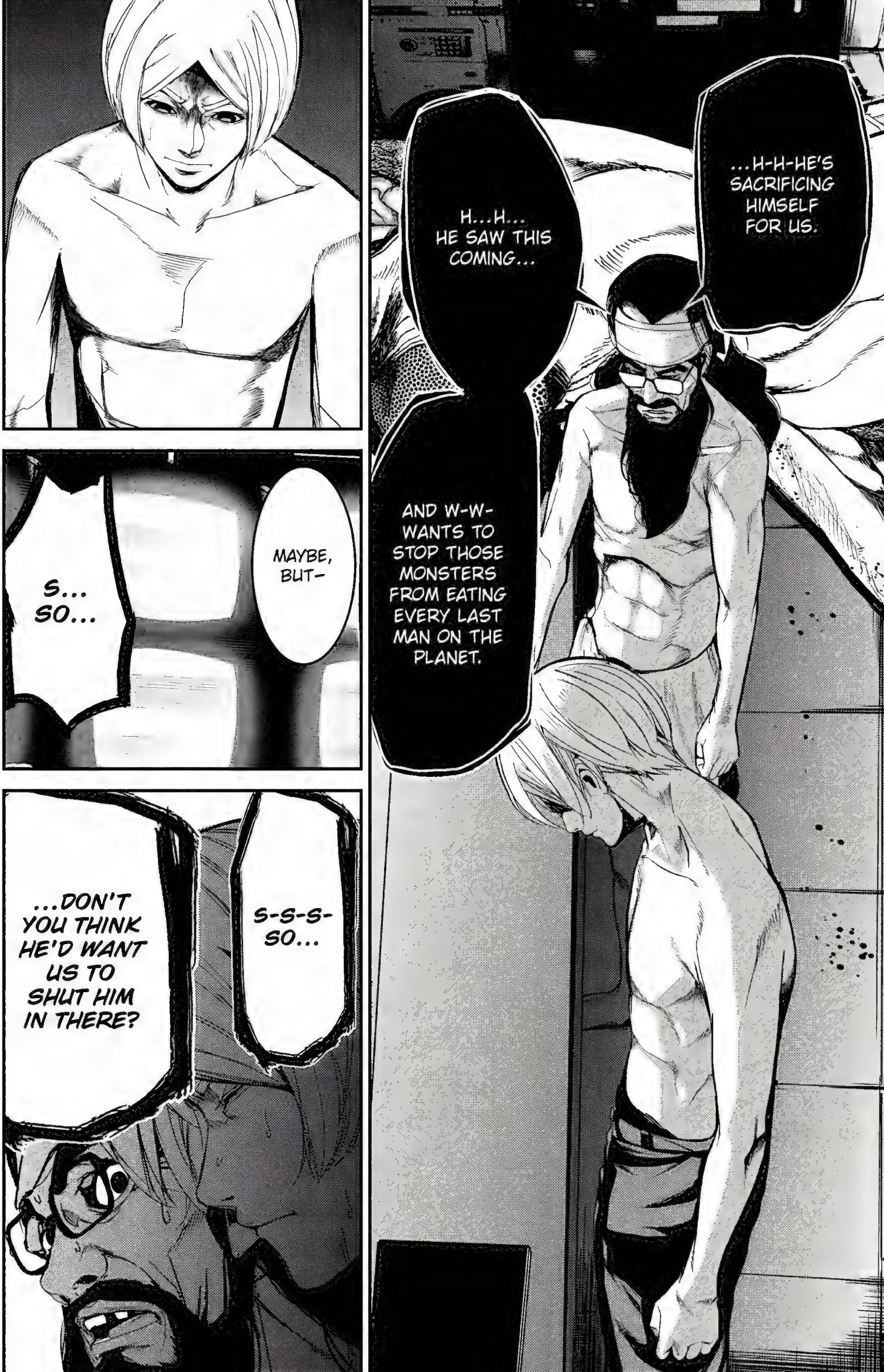

YOU CAN'T ...
...DO THAT...
YOU CAN'T!!
YOU CAN'T DO IT...

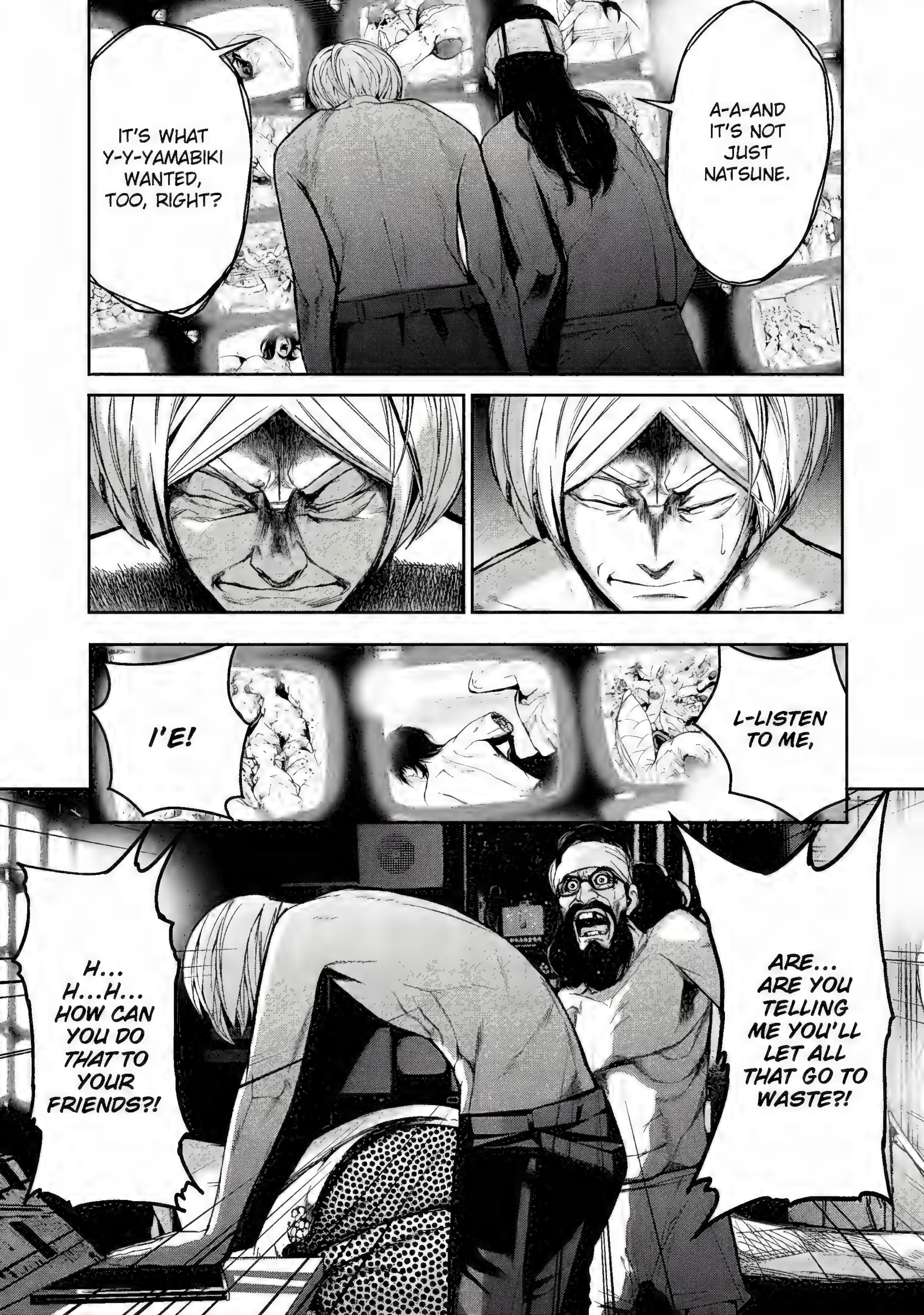

STARVING ANONYMOUS
MAYBE I...HAVEN'T SPENT AS MUCH TIME WITH HIM...
AS YAMABIKI-KUN HAS...
...BUT I STILL THINK OF NATSUNE-KUN AS MY FRIEND.

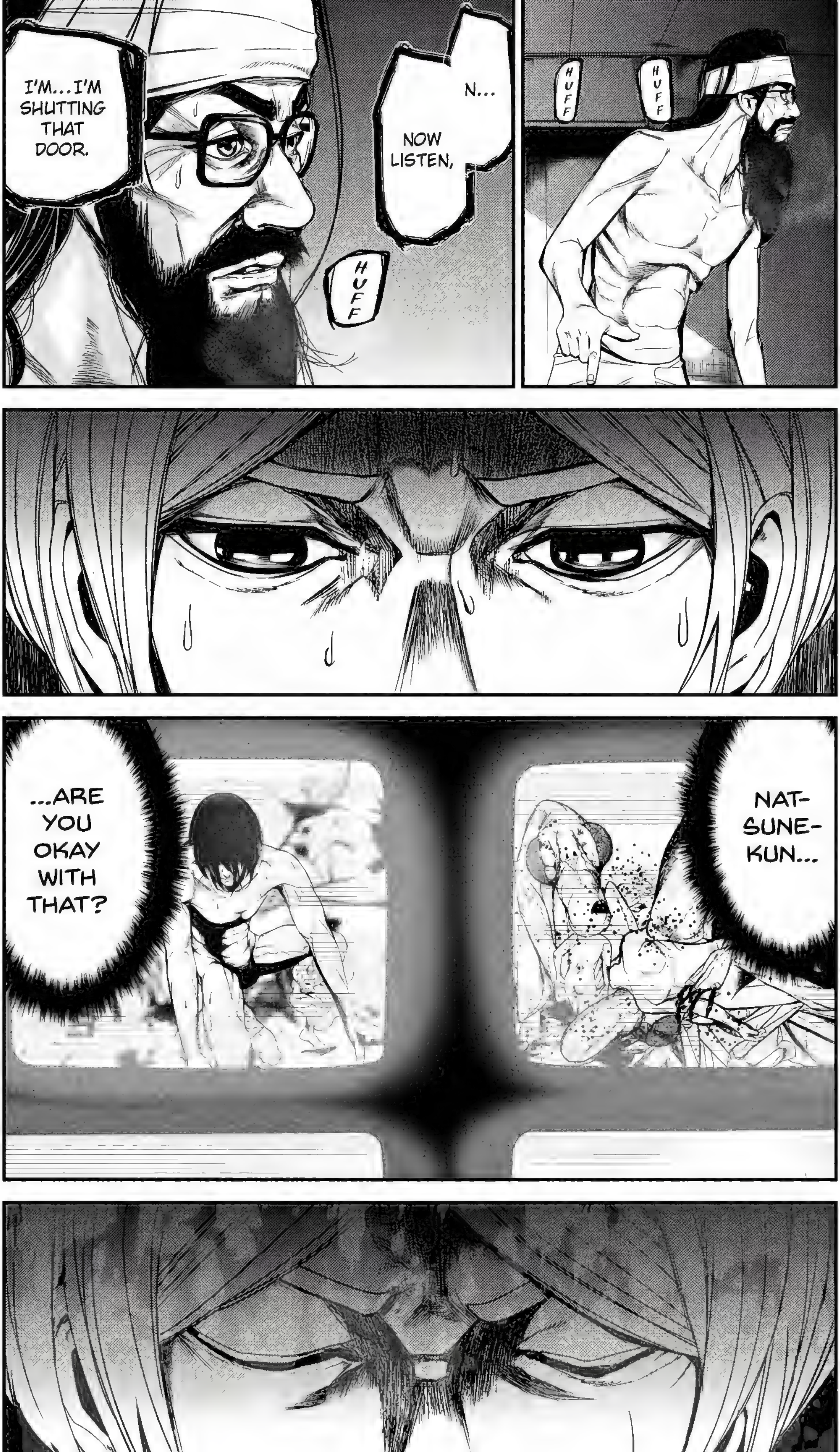
Chapter 58

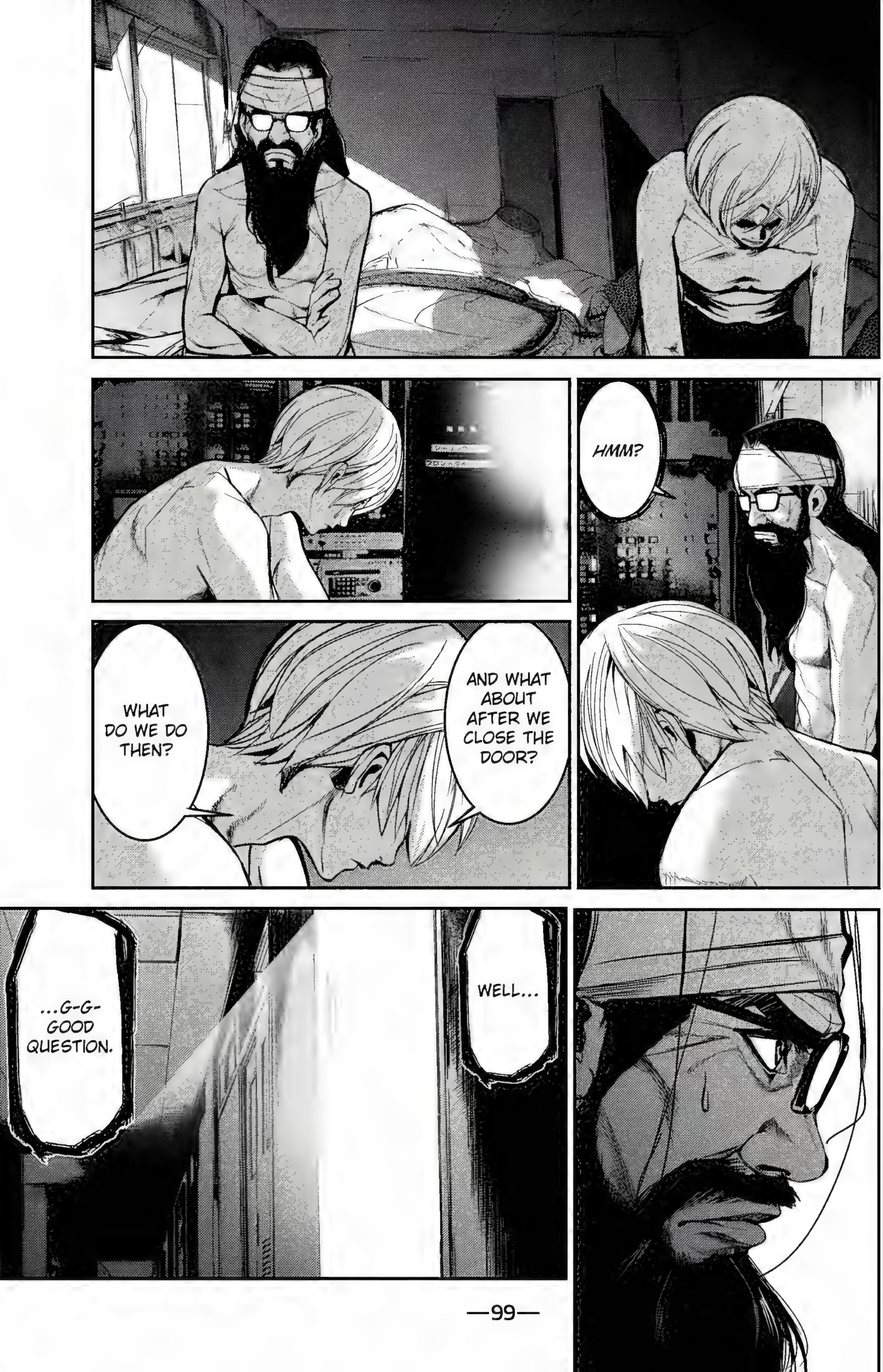

I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO DO SOMETHING SO CRUEL…
…TO A FRIEND.
O… OKAY, THEN. BUT WHAT ABOUT HIM?
HUH?
WH…WH… WHY DO YOU THINK NATSUNE DID WHAT HE DID?

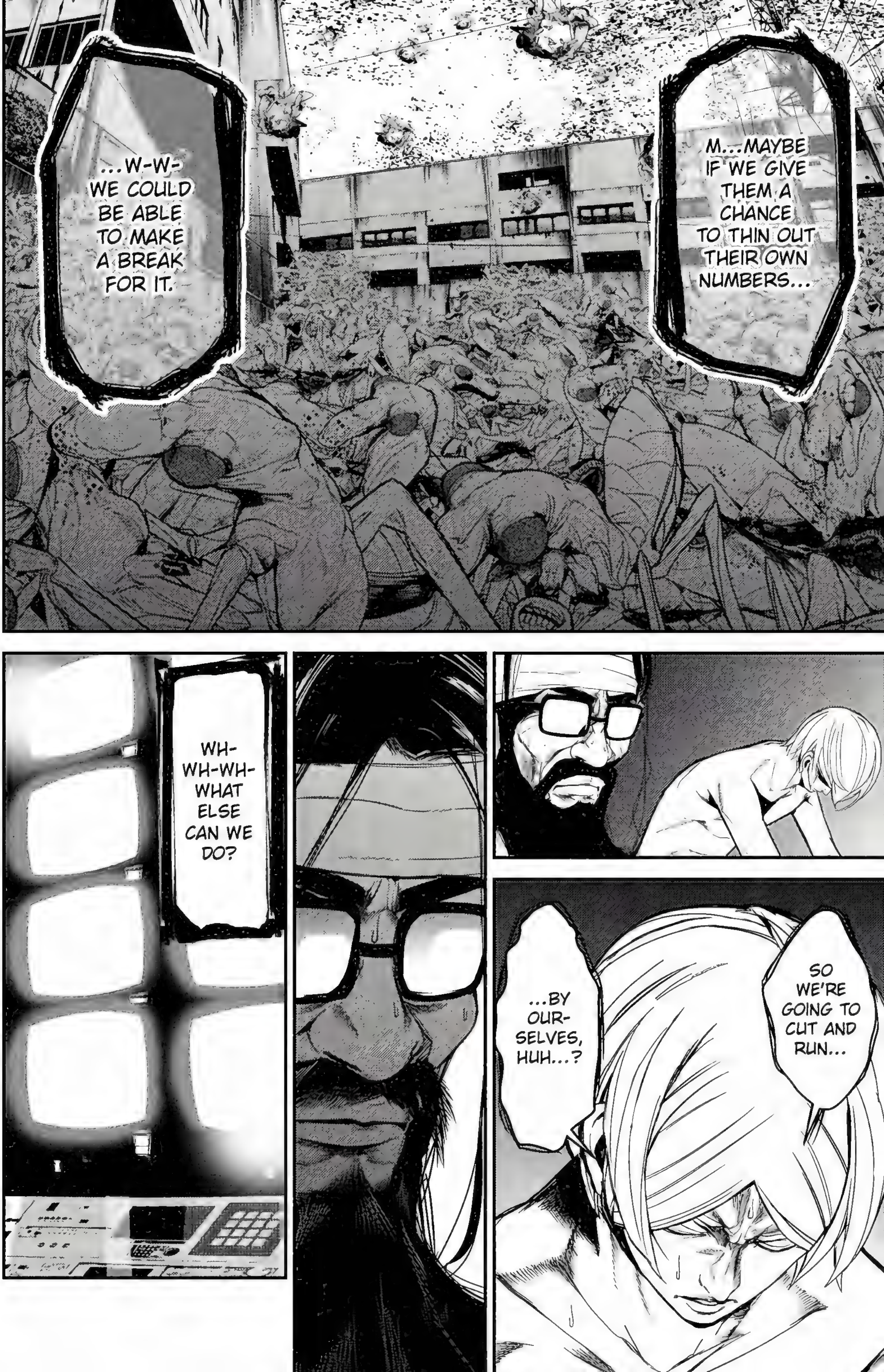

HE...HE... HE CUT HIMSELF UP INTO A MILLION PIECES, LET THOSE PIECES GROW...
...S-SET OFF FOR THEIR LAIR OF HIS OWN VOLITION, AND LET THEM DEVOUR HIM.
I-I-I'LL LAY YOU ODDS...

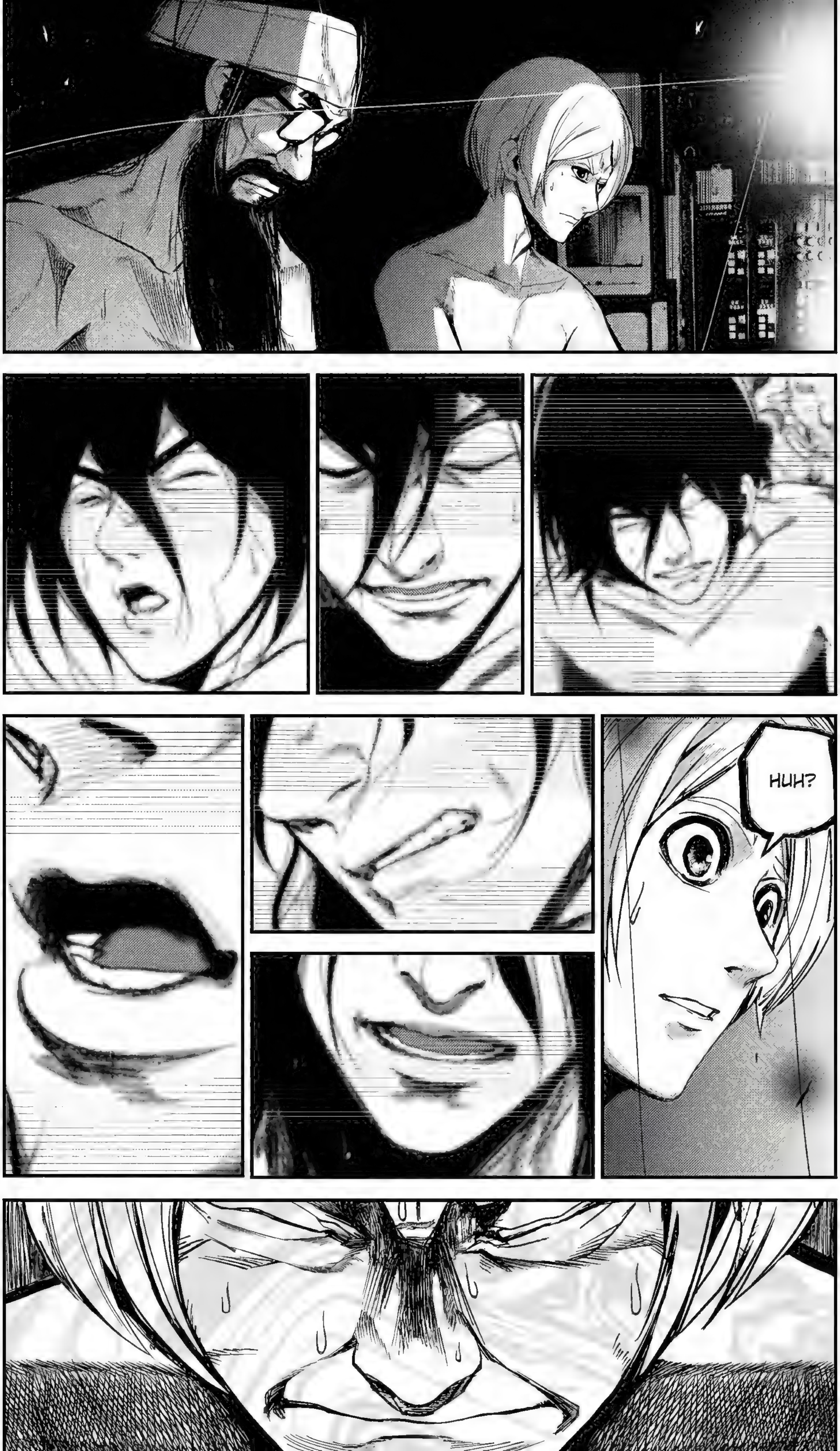

...H-H-HE'S SACRIFICING HIMSELF FOR US.
H...H... HE SAW THIS COMING...
AND W-W-WANTS TO STOP THOSE MONSTERS FROM EATING EVERY LAST MAN ON THE PLANET.
MAYBE, BUT-
S... SO...
S-S-S-SO...
...DON'T YOU THINK HE'D WANT US TO SHUT HIM IN THERE?

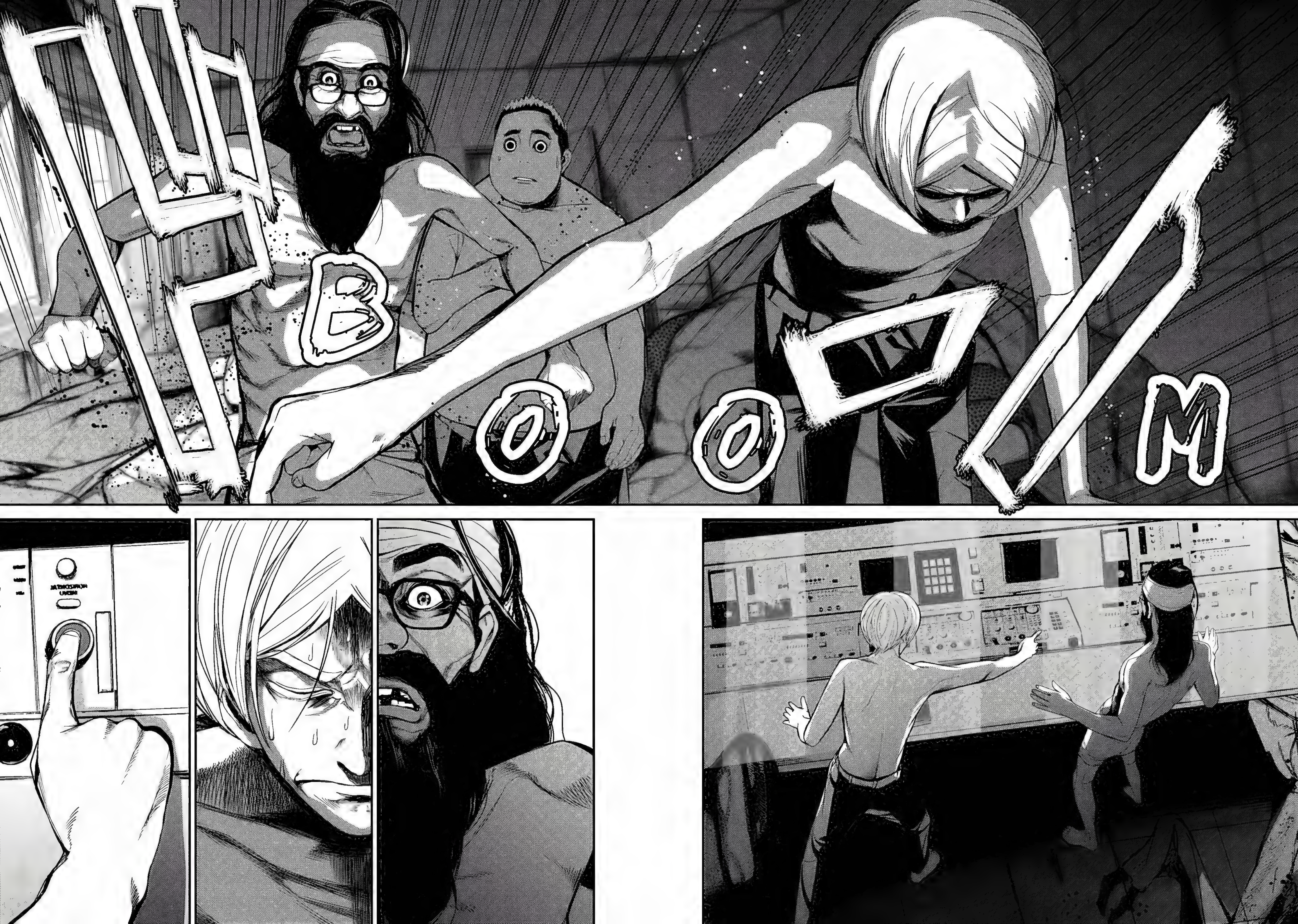

A-A-AND IT'S NOT JUST NATSUNE.
IT'S WHAT Y-Y-YAMABIKI WANTED, TOO, RIGHT?
L-LISTEN TO ME,
I'E!
ARE... ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU'LL LET ALL THAT GO TO WASTE?!
H... H...H... HOW CAN YOU DO THAT TO YOUR FRIENDS?!

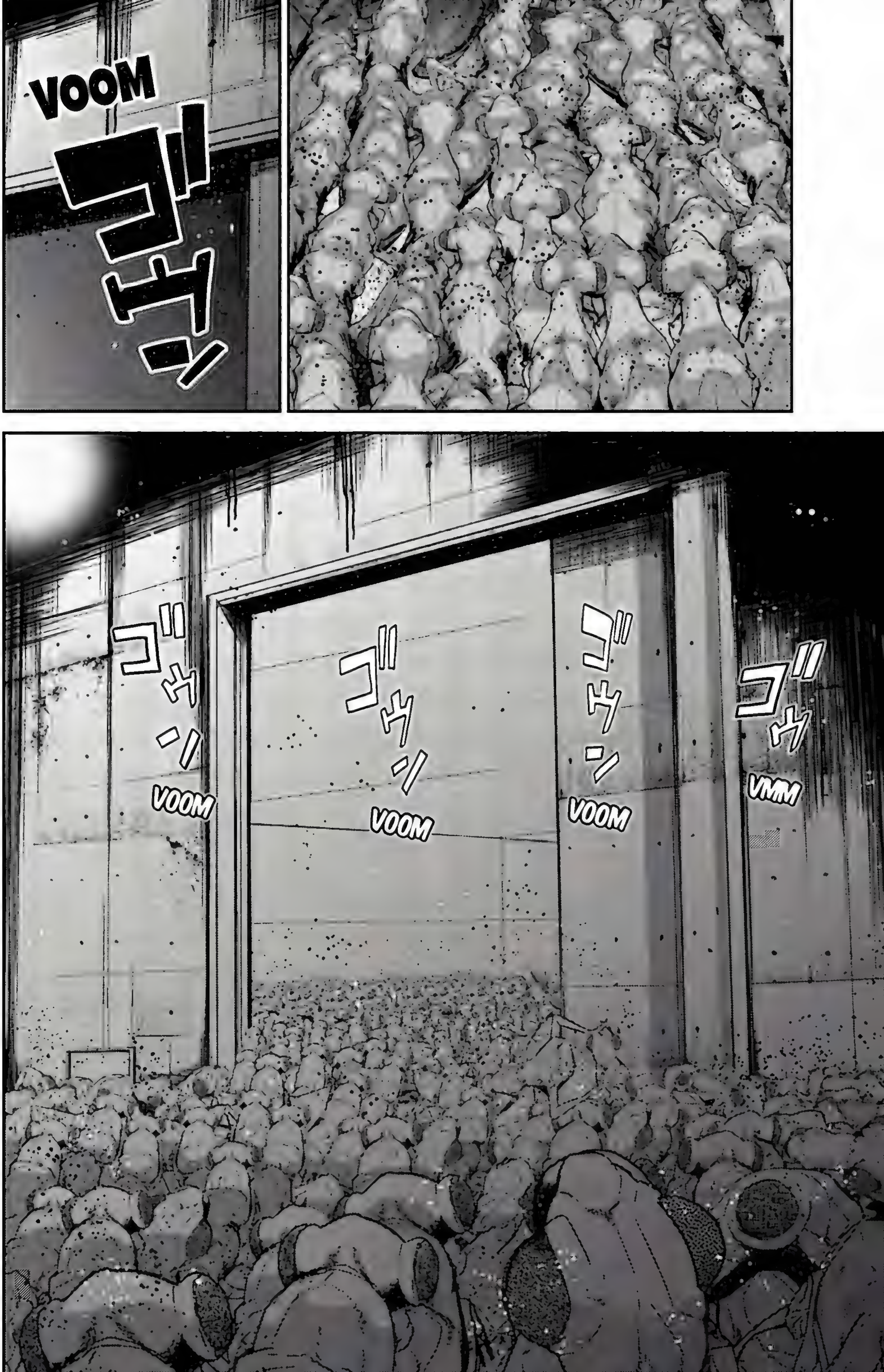

HUFF
HUFF
N... NOW LISTEN,
HUFF
I'M...I'M SHUTTING THAT DOOR.
NATSUNE-KUN...
...ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT?

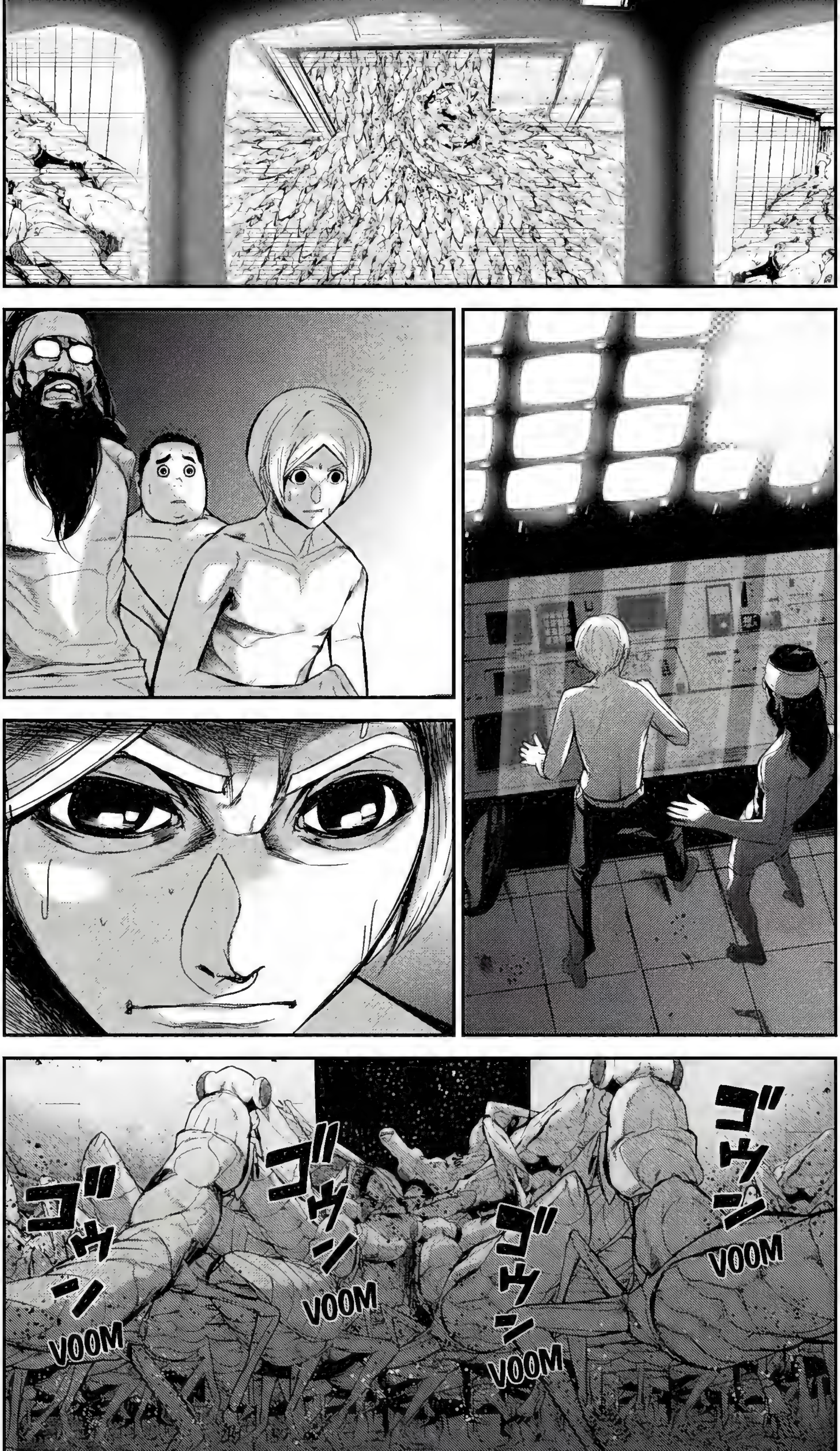

HMM?
AND WHAT ABOUT AFTER WE CLOSE THE DOOR?
WHAT DO WE DO THEN?
WELL...
...G-G-GOOD QUESTION.


M...MAYBE IF WE GIVE THEM A CHANCE TO THIN OUT THEIR OWN NUMBERS...
...W-W-WE COULD BE ABLE TO MAKE A BREAK FOR IT.
SO WE'RE GOING TO CUT AND RUN...
...BY OURSELVES, HUH...?
WH-WH-WH-WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO?


HUH?


BOOOM


ゴウンッ
VOOM
ゴウ
VMM
ゴウンッ
VOOM
ゴウンッ
VOOM
ゴウンッ
VOOM


ゴウン
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM
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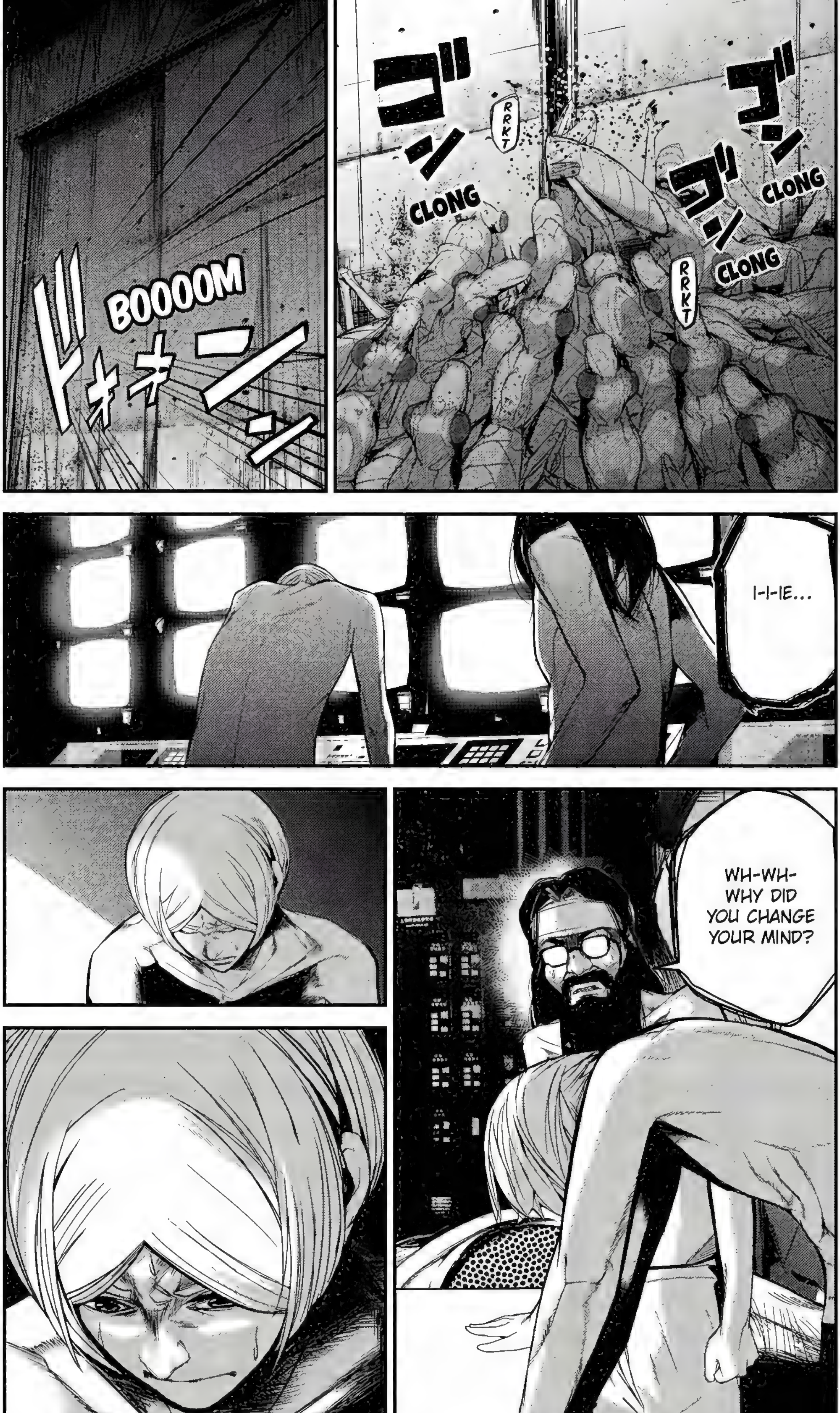
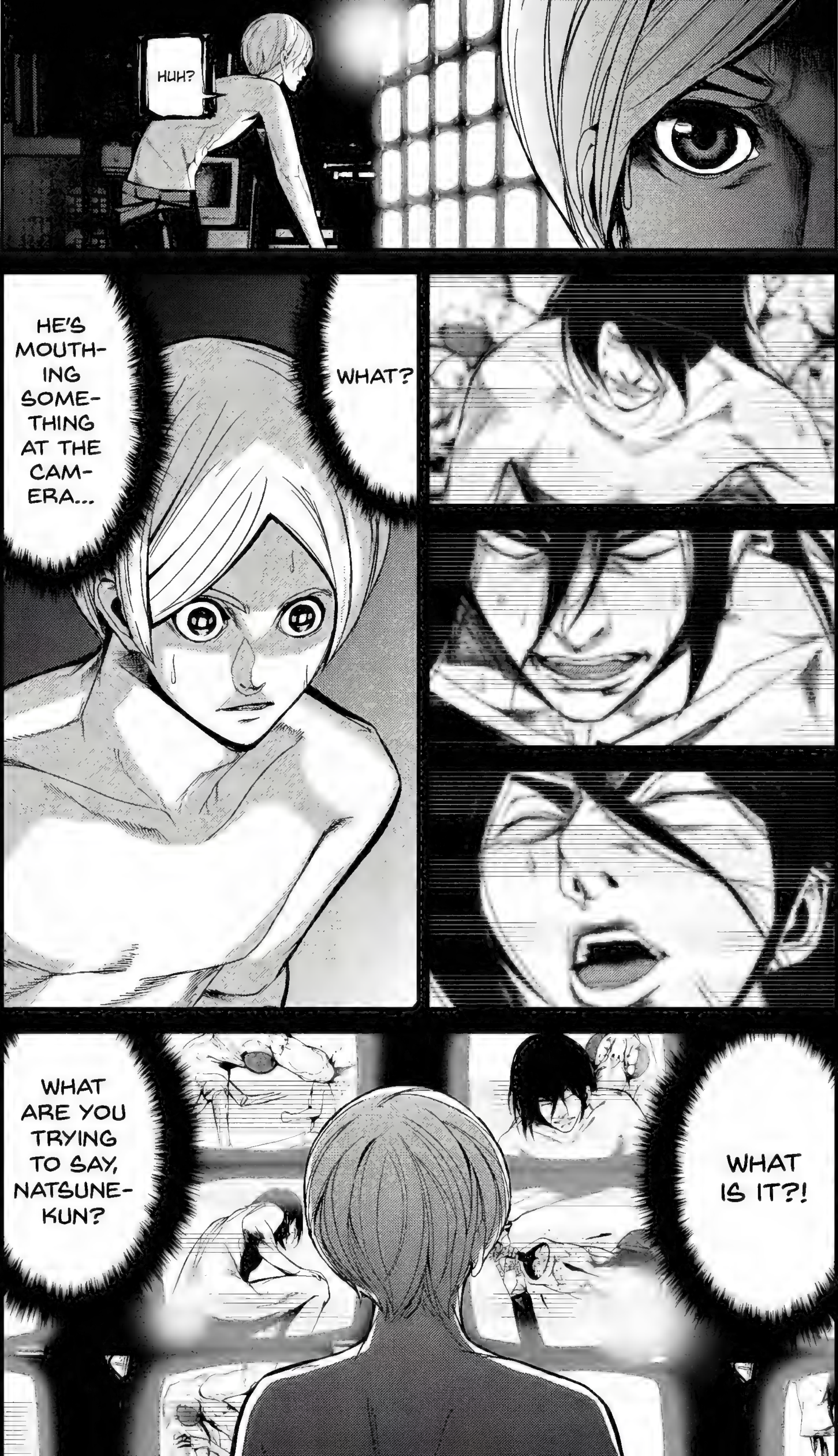
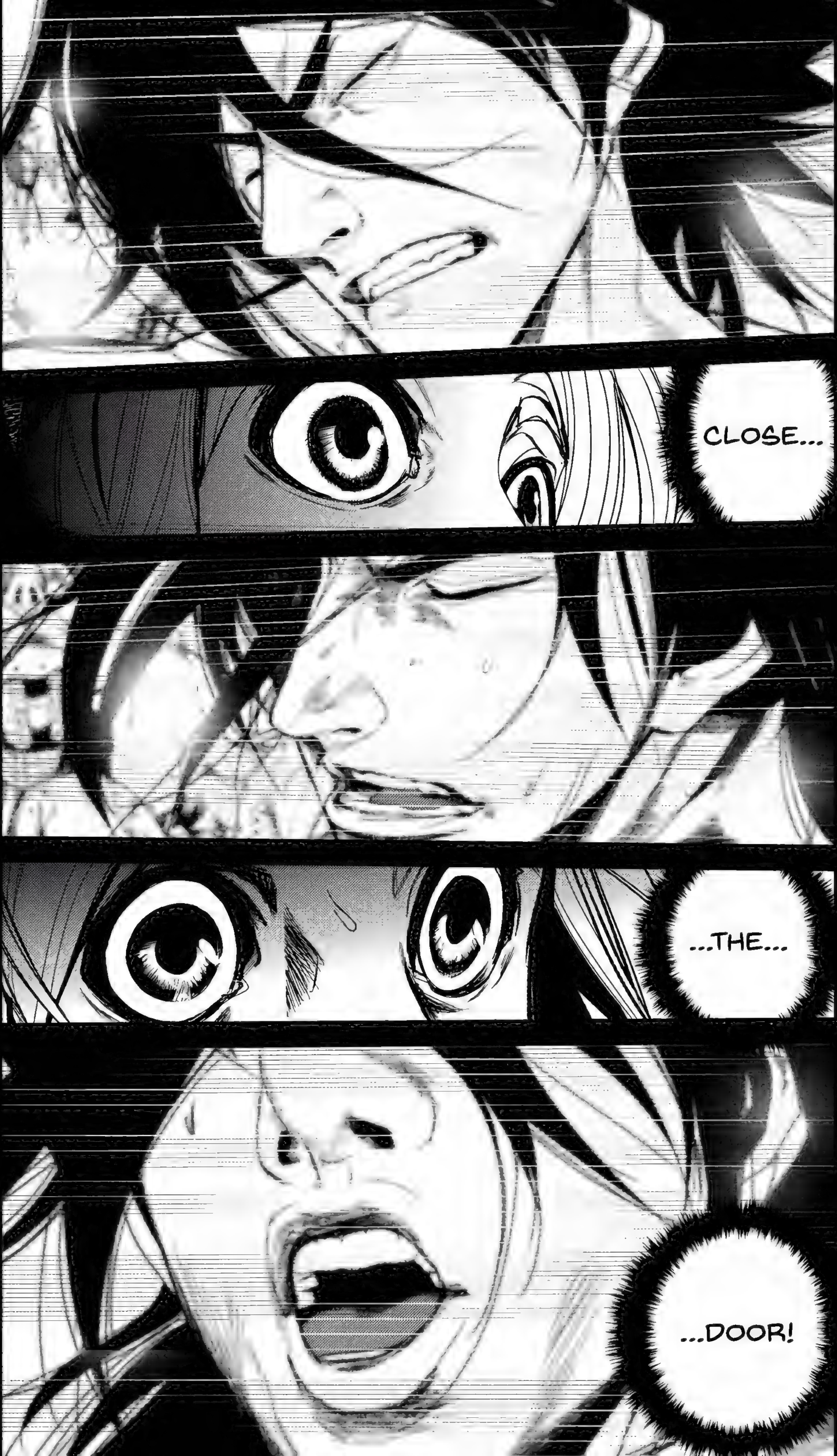
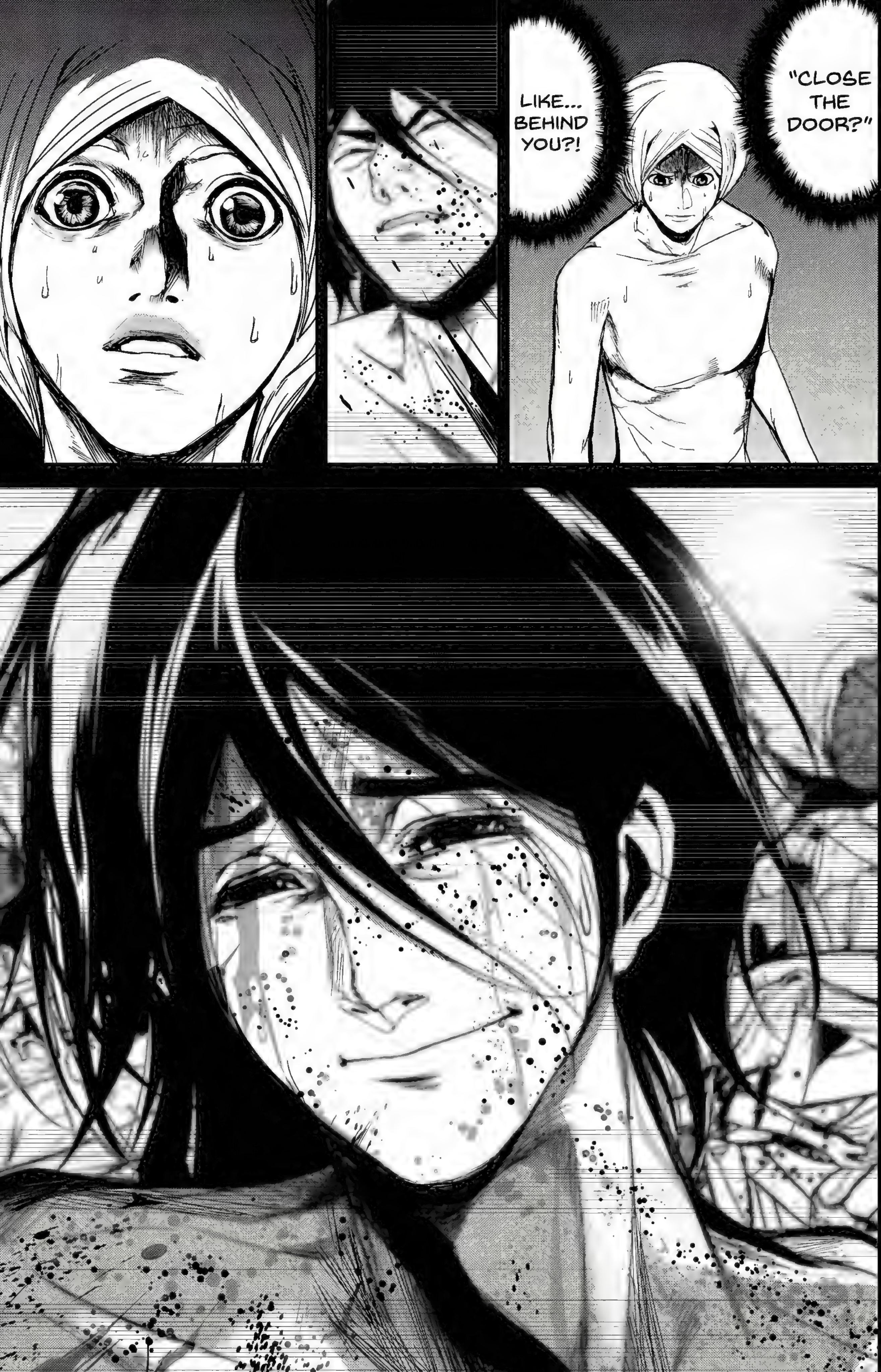
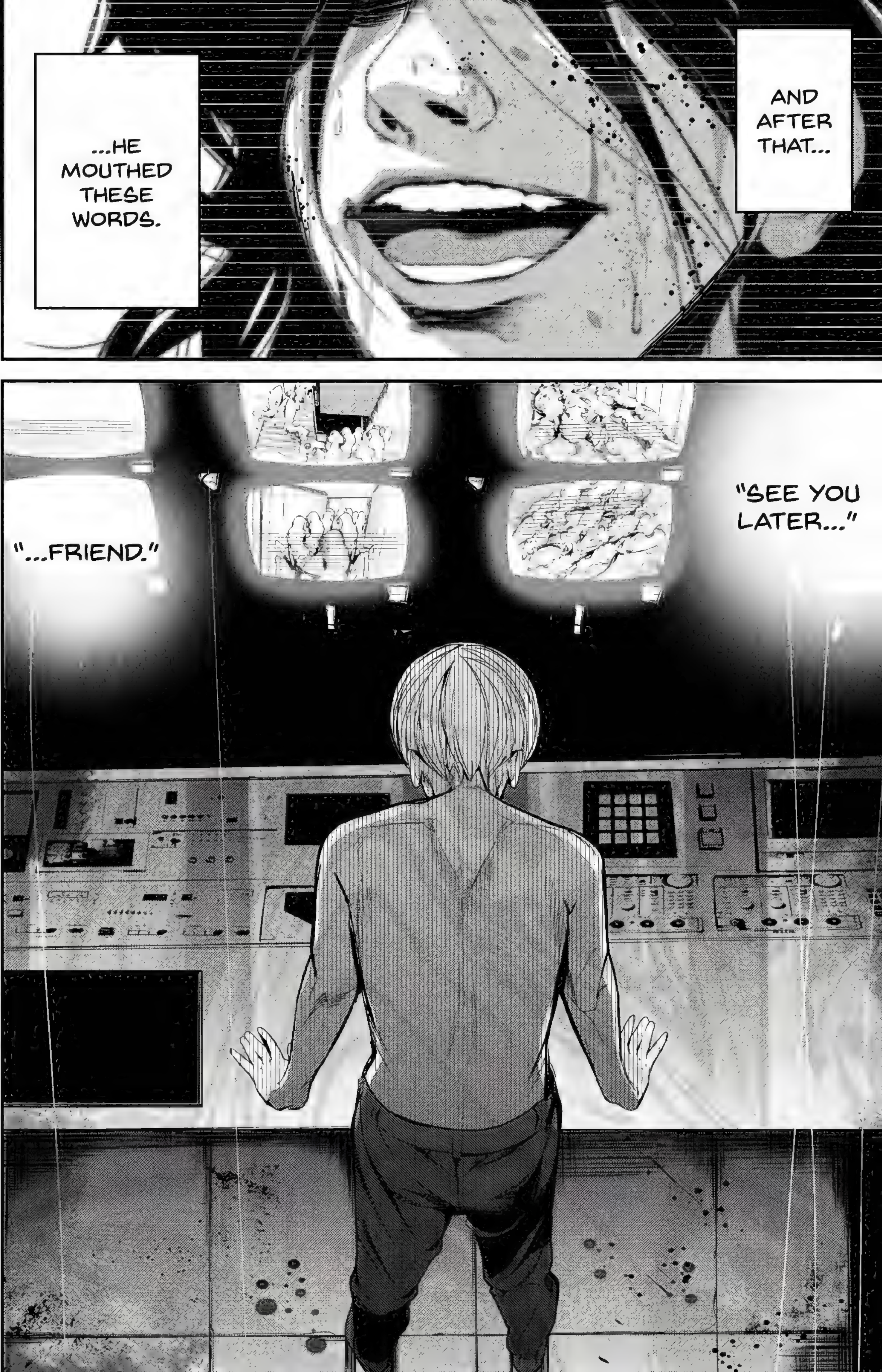
VOOM
ゴウン
VOOM

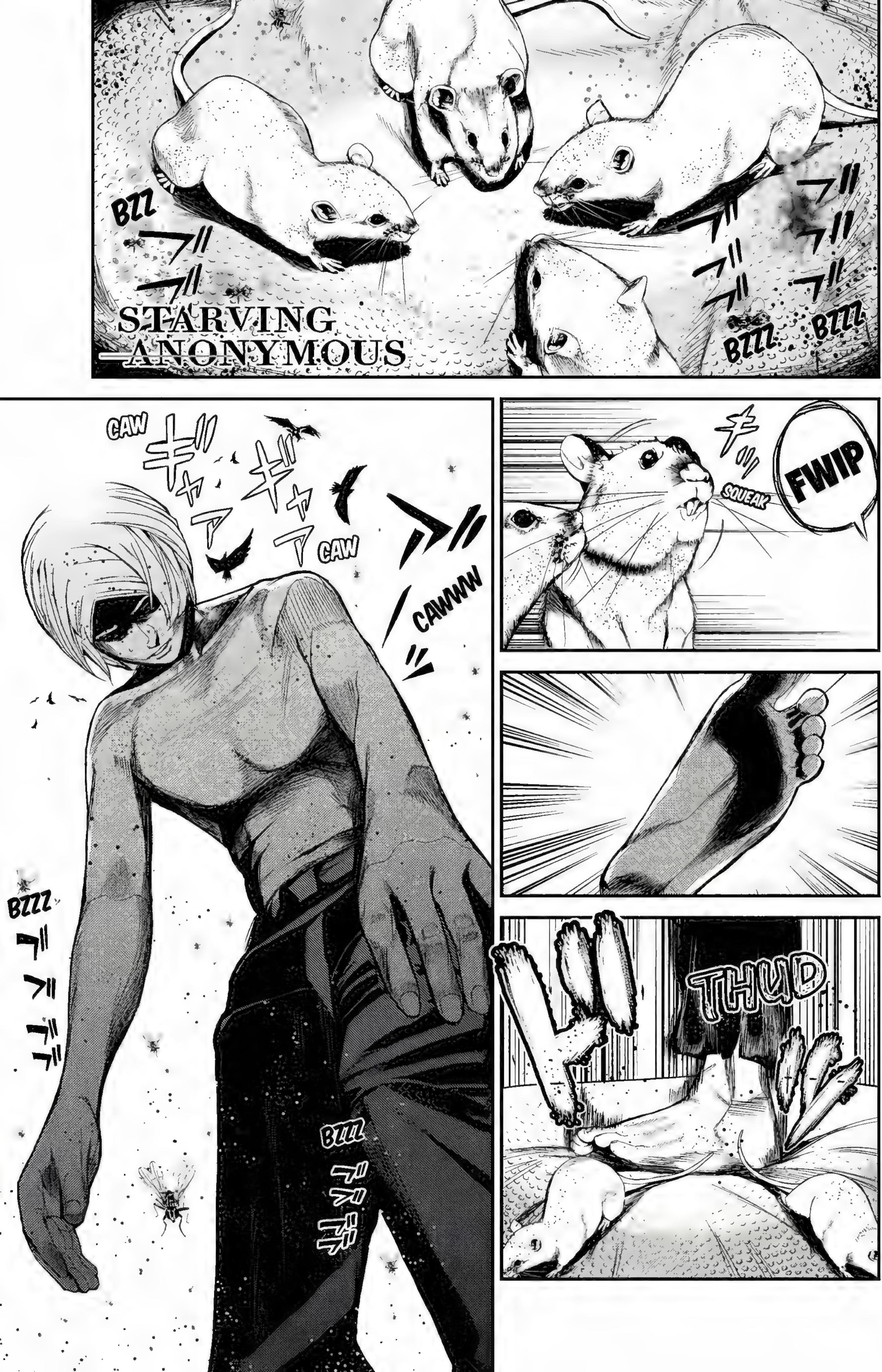

ゴン
RRKT
CLONG
ゴン
CLONG
ゴン
CLONG
RRKT
ドォォーン
BOOOOM
I-I-IE...
WH-WH-WHY DID YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND?


HUH?
WHAT?
HE'S MOUTHING SOMETHING AT THE CAMERA...
WHAT IS IT?!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, NATSUNE-KUN?

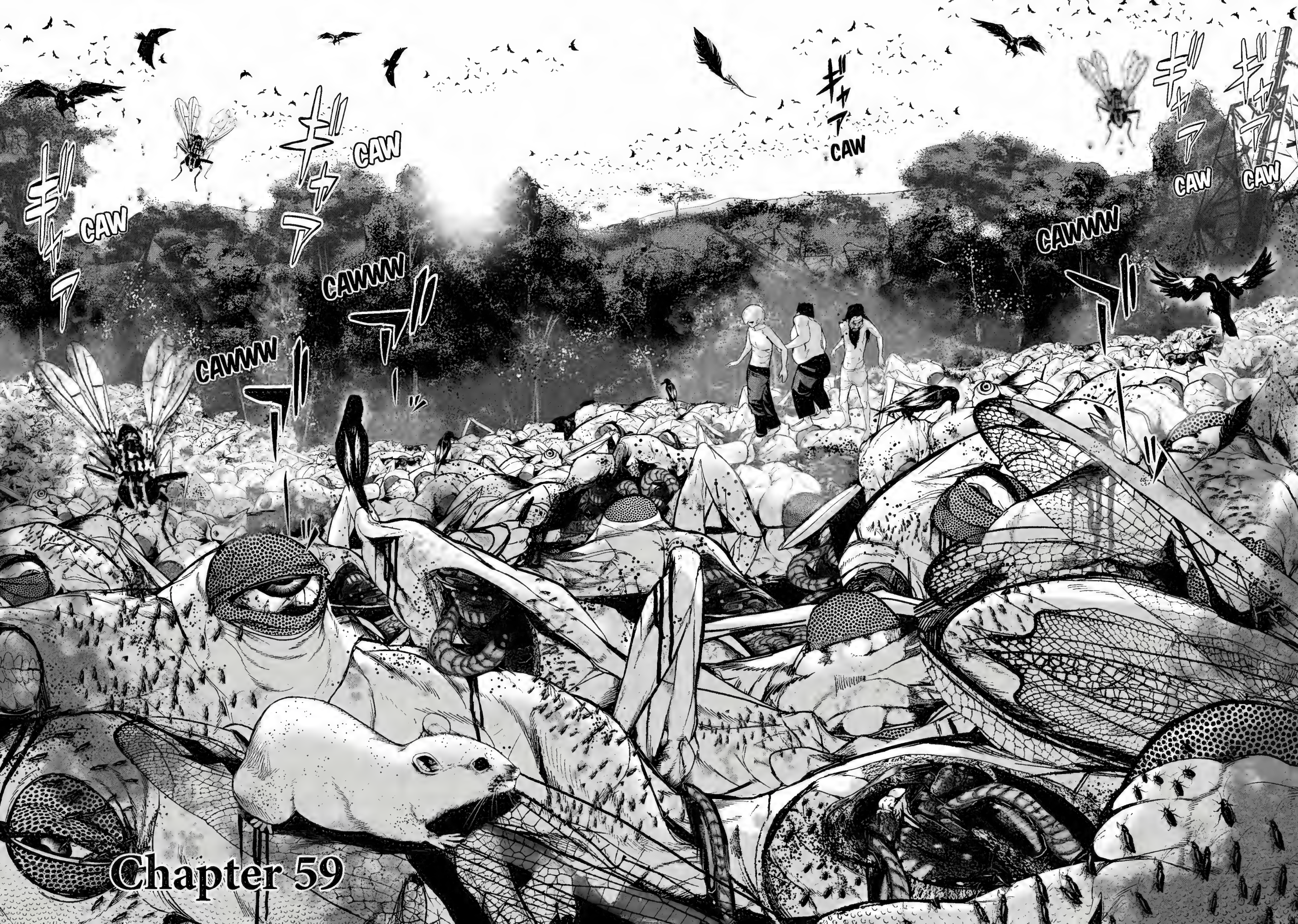

CLOSE...
...THE...
...DOOR!

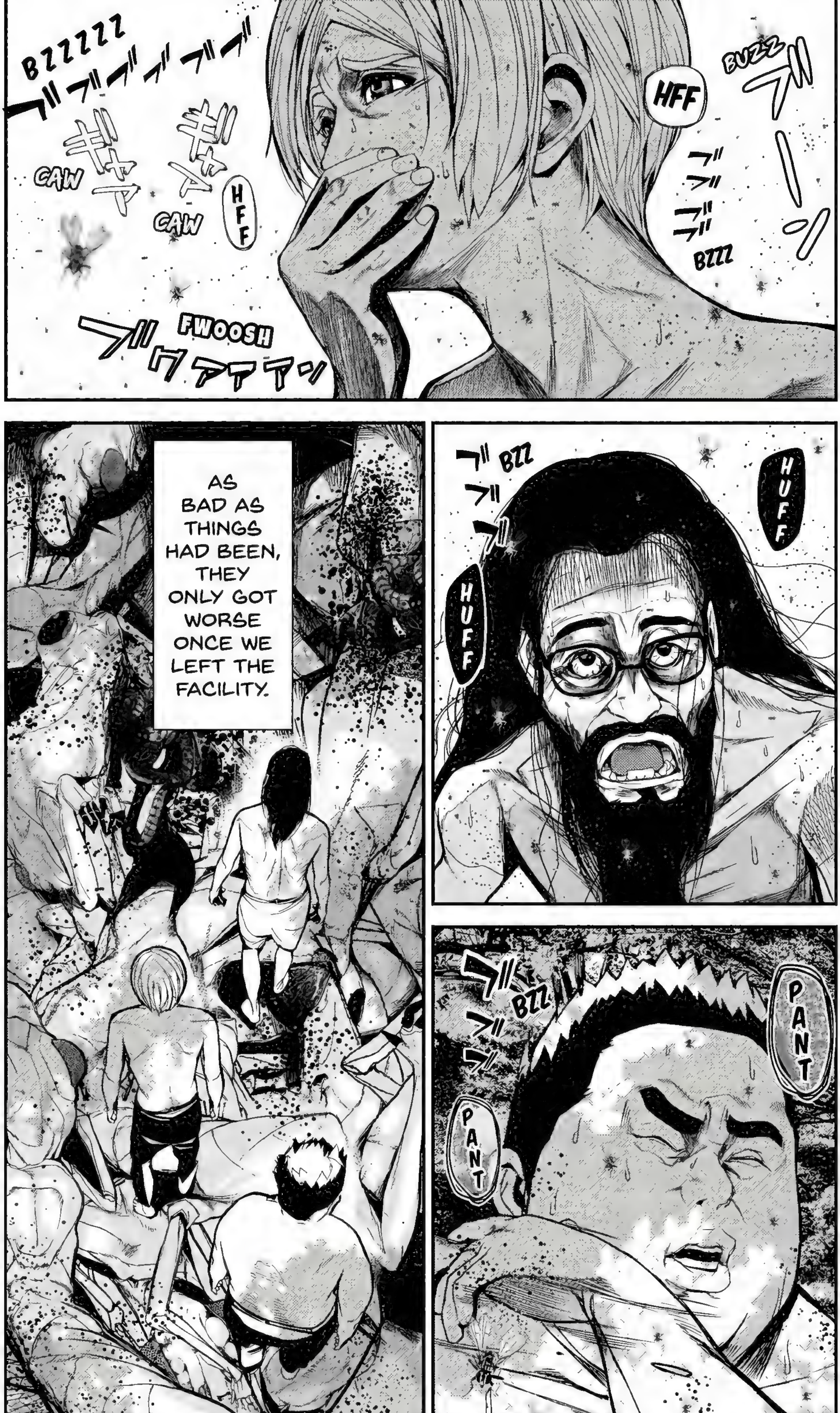

"CLOSE THE DOOR?"
LIKE... BEHIND YOU?!

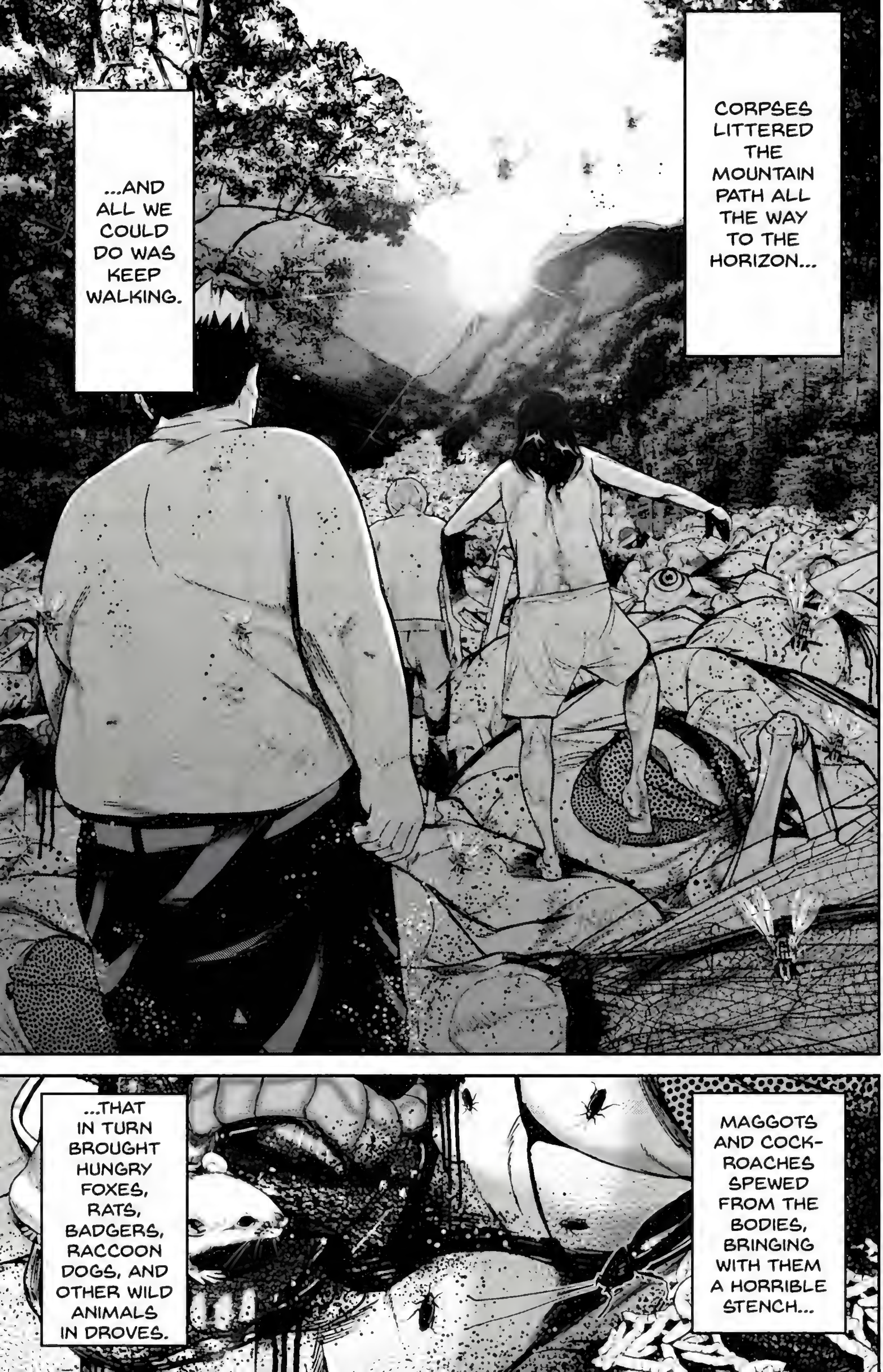

AND AFTER THAT...
...HE MOUTHED THESE WORDS.
"SEE YOU LATER..."
"...FRIEND."

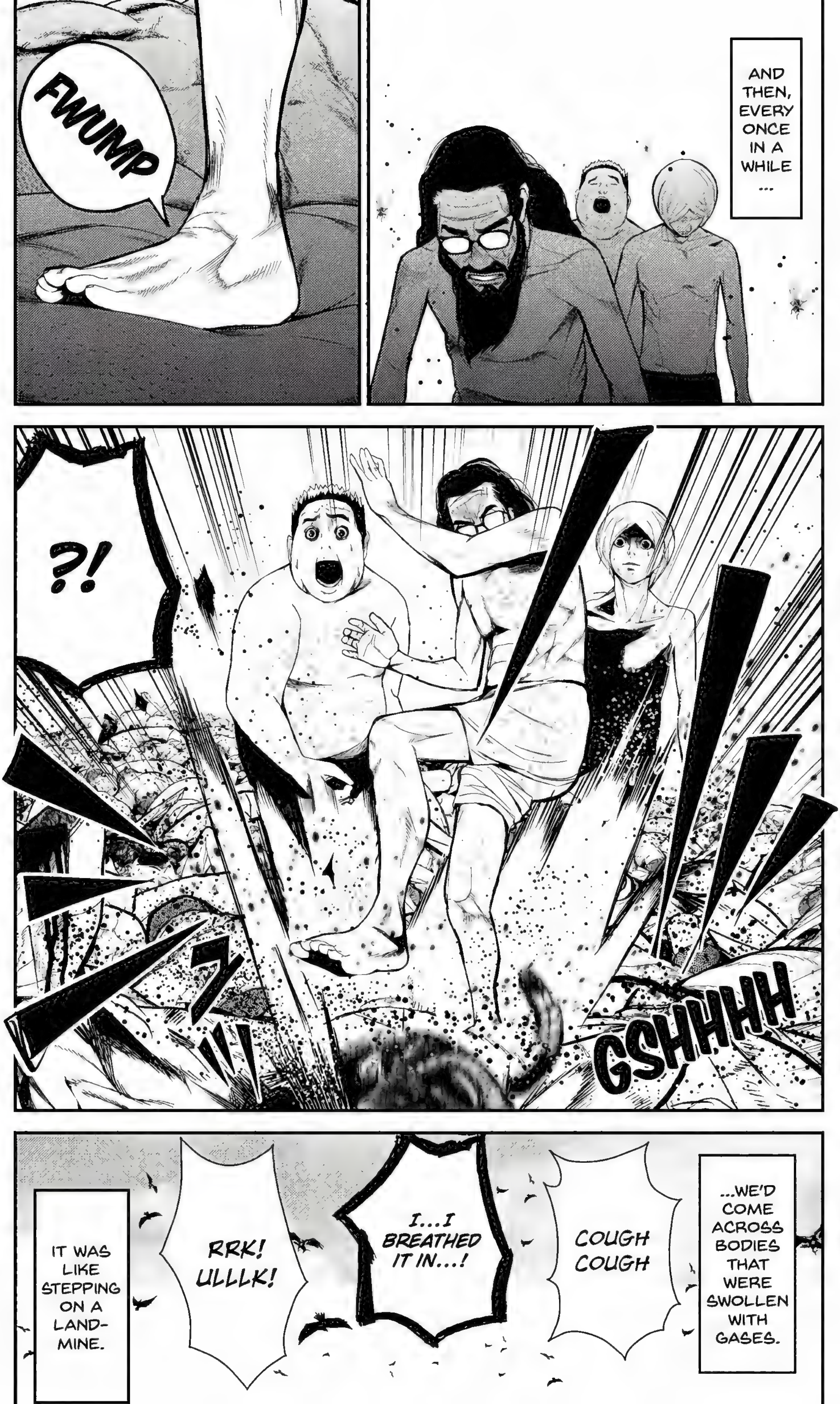

STARVING ANONYMOUS
ブブブブ
BZZZ BZZZ
ブブ
BZZ
FWIP
キッ
SQUEAK
THUD
ギャァ ギャァ
CAW
CAW
ブブ
CAWWW
BZZZ
ブブブブ
BZZZ
ブブブブ

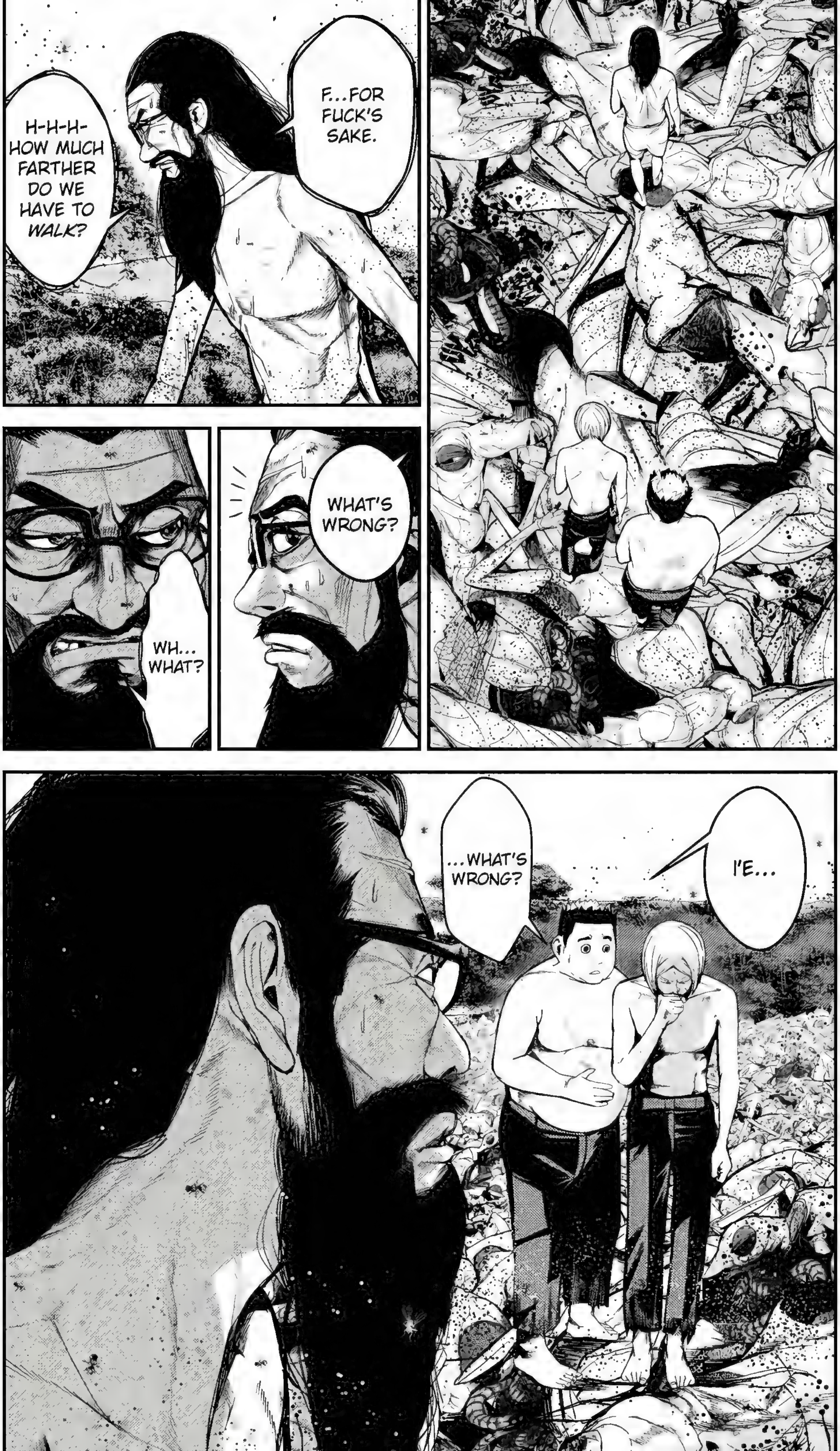
Chapter 59

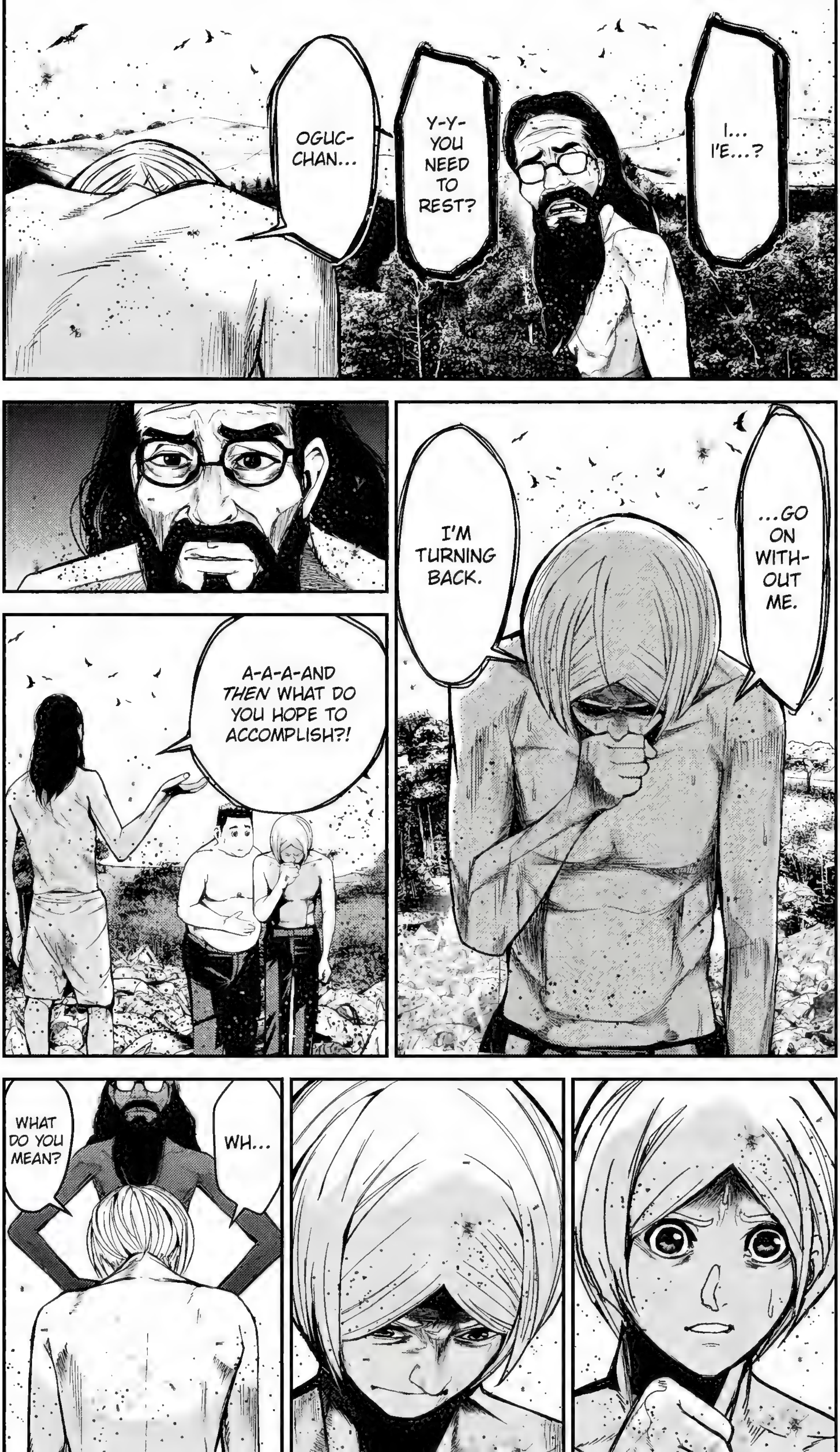

ギャア
CAW
ギャア
CAW
CAWWW
ア
ギャア
CAW
CAWWW
ア
CAWWW
ア
ギャア
CAW
ギャア
CAW

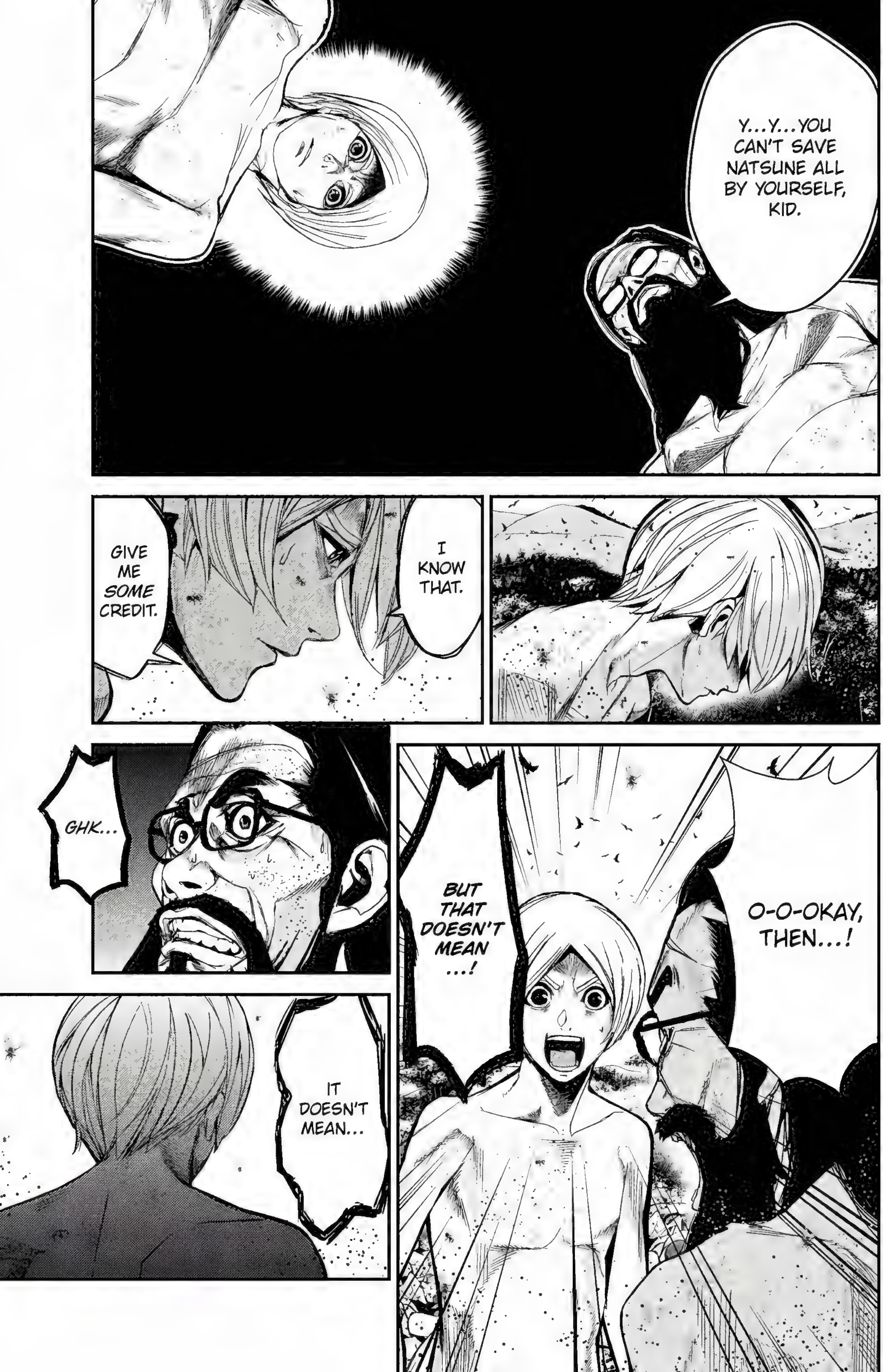

HFF
BUZZ
ブーーッ
ブブブ
BZZZ
BZZZZZZ
ブブブブブ
ギャア
CAW
ギャア
CAW
HFF
FWOOSH
ブワァァァッ
ブブブ
BZZ
HUFF
HUFF
AS BAD AS THINGS HAD BEEN, THEY ONLY GOT WORSE ONCE WE LEFT THE FACILITY.
ブブブ
BZZ
PANT
PANT

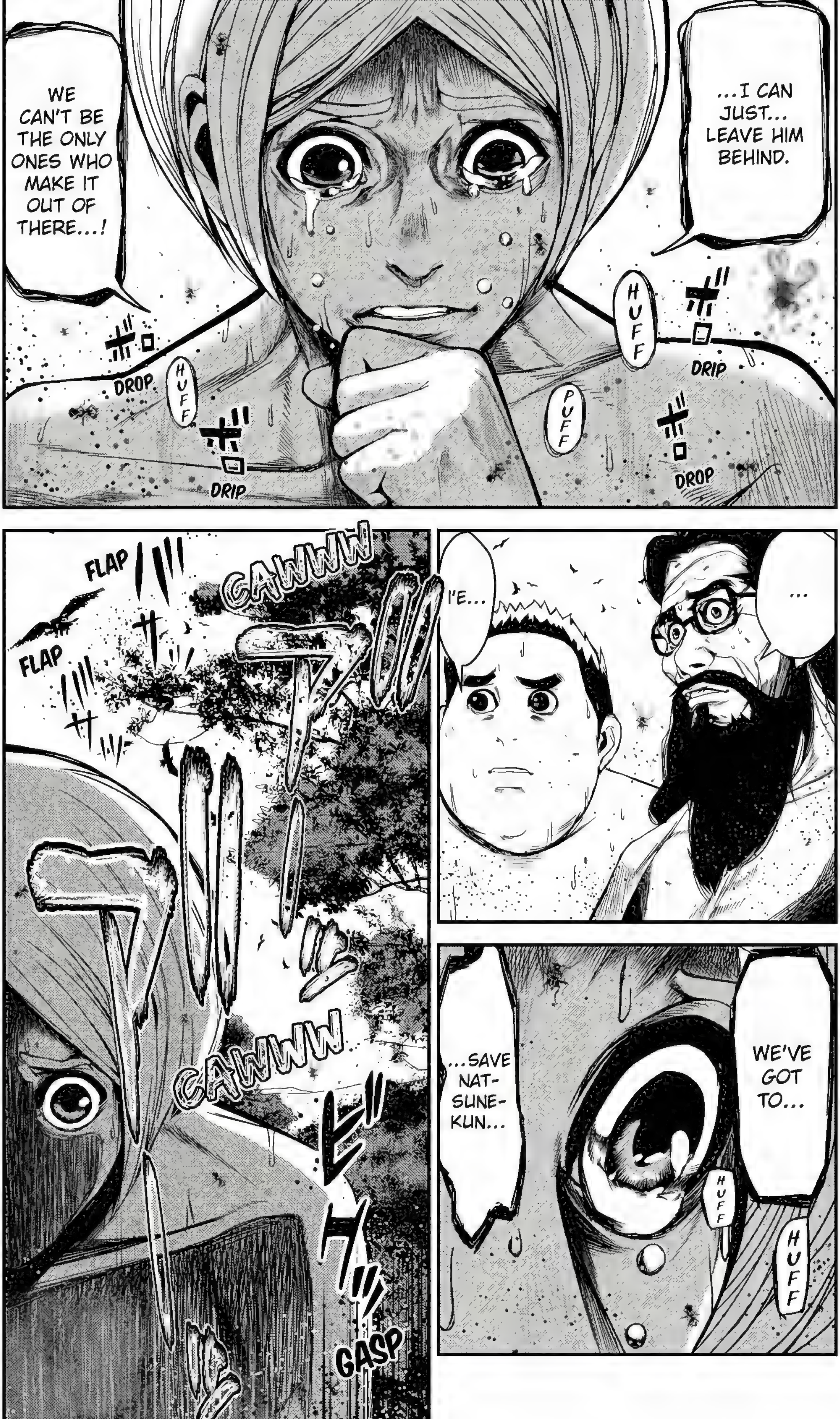

CORPSES LITTERED THE MOUNTAIN PATH ALL THE WAY TO THE HORIZON...
...AND ALL WE COULD DO WAS KEEP WALKING.
MAGGOTS AND COCKROACHES SPEWED FROM THE BODIES, BRINGING WITH THEM A HORRIBLE STENCH...
...THAT IN TURN BROUGHT HUNGRY FOXES, RATS, BADGERS, RACCOON DOGS, AND OTHER WILD ANIMALS IN DROVES.

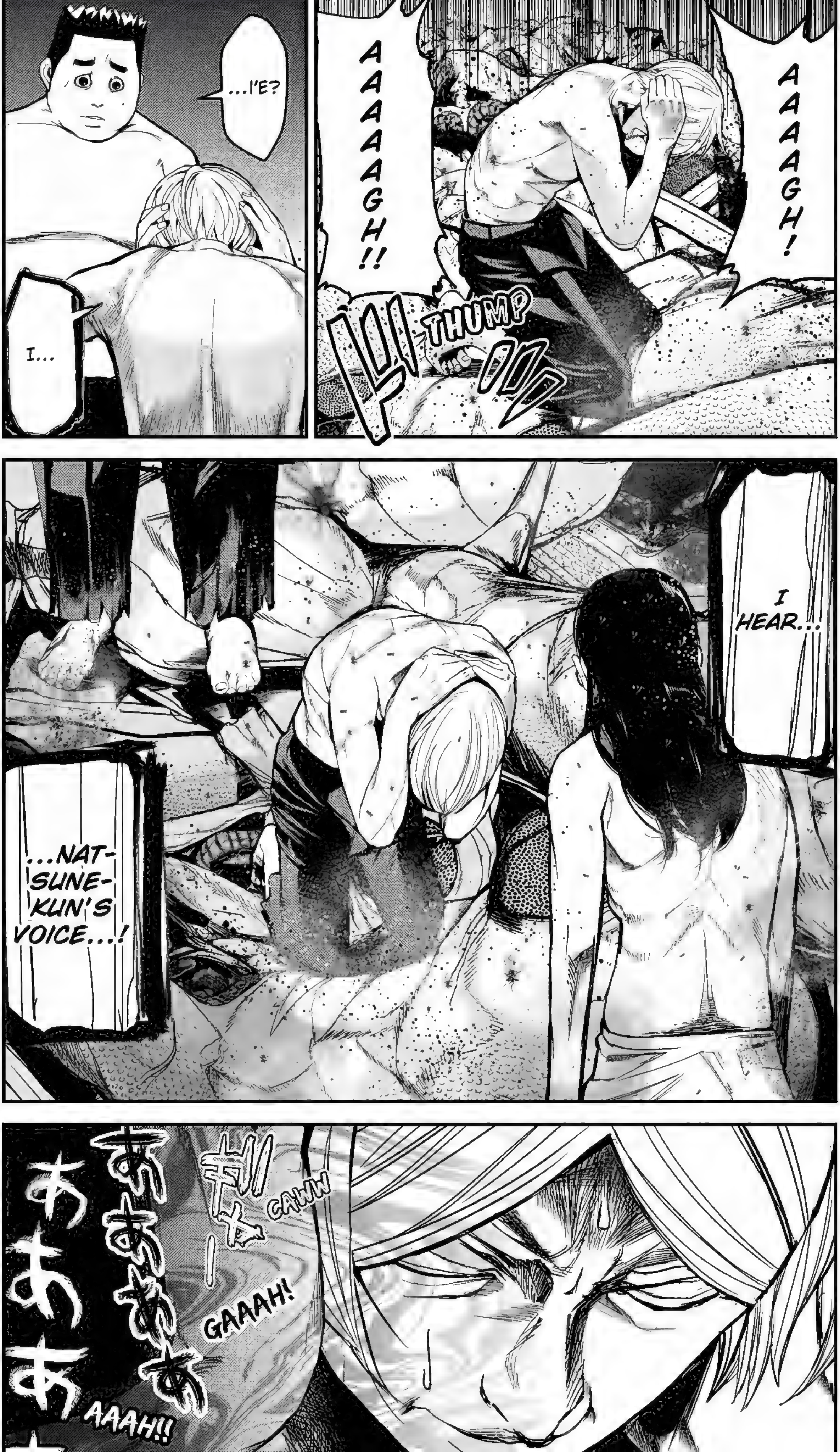

AND THEN, EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE…
FWUMP
?!
GSHHHH
…WE'D COME ACROSS BODIES THAT WERE SWOLLEN WITH GASES.
COUGH COUGH
I…I BREATHED IT IN…!
RRK! ULLLK!
IT WAS LIKE STEPPING ON A LANDMINE.

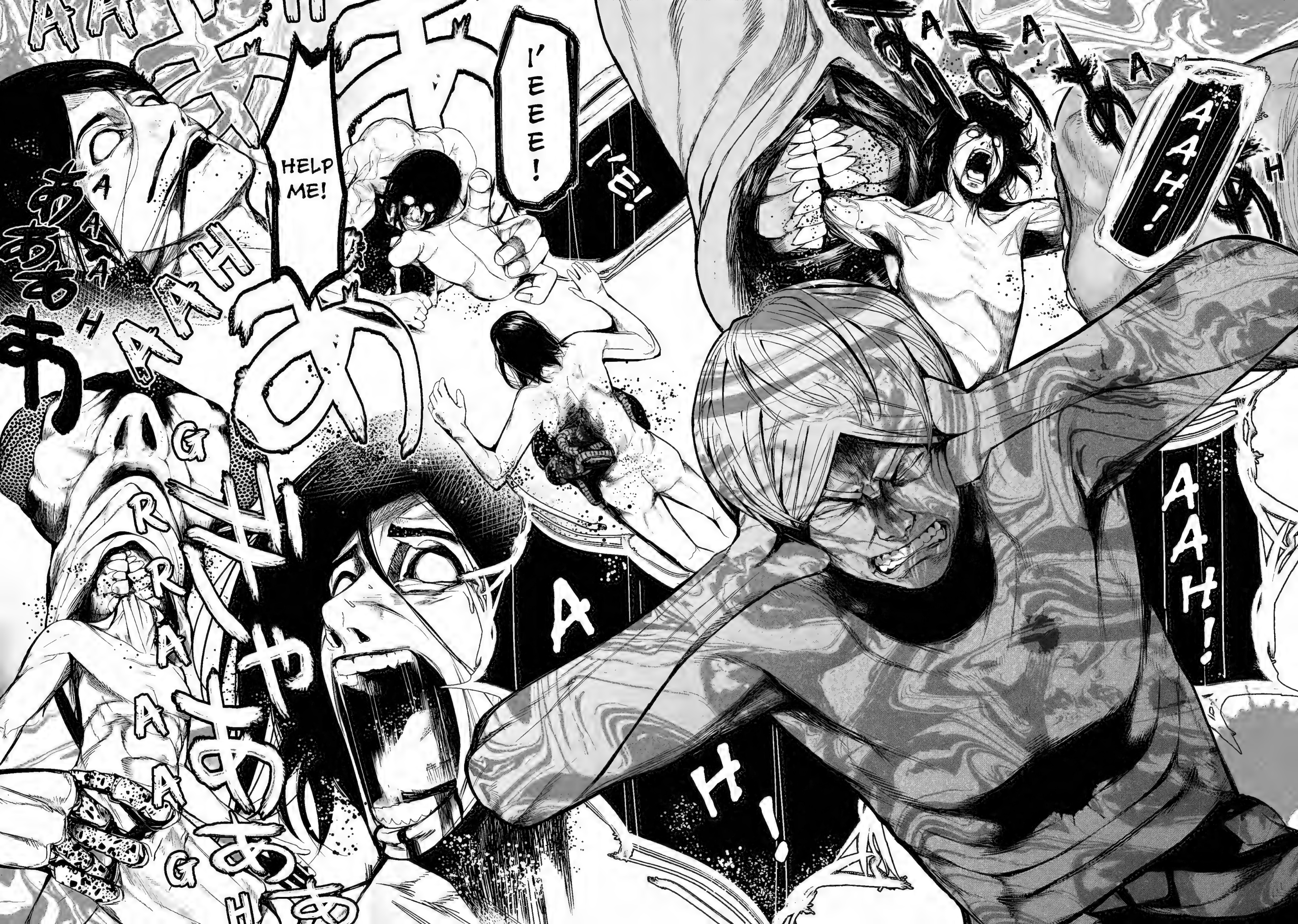

F...FOR FUCK'S SAKE.
H-H-H-HOW MUCH FARTHER DO WE HAVE TO *WALK?*
WHAT'S WRONG?
WH... WHAT?
I'E...
...WHAT'S WRONG?

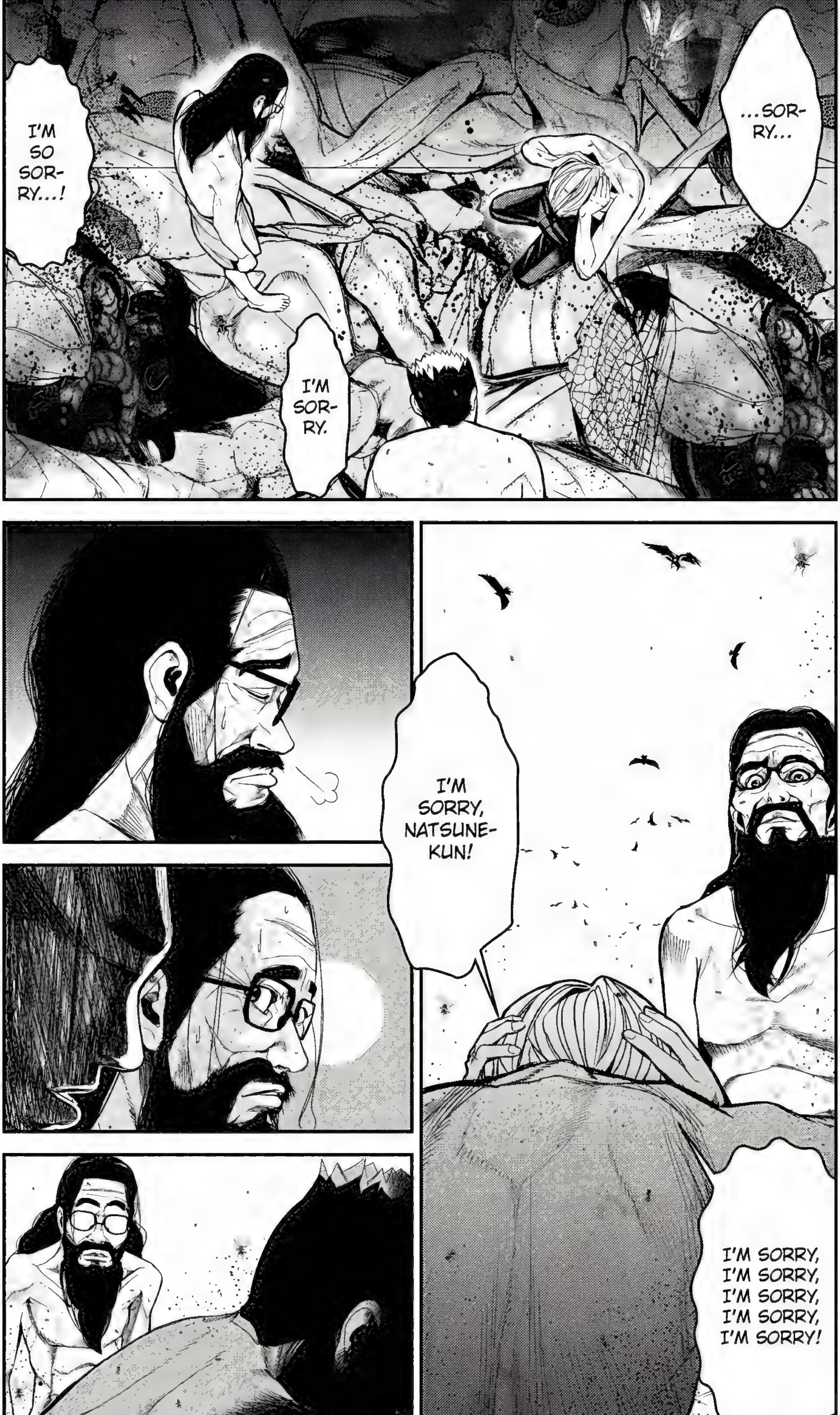

I... I'E...?
Y-Y-YOU NEED TO REST?
OGUC-CHAN...
...GO ON WITHOUT ME.
I'M TURNING BACK.
A-A-A-AND *THEN* WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH?!
WH...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

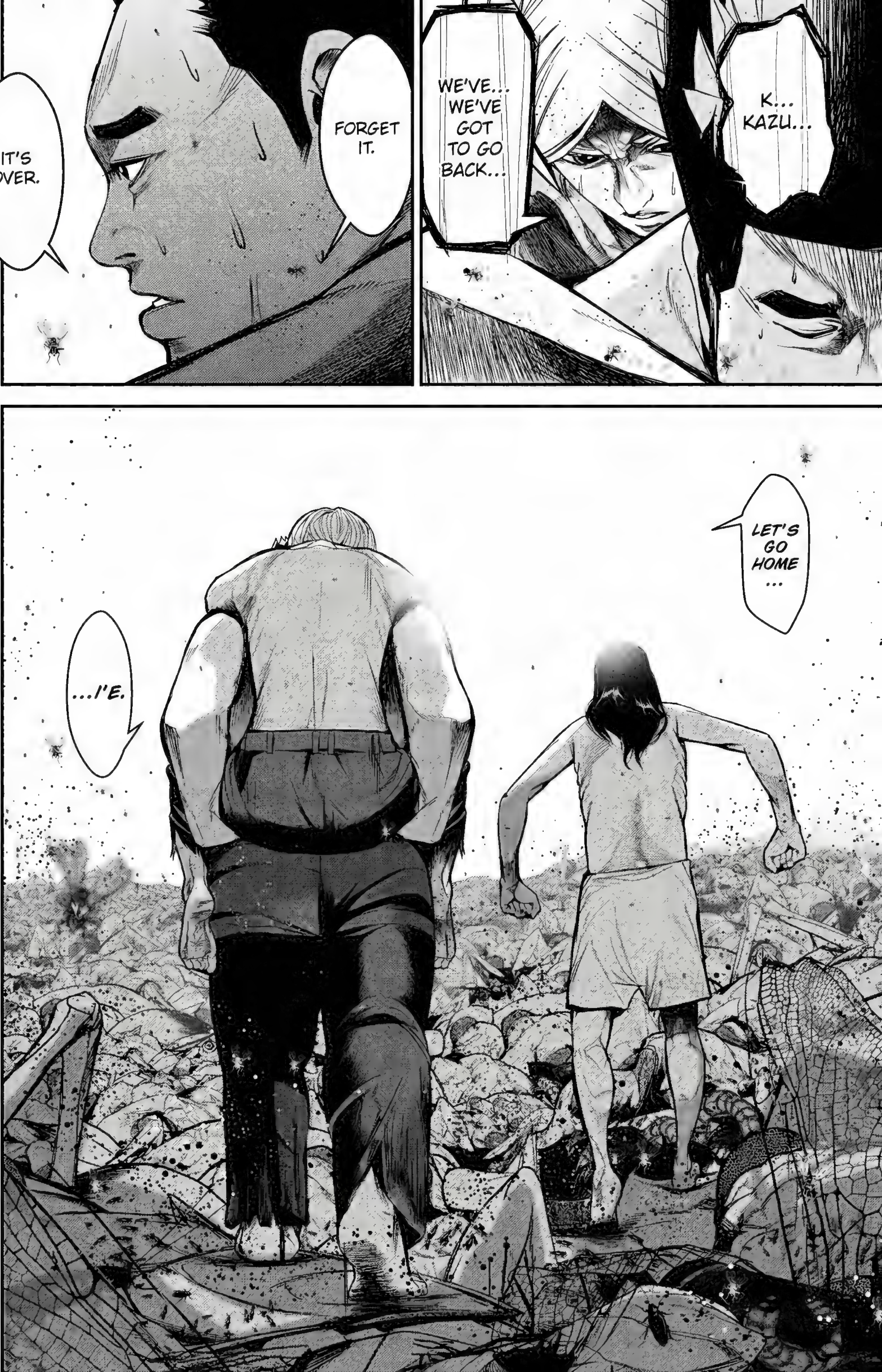

Y...Y...YOU CAN'T SAVE NATSUNE ALL BY YOURSELF, KID.
I KNOW THAT.
GIVE ME SOME CREDIT.
GHK...
O-O-OKAY, THEN...!
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN ...!
IT DOESN'T MEAN...

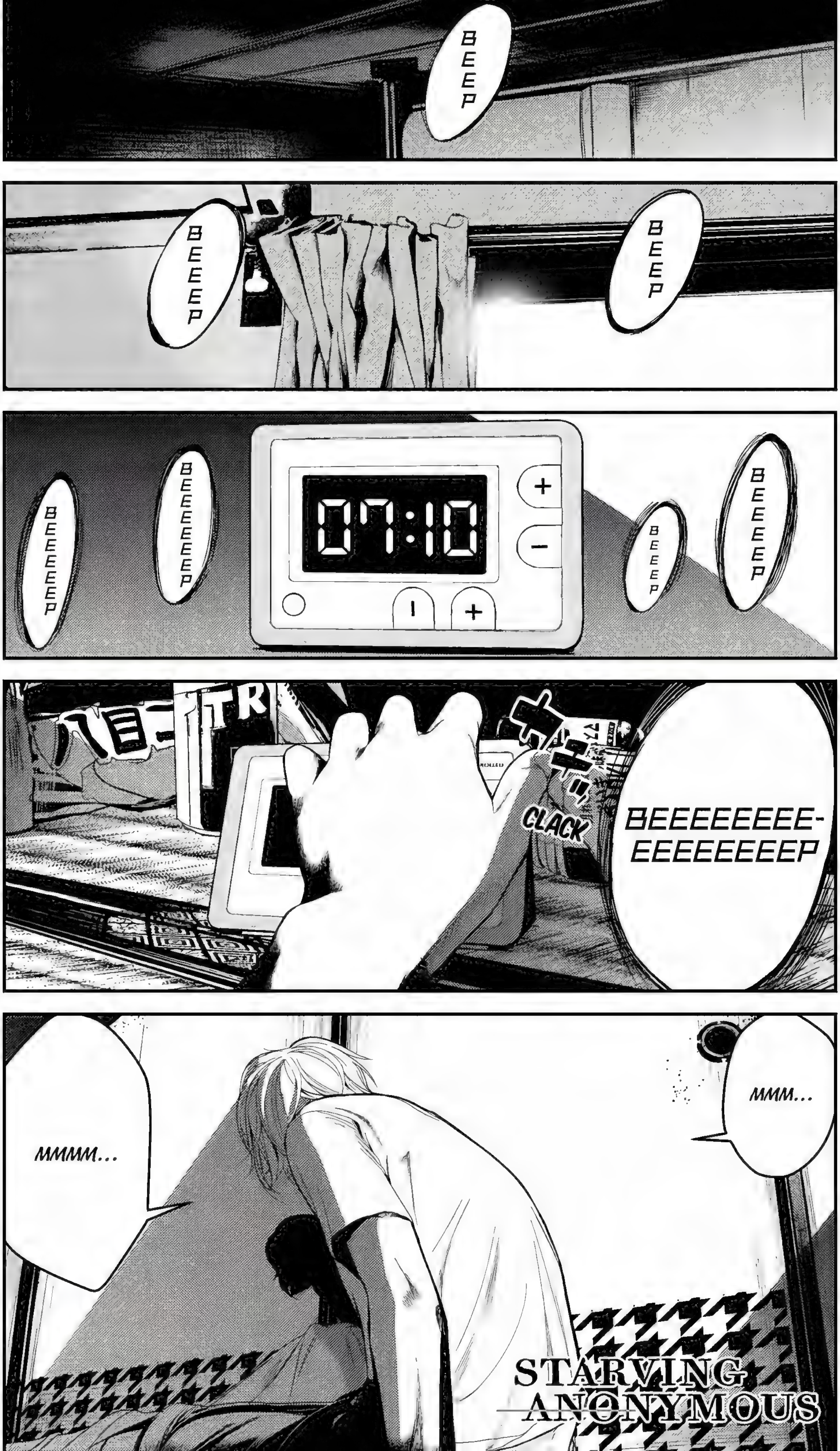

...I CAN JUST... LEAVE HIM BEHIND.
WE CAN'T BE THE ONLY ONES WHO MAKE IT OUT OF THERE...!
HUFF
DRIP
PUFF
DROP
HUFF
DROP
DRIP
...
I'E...
CAWWW
FLAP
FLAP
CAWWW
GASP
WE'VE GOT TO...
...SAVE NATSUNE-KUN...
HUFF
HUFF


AAAAAAGH!
AAAAAAGH!!
THUMP
...I'E?
I...
I HEAR...
...NATSUNE-KUN'S VOICE...!
ギャー
CAWW
GAAAH!
あああああ
ああああ
AAAH!!


AAH!
AAAAH
AAH!
AH!
I'EEE!
I'E!
HELP ME!
AAAH
AAAHA
GRRAAAAGH
あああ
やあああ

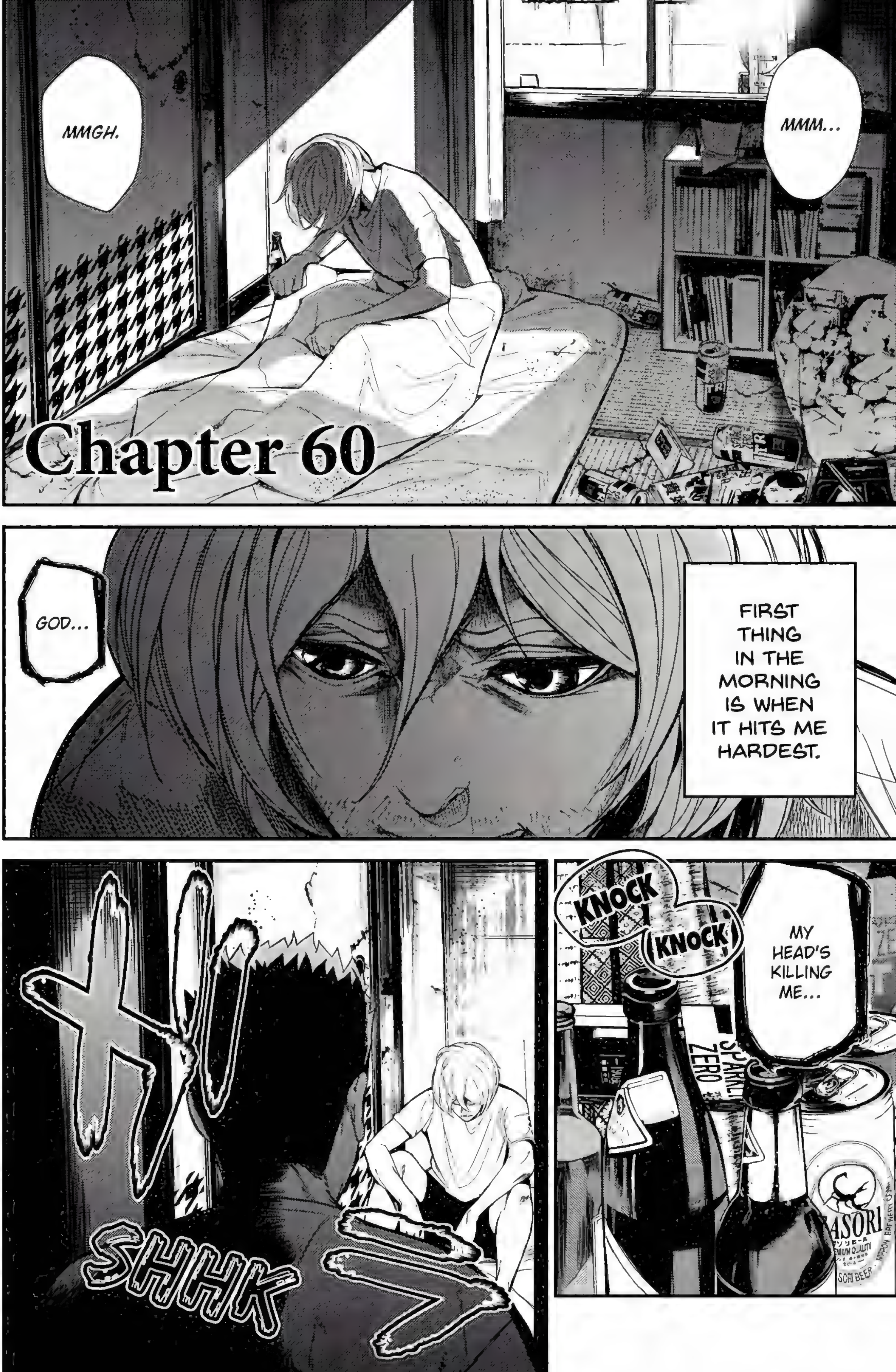

...SORRY...
I'M SO SORRY...!
I'M SORRY.
I'M SORRY, NATSUNE-KUN!
I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY!

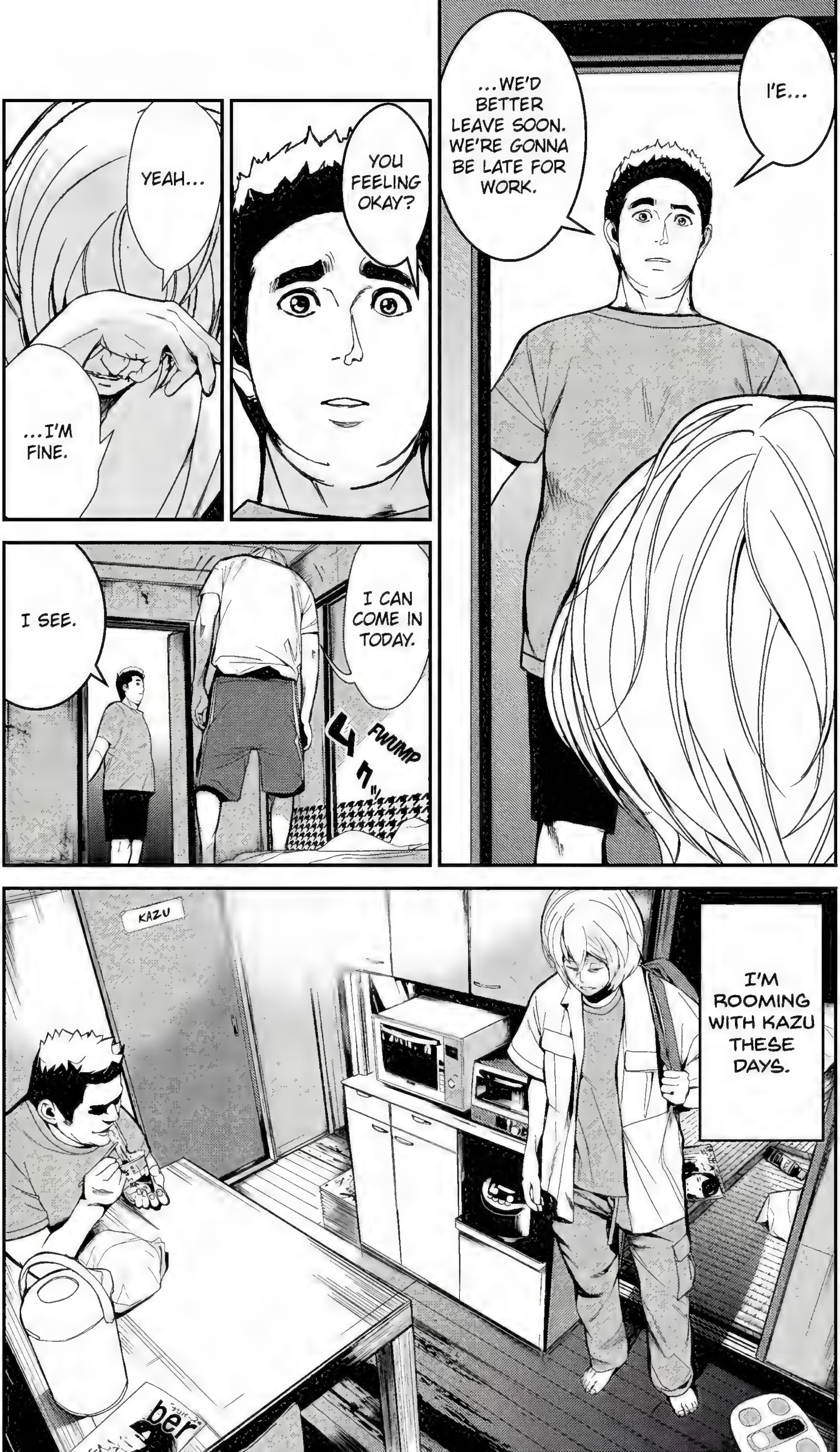

K... KAZU...
WE'VE... WE'VE GOT TO GO BACK...
FORGET IT.
IT'S OVER.
LET'S GO HOME...
...I'E.

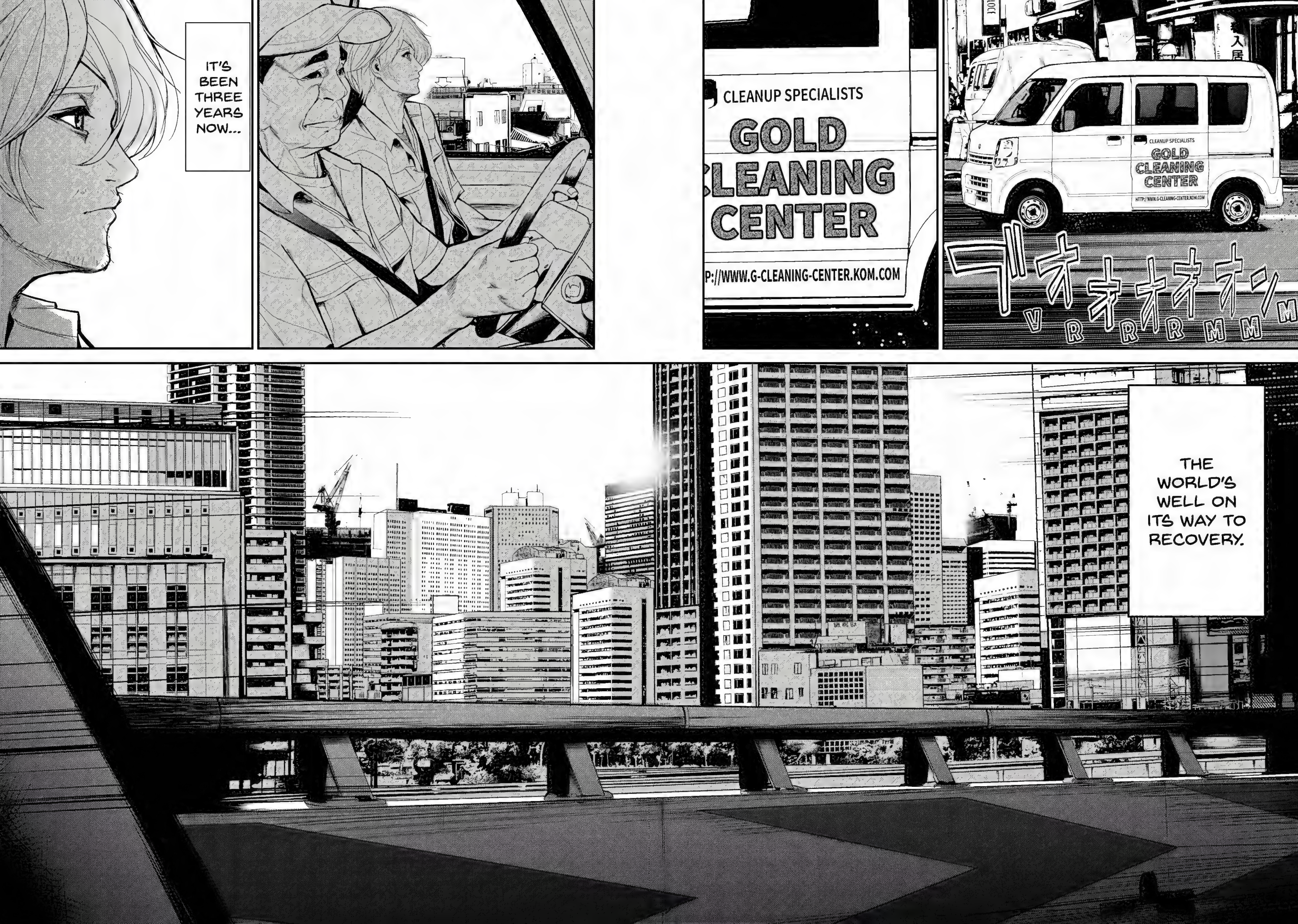

BEEP
BEEP
BEEEP
BEEEEP
BEEEP
07:10
BEEEEEEP
BEEEEEP
BEEEEEEEE-EEEEEEEEP
CLACK
MMM...
MMMM...

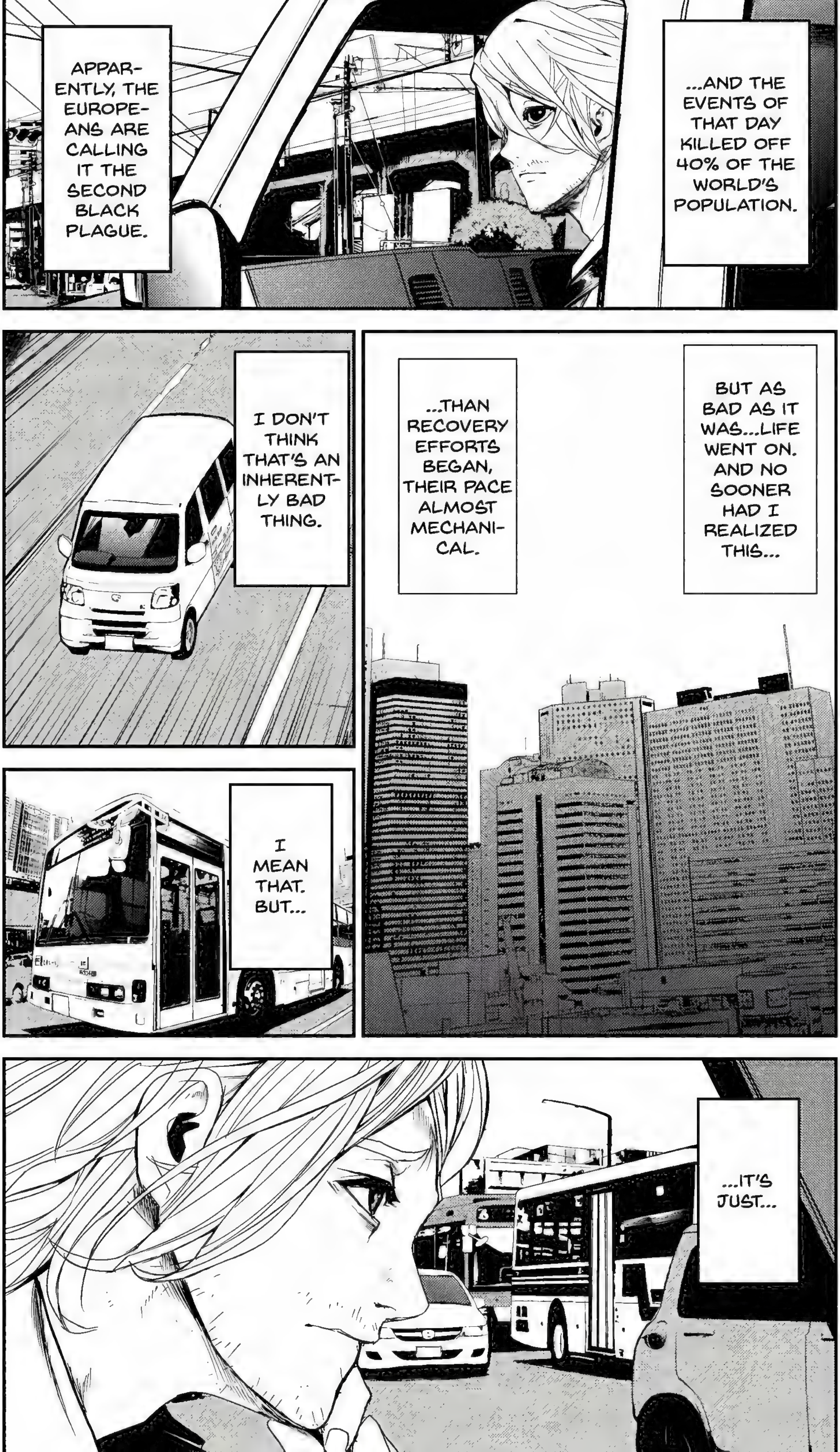
STARVING ANONYMOUS

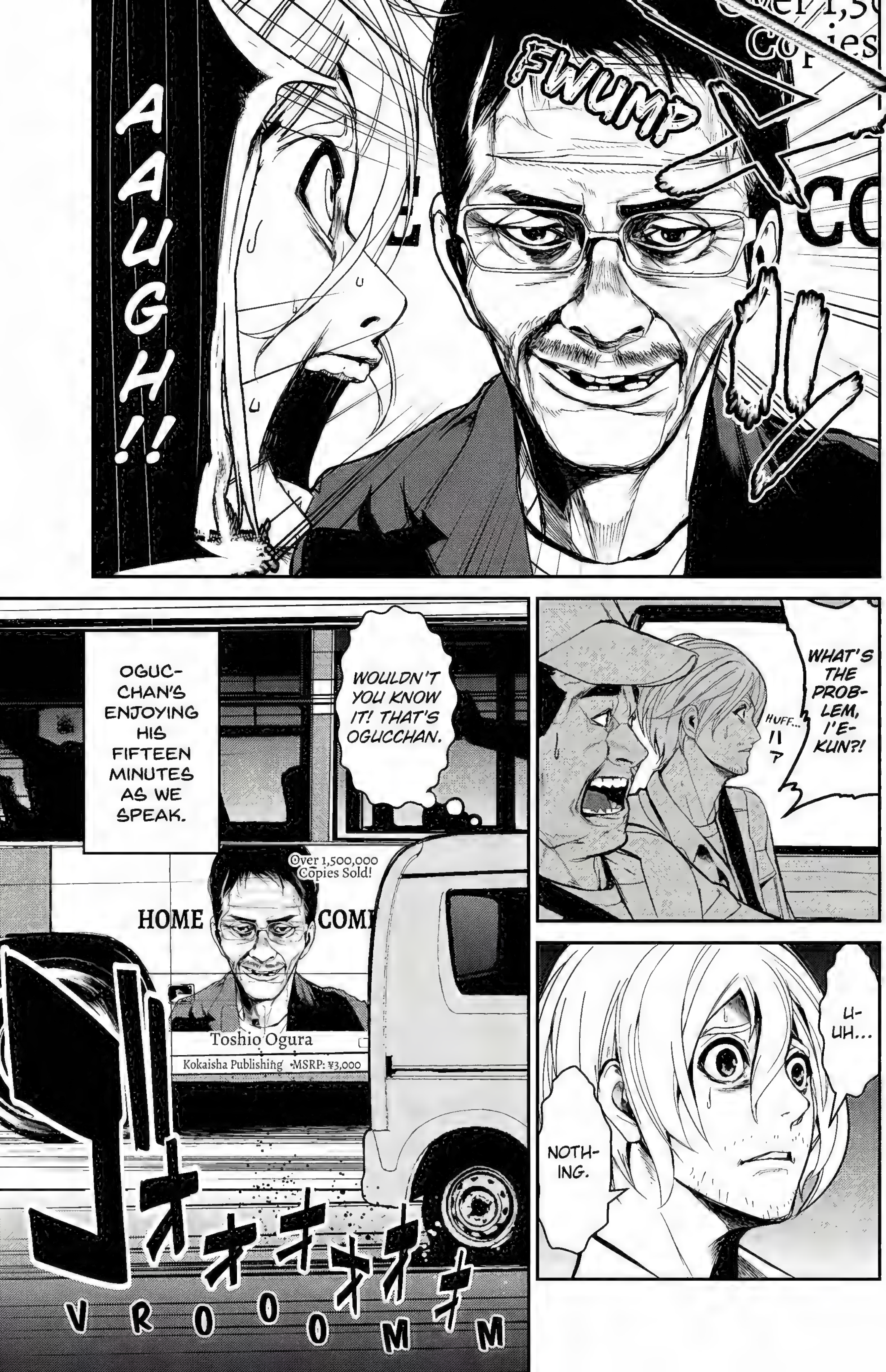
Chapter 60

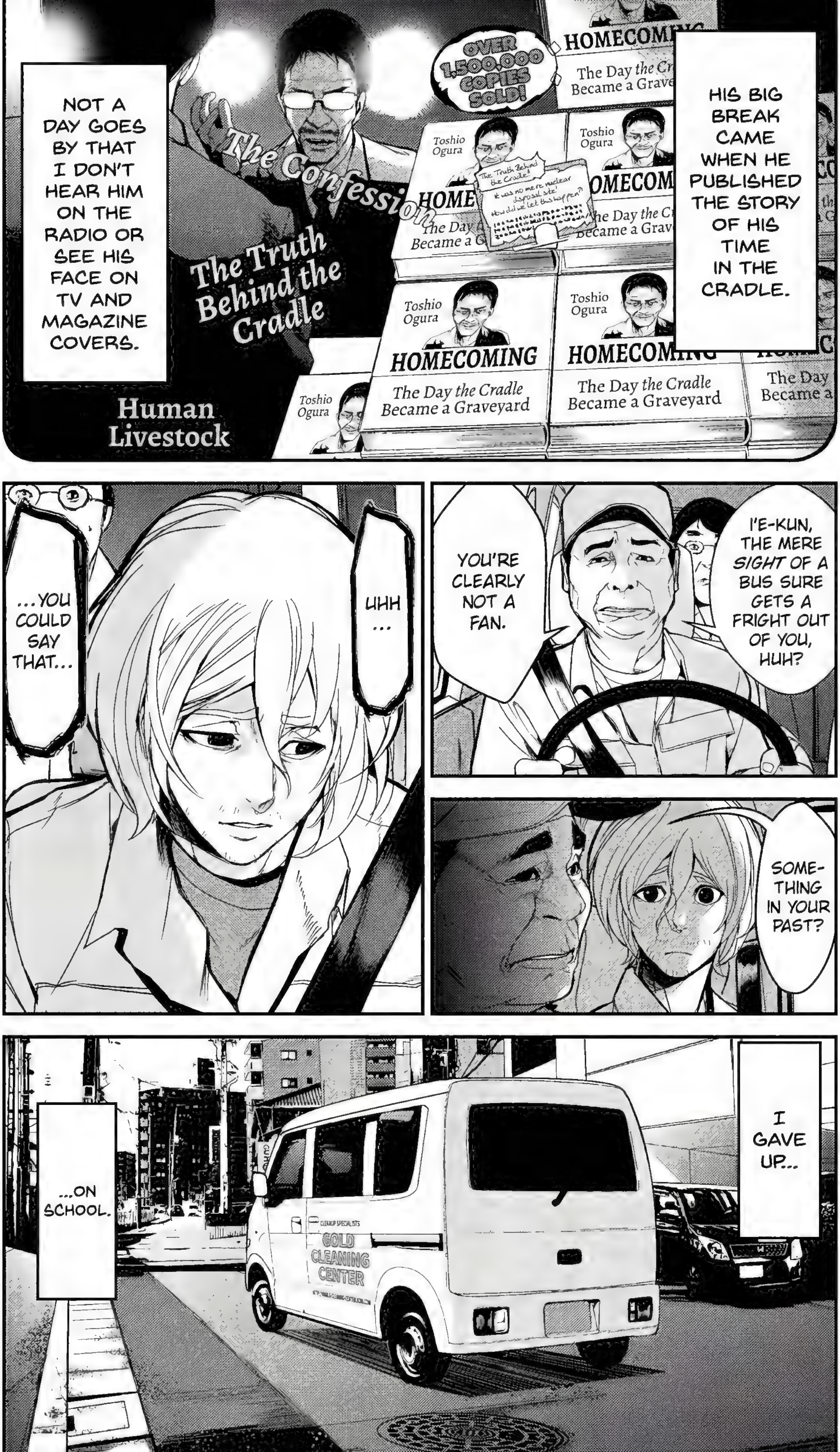

MMM...
MMGH.
FIRST THING IN THE MORNING IS WHEN IT HITS ME HARDEST.
GOD...
KNOCK
KNOCK
MY HEAD'S KILLING ME...
SPARKLI
ZERO
SASORI
SHHK

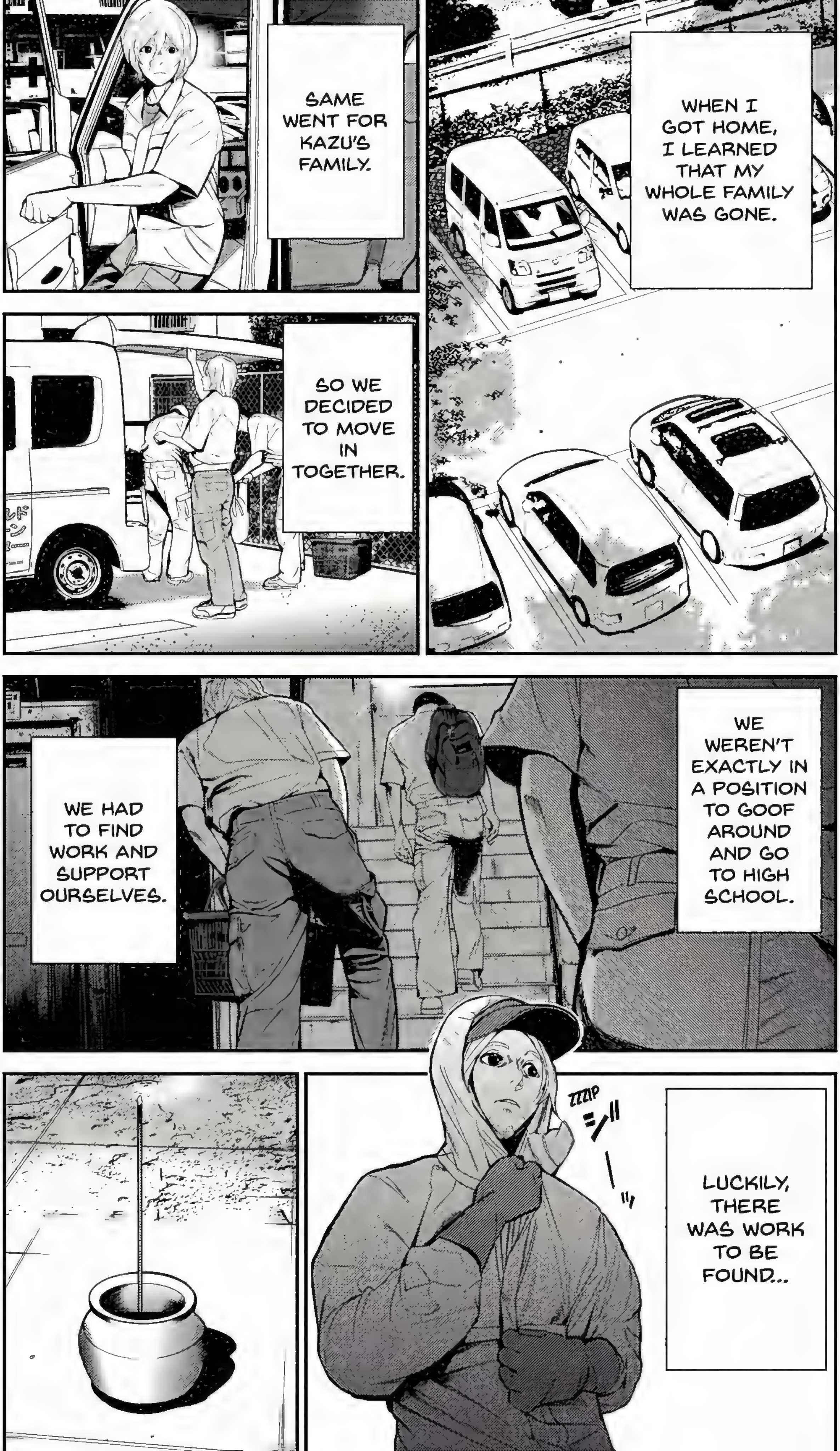

I'E...
...WE'D BETTER LEAVE SOON. WE'RE GONNA BE LATE FOR WORK.
YOU FEELING OKAY?
YEAH...
...I'M FINE.
I CAN COME IN TODAY.
FWUMP
I SEE.
I'M ROOMING WITH KAZU THESE DAYS.
KAZU
ber

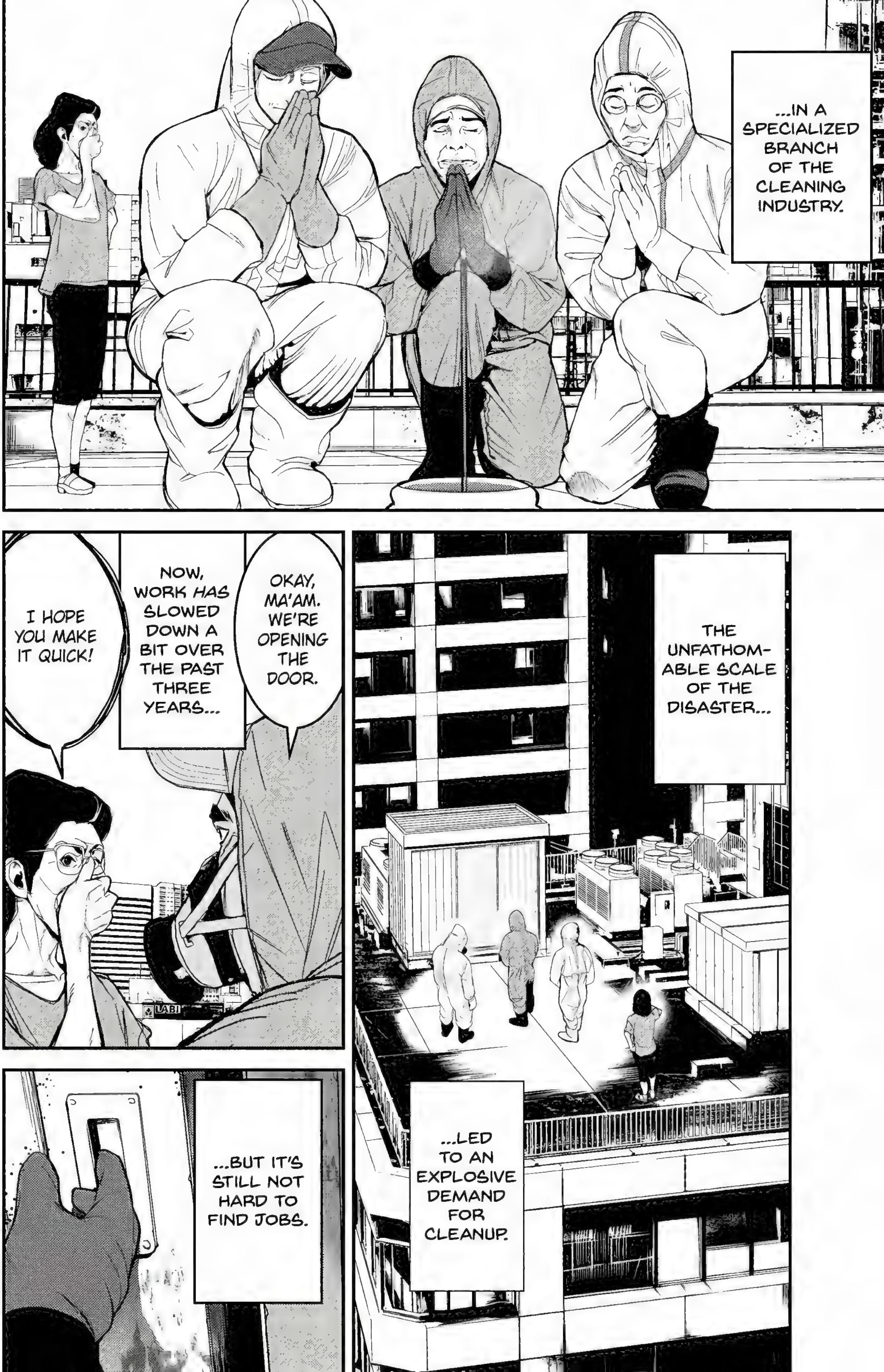

CLEANUP SPECIALISTS
GOLD CLEANING CENTER
HTTP://WWW.G-CLEANING-CENTER.KOM.COM
ブォォォォォン
VRRRMMM
CLEANUP SPECIALISTS
GOLD
LEANING
CENTER
P://WWW.G-CLEANING-CENTER.KOM.COM
IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS NOW...
THE WORLD'S WELL ON ITS WAY TO RECOVERY.

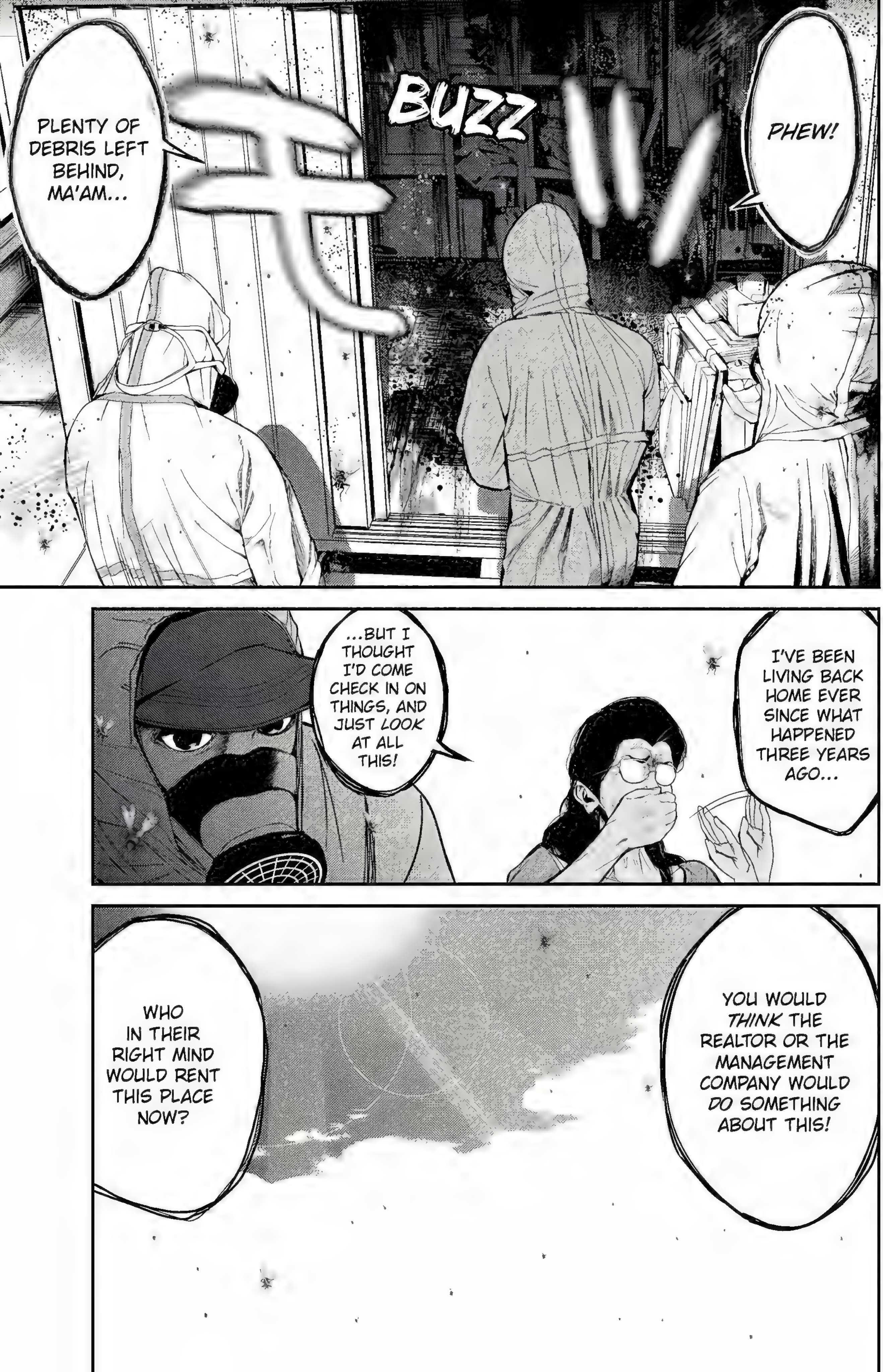

...AND THE EVENTS OF THAT DAY KILLED OFF 40% OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION.
APPARENTLY, THE EUROPEANS ARE CALLING IT THE SECOND BLACK PLAGUE.
BUT AS BAD AS IT WAS...LIFE WENT ON. AND NO SOONER HAD I REALIZED THIS...
...THAN RECOVERY EFFORTS BEGAN, THEIR PACE ALMOST MECHANICAL.
I DON'T THINK THAT'S AN INHERENTLY BAD THING.
I MEAN THAT. BUT...
...IT'S JUST...

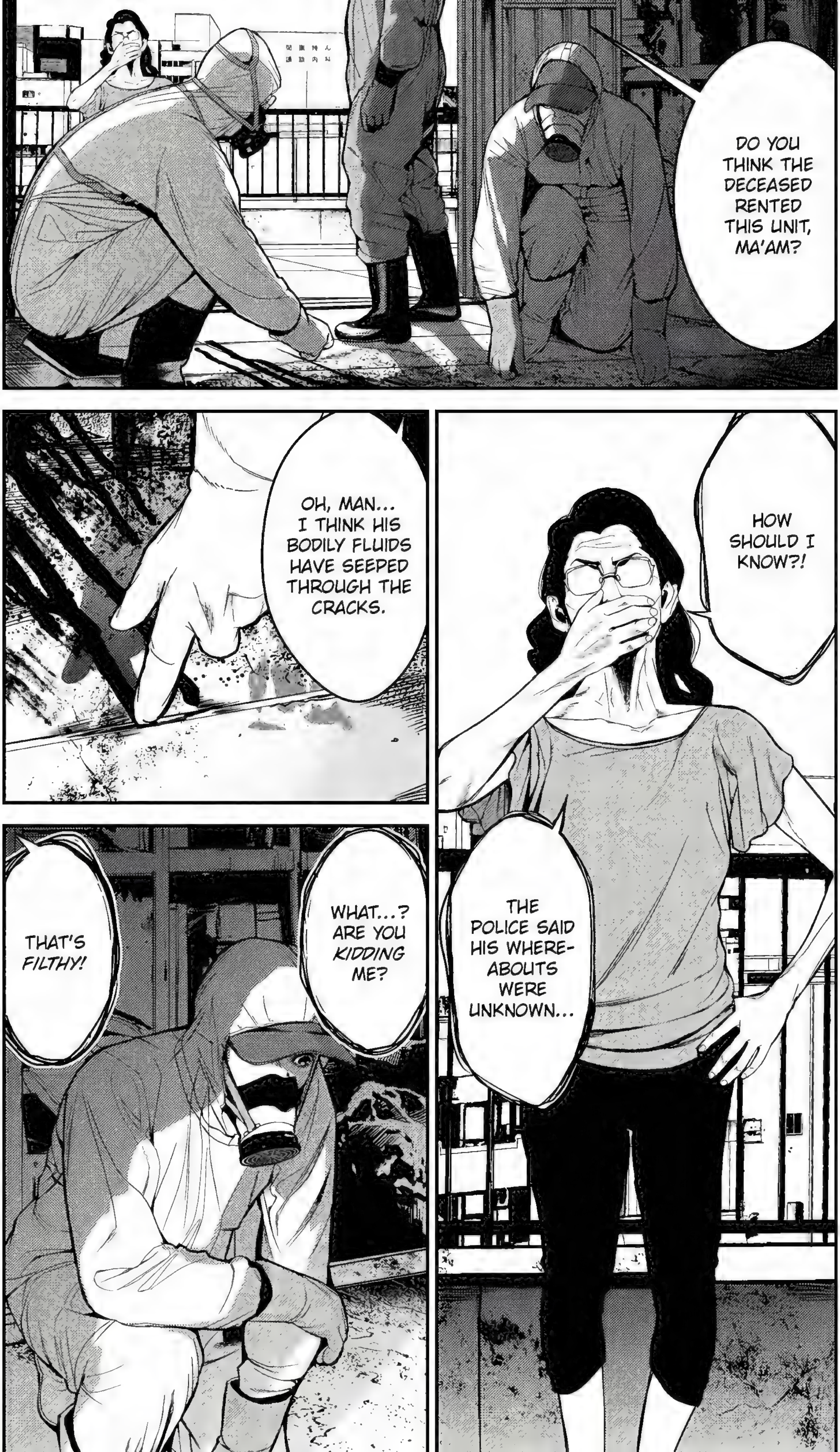

Over 1,5
Copies
FWUMP
CO
AAUGH!!
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, I'E-KUN?!
HUFF... ハァ
U-UH...
NOTHING.
WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT! THAT'S OGUCCHAN.
OGUCCHAN'S ENJOYING HIS FIFTEEN MINUTES AS WE SPEAK.
Over 1,500,000 Copies Sold!
HOME COMP
Toshio Ogura
Kokaisha Publishing MSRP: ¥3,000
ゴオオオオオオ
VROOOOMMM

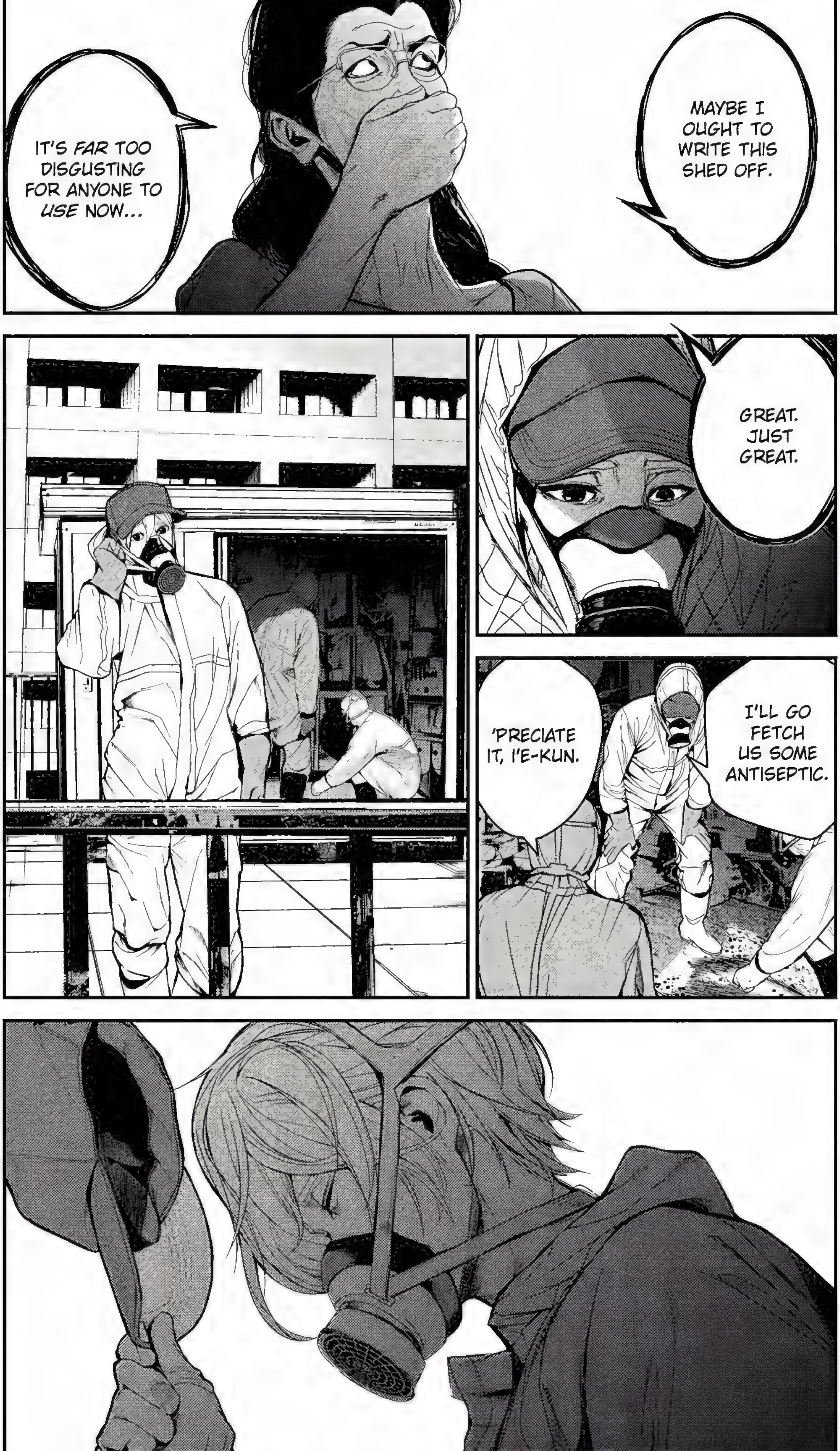

HIS BIG BREAK CAME WHEN HE PUBLISHED THE STORY OF HIS TIME IN THE CRADLE.
HOMECOMING
The Day the Cradle Became a Graveyard
Toshio Ogura
OVER 1,500,000 COPIES SOLD!
The Truth Behind the Cradle! It was no mere nuclear disposal site! How did we let this happen?
The Confession
The Truth Behind the Cradle
Human Livestock
NOT A DAY GOES BY THAT I DON'T HEAR HIM ON THE RADIO OR SEE HIS FACE ON TV AND MAGAZINE COVERS.
I'E-KUN, THE MERE SIGHT OF A BUS SURE GETS A FRIGHT OUT OF YOU, HUH?
YOU'RE CLEARLY NOT A FAN.
UHH...
...YOU COULD SAY THAT...
SOMETHING IN YOUR PAST?
I GAVE UP...
...ON SCHOOL.
CLEANUP SPECIALISTS
GOLD CLEANING CENTER

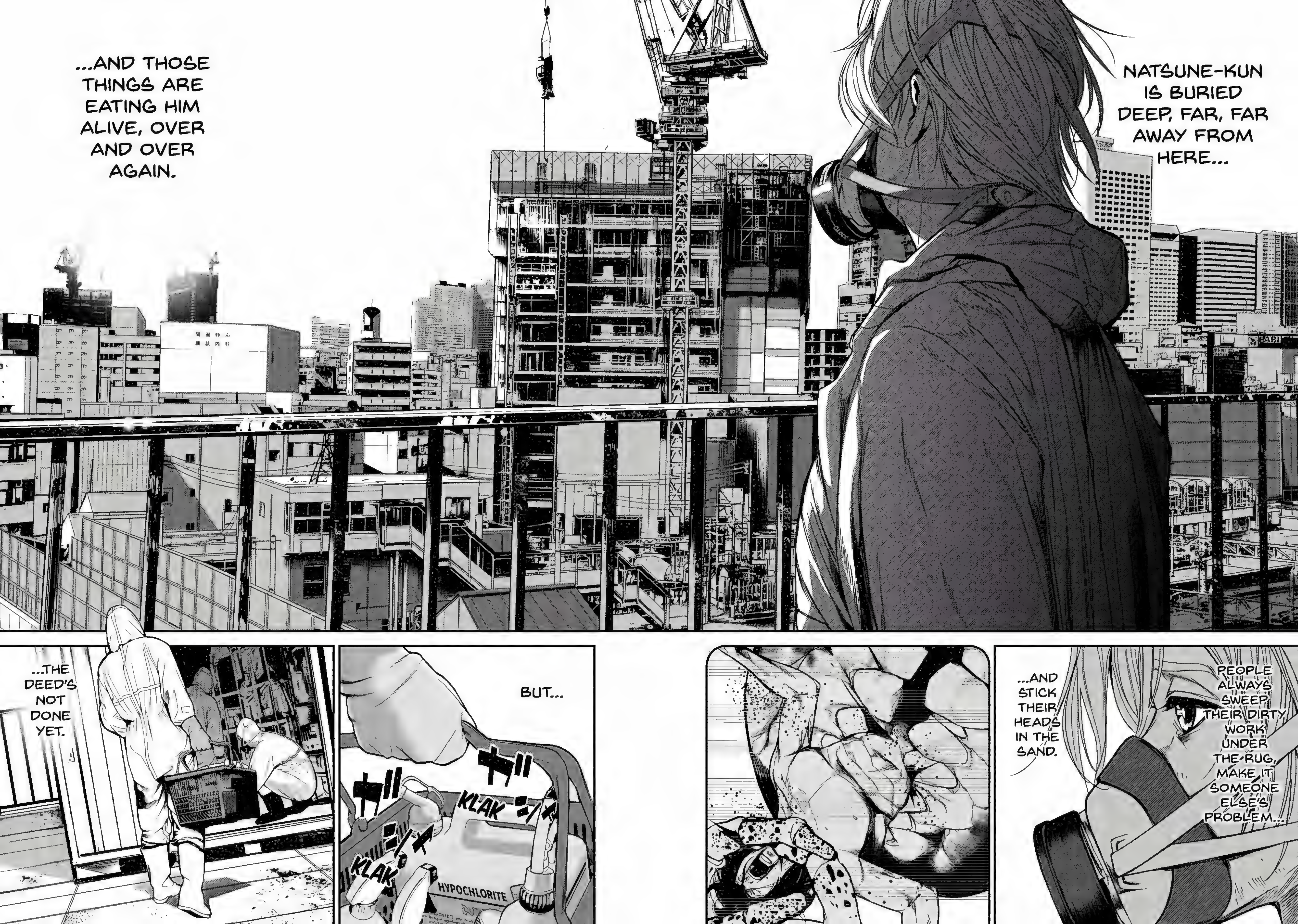

WHEN I GOT HOME, I LEARNED THAT MY WHOLE FAMILY WAS GONE.
SAME WENT FOR KAZU'S FAMILY.
SO WE DECIDED TO MOVE IN TOGETHER.
WE WEREN'T EXACTLY IN A POSITION TO GOOF AROUND AND GO TO HIGH SCHOOL.
WE HAD TO FIND WORK AND SUPPORT OURSELVES.
ZZZIP
LUCKILY, THERE WAS WORK TO BE FOUND...

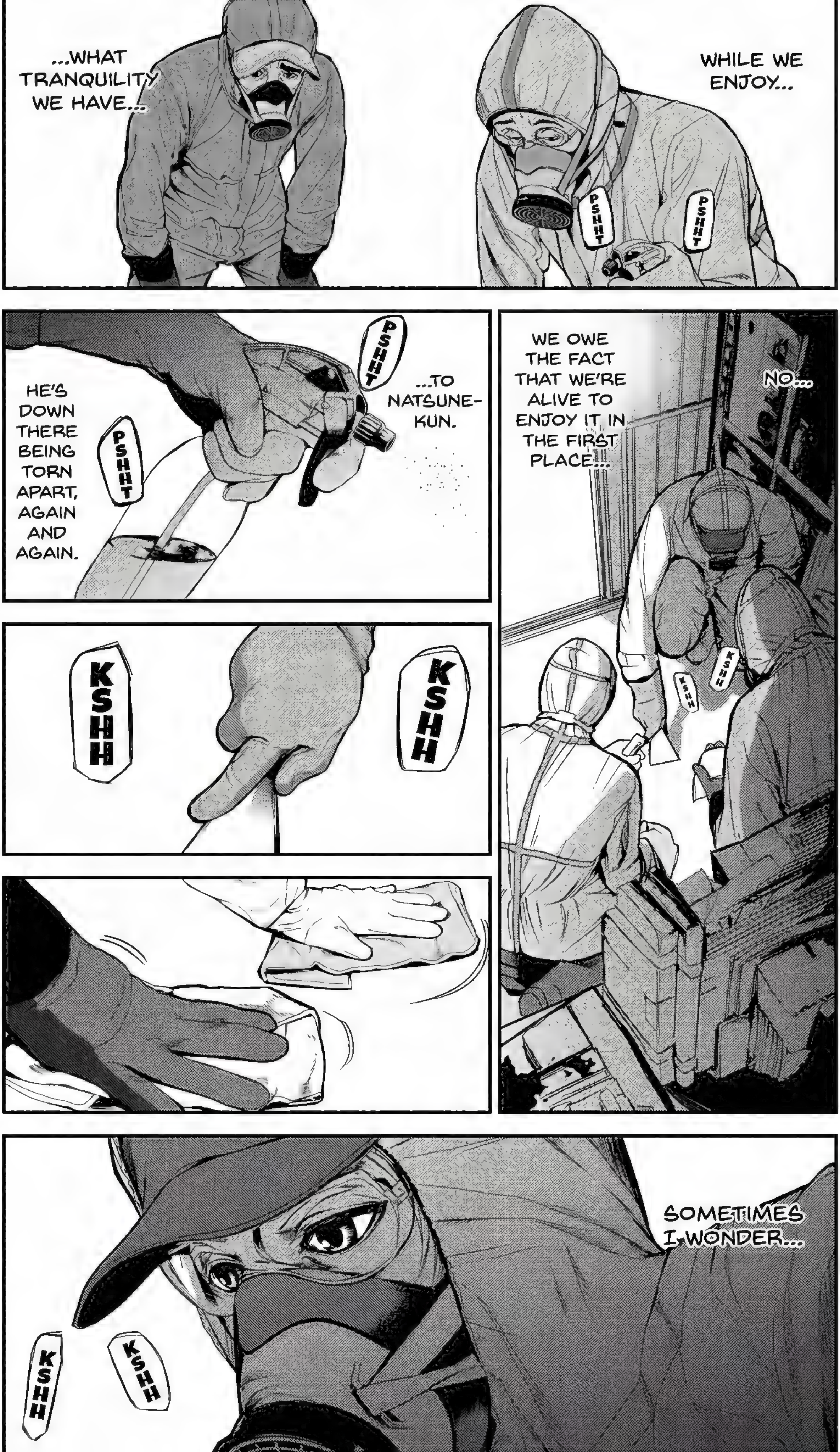

...IN A SPECIALIZED BRANCH OF THE CLEANING INDUSTRY.
THE UNFATHOMABLE SCALE OF THE DISASTER...
...LED TO AN EXPLOSIVE DEMAND FOR CLEANUP.
OKAY, MA'AM. WE'RE OPENING THE DOOR.
NOW, WORK *HAS* SLOWED DOWN A BIT OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS...
I HOPE YOU MAKE IT QUICK!
LABI
...BUT IT'S STILL NOT HARD TO FIND JOBS.

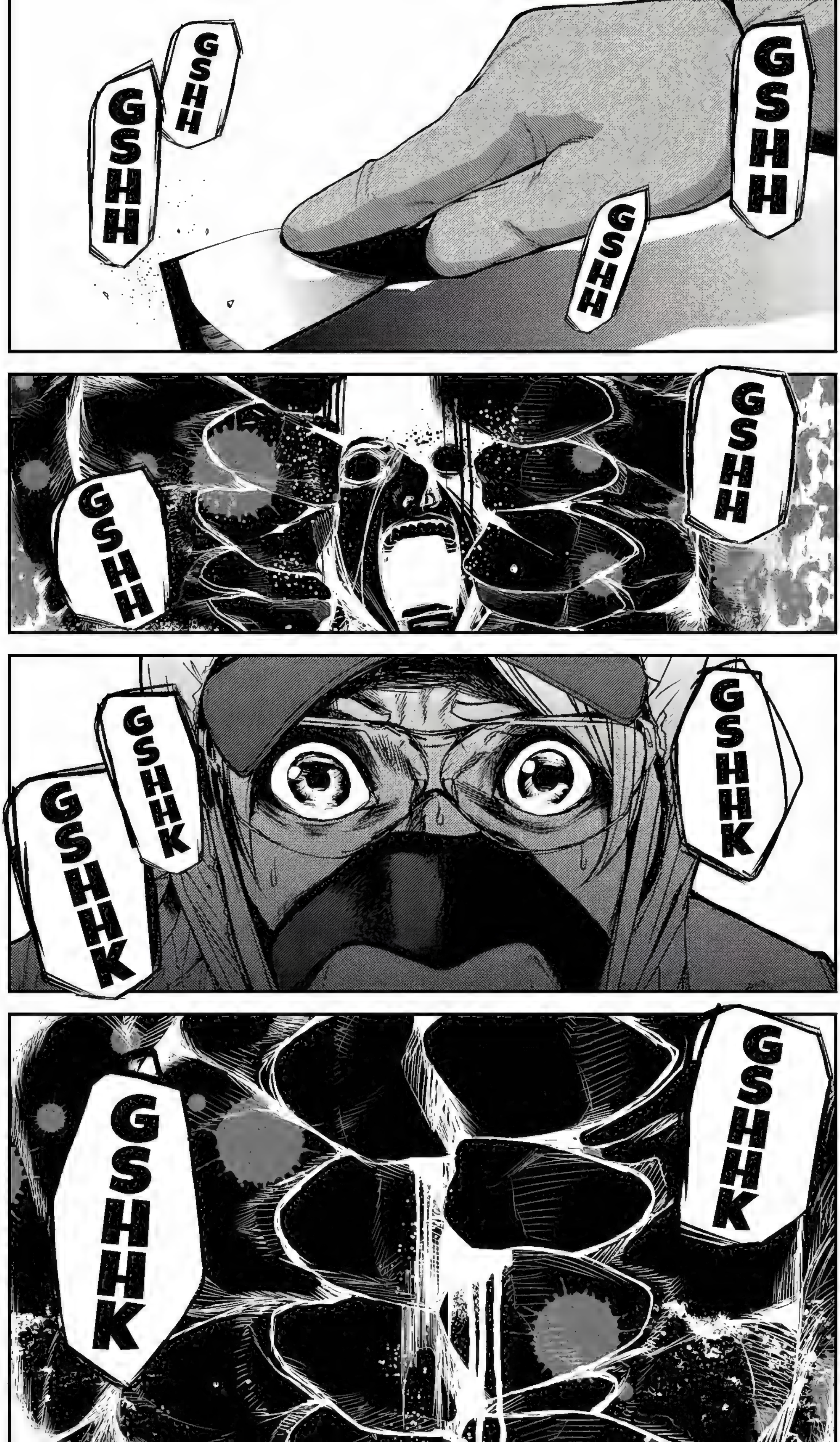

PHEW!
BUZZ
PLENTY OF DEBRIS LEFT BEHIND, MA'AM...
I'VE BEEN LIVING BACK HOME EVER SINCE WHAT HAPPENED THREE YEARS AGO...
...BUT I THOUGHT I'D COME CHECK IN ON THINGS, AND JUST *LOOK* AT ALL THIS!
YOU WOULD *THINK* THE REALTOR OR THE MANAGEMENT COMPANY WOULD *DO* SOMETHING ABOUT THIS!
WHO IN THEIR RIGHT MIND WOULD RENT THIS PLACE NOW?

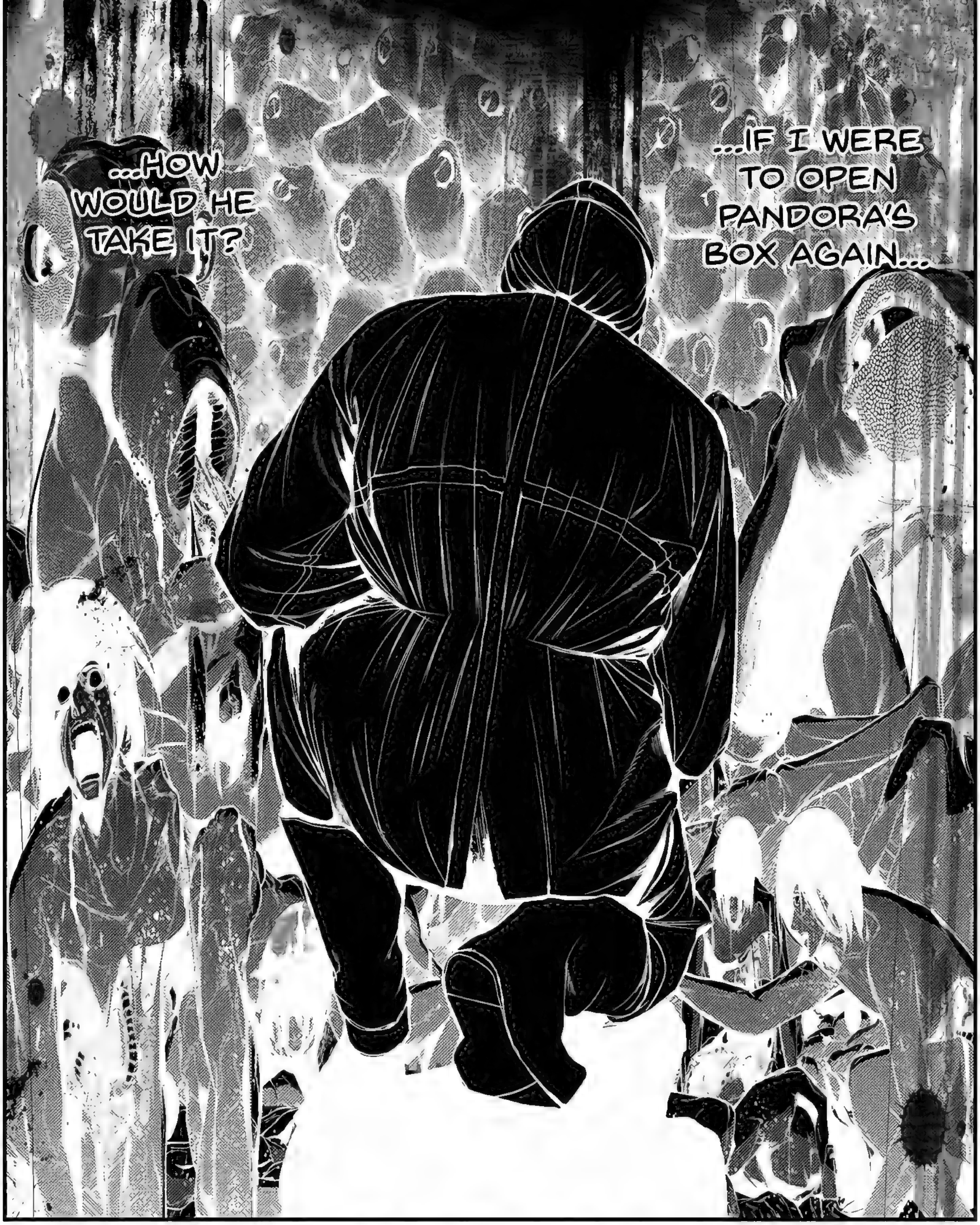

DO YOU THINK THE DECEASED RENTED THIS UNIT, MA'AM?
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?!
OH, MAN... I THINK HIS BODILY FLUIDS HAVE SEEPED THROUGH THE CRACKS.
THE POLICE SAID HIS WHEREABOUTS WERE UNKNOWN...
WHAT...? ARE YOU *KIDDING* ME?
THAT'S *FILTHY!*

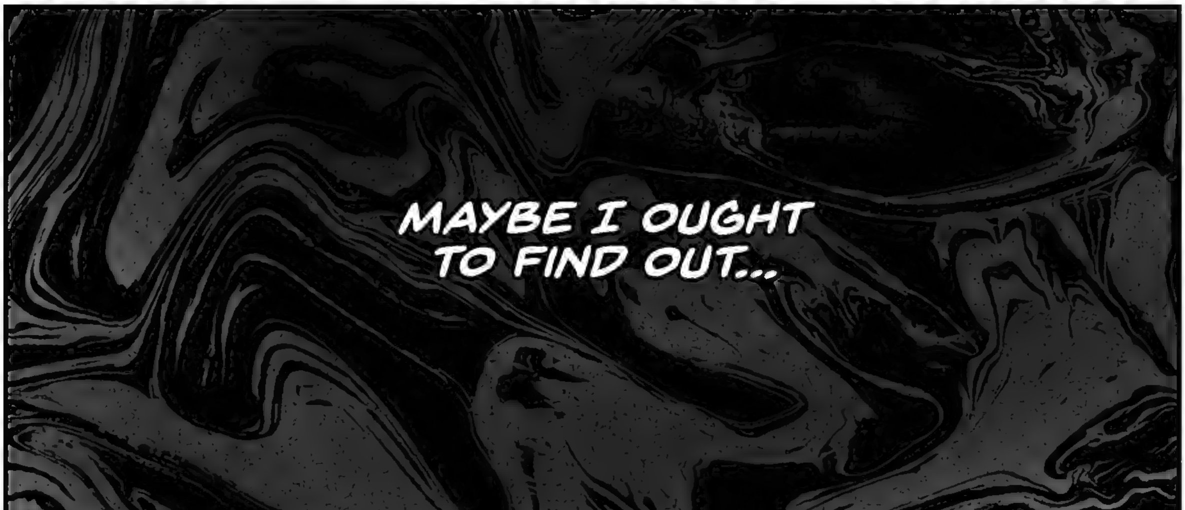

MAYBE I OUGHT TO WRITE THIS SHED OFF.
IT'S *FAR* TOO DISGUSTING FOR ANYONE TO *USE* NOW...
GREAT. JUST GREAT.
I'LL GO FETCH US SOME ANTISEPTIC.
'PRECIATE IT, I'E-KUN.

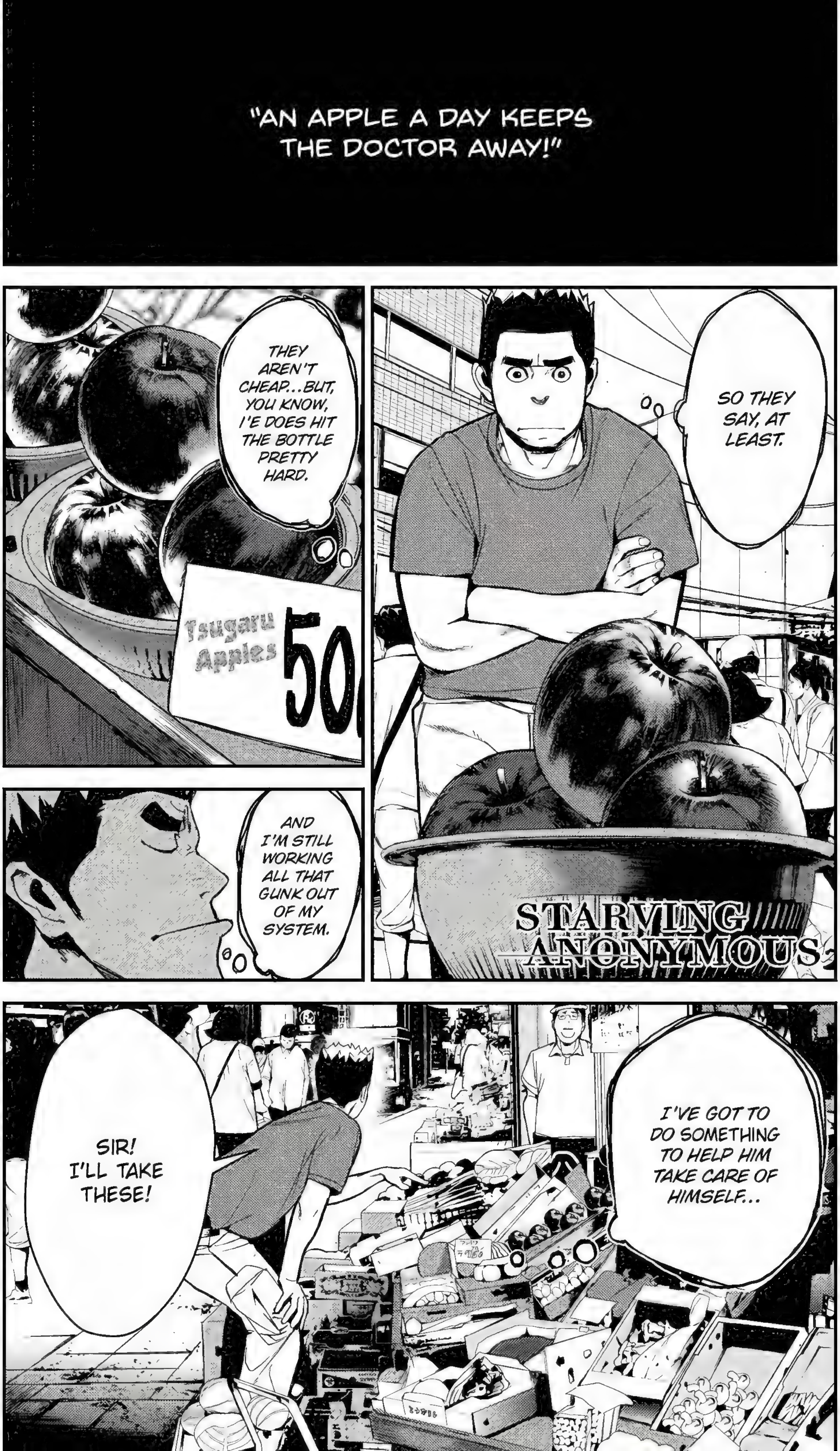

NATSUNE-KUN IS BURIED DEEP, FAR, FAR AWAY FROM HERE...
...AND THOSE THINGS ARE EATING HIM ALIVE, OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
PEOPLE ALWAYS SWEEP THEIR DIRTY WORK UNDER THE RUG, MAKE IT SOMEONE ELSE'S PROBLEM...
...AND STICK THEIR HEADS IN THE SAND.
BUT...
KLAK
KLAK
HYPOCHLORITE
...THE DEED'S NOT DONE YET.


WHILE WE ENJOY...
...WHAT TRANQUILITY WE HAVE...
PSHHT
PSHHT
NO...
WE OWE THE FACT THAT WE'RE ALIVE TO ENJOY IT IN THE FIRST PLACE...
KSHH
KSHH
...TO NATSUNE-KUN.
PSHHT
PSHHT
HE'S DOWN THERE BEING TORN APART, AGAIN AND AGAIN.
KSHH
KSHH
SOMETIMES I WONDER...
KSHH
KSHH

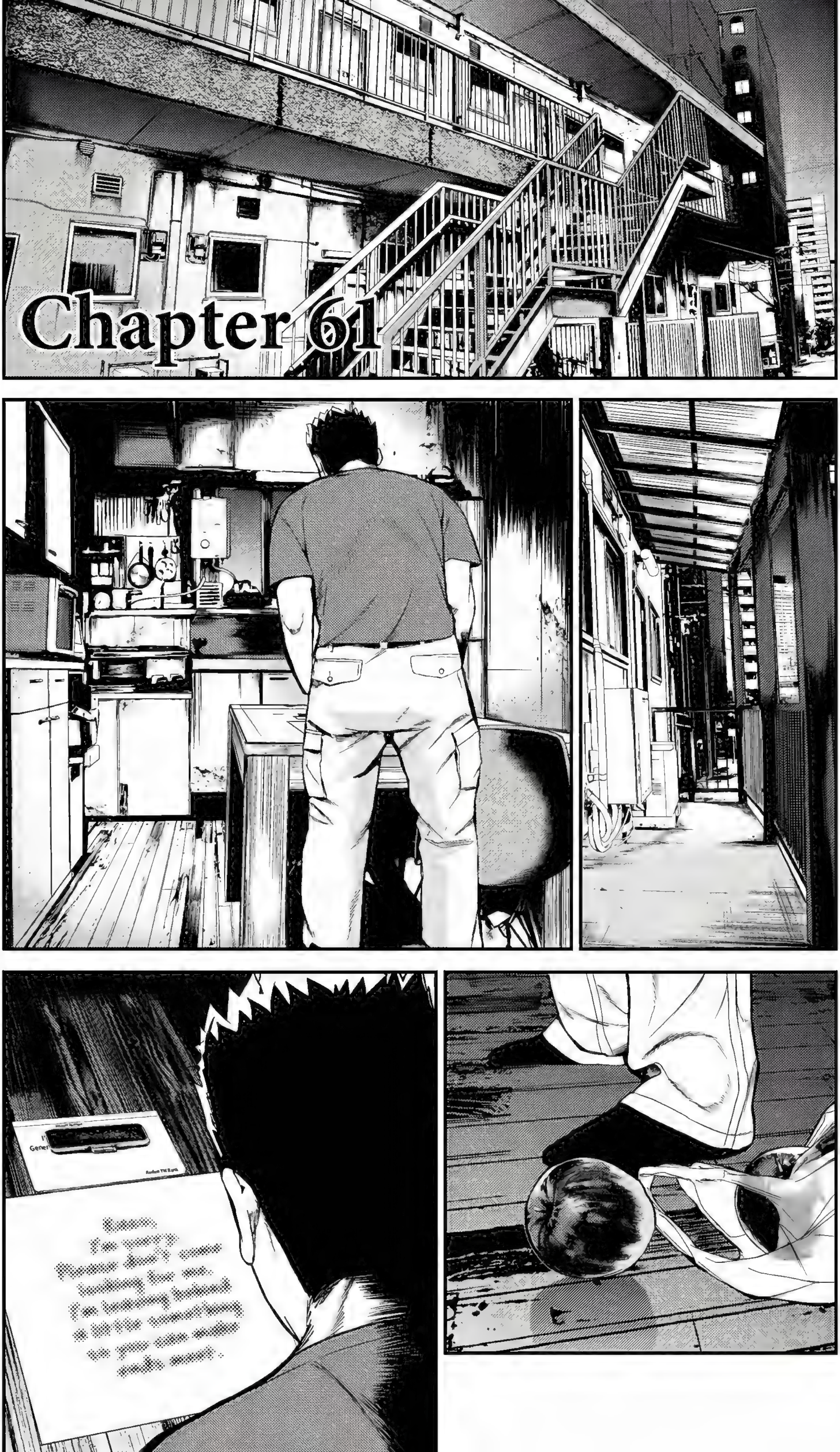

GSHH
GSHH
GSHH
GSHH
GSHH
GSHH
GSHHK
GSHHK
GSHHK
GSHHK
GSHHK

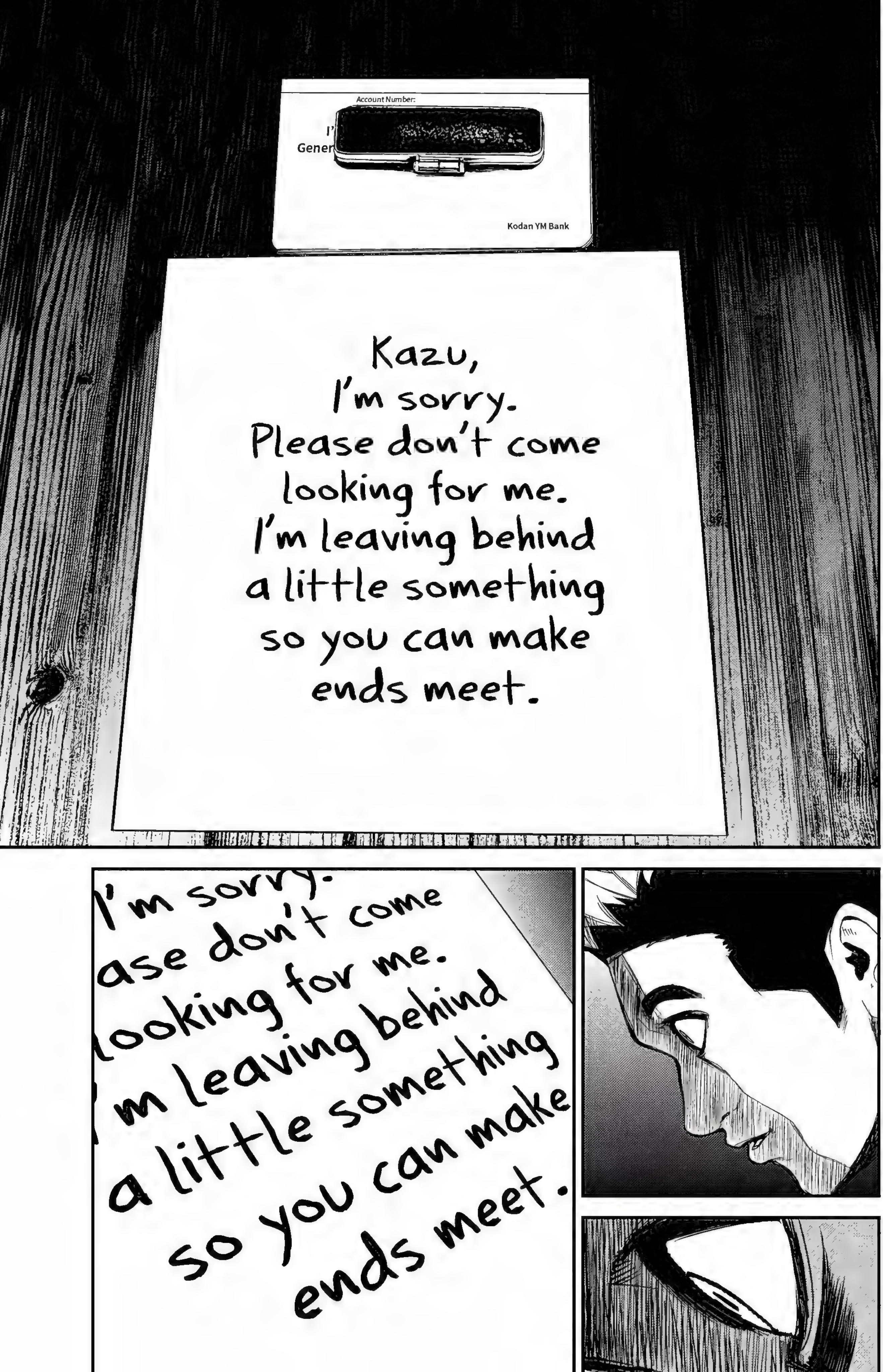

...IF I WERE TO OPEN PANDORA'S BOX AGAIN...
...HOW WOULD HE TAKE IT?

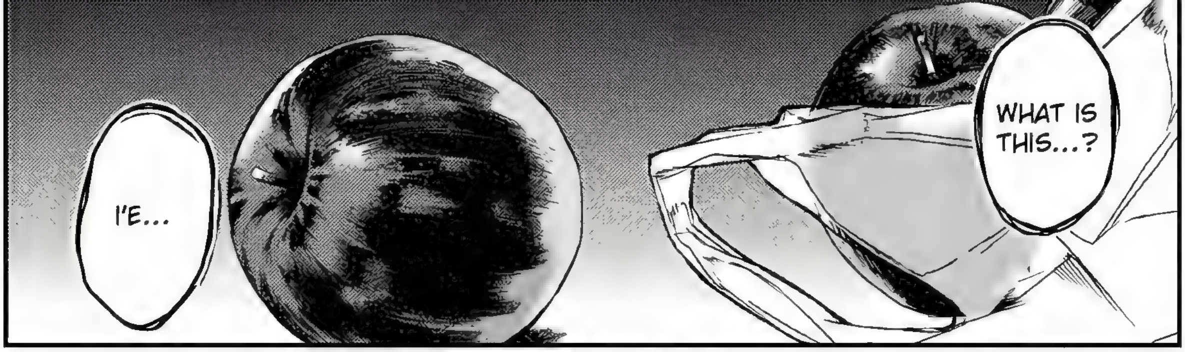

MAYBE I OUGHT TO FIND OUT...

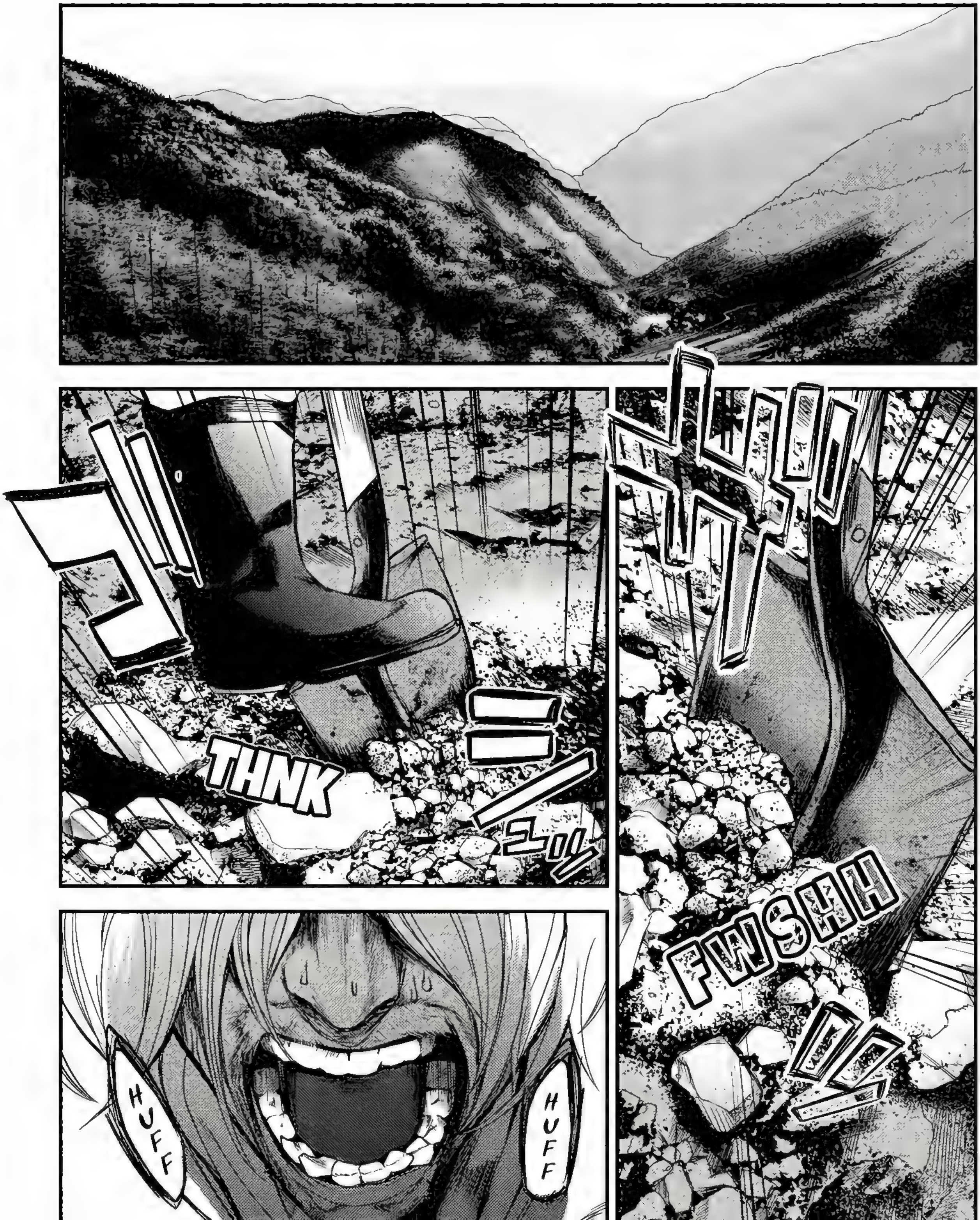

"AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY!"
SO THEY SAY, AT LEAST.
THEY AREN'T CHEAP...BUT, YOU KNOW, I'E DOES HIT THE BOTTLE PRETTY HARD.
Tsugaru Apples
50
AND I'M STILL WORKING ALL THAT GUNK OUT OF MY SYSTEM.
STARVING ANONYMOUS 2
I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP HIM TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF...
SIR! I'LL TAKE THESE!

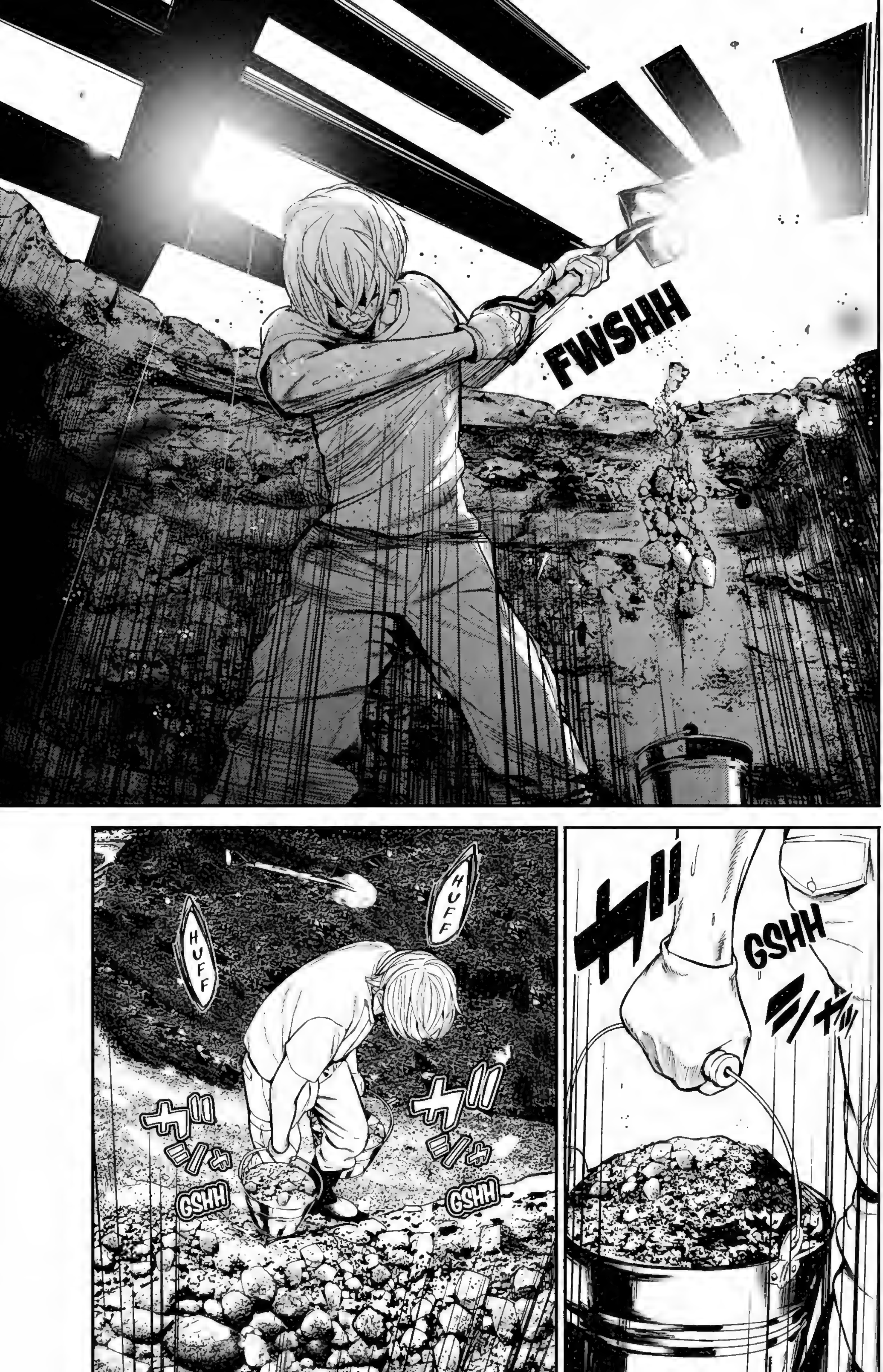
Chapter 61

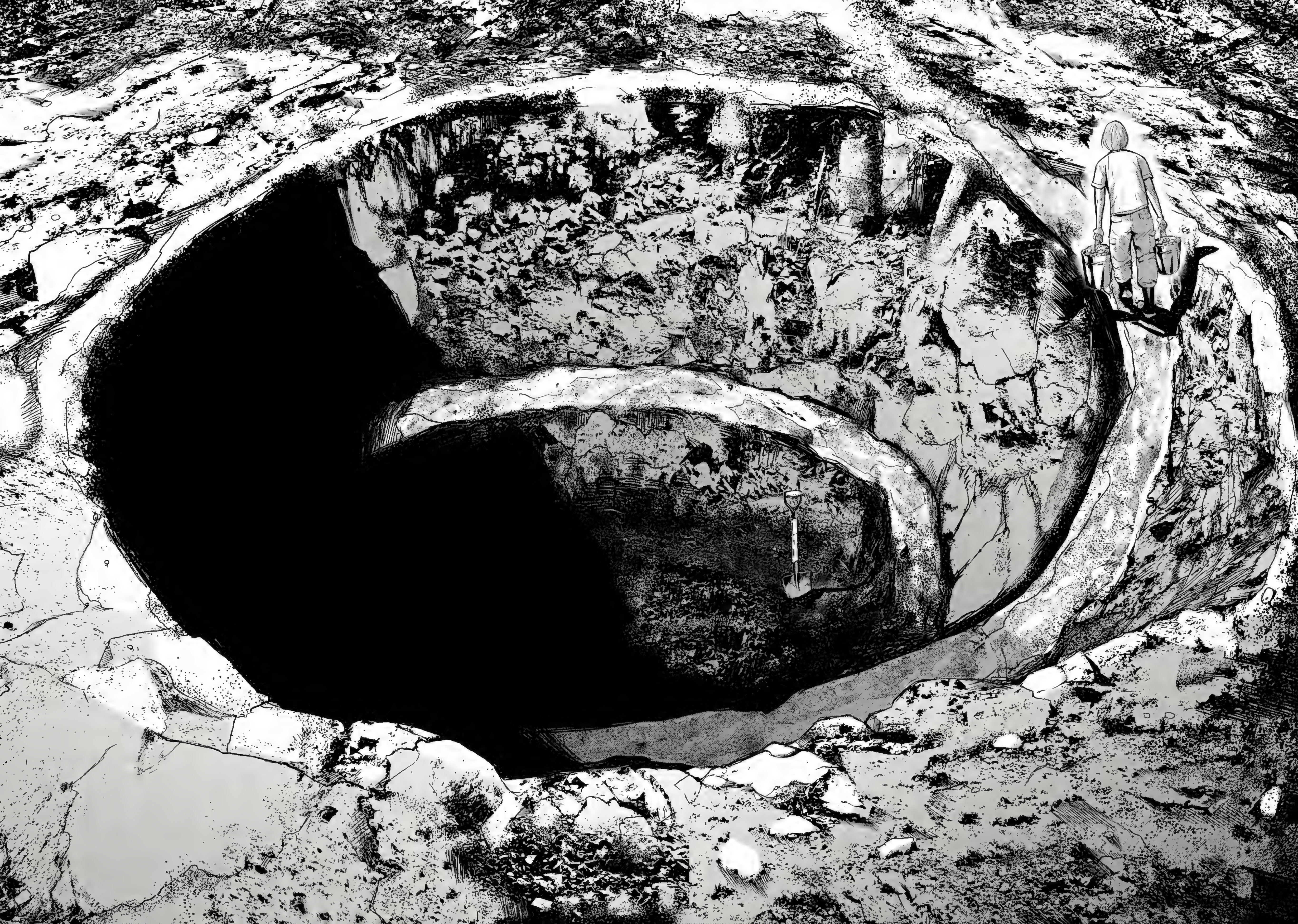


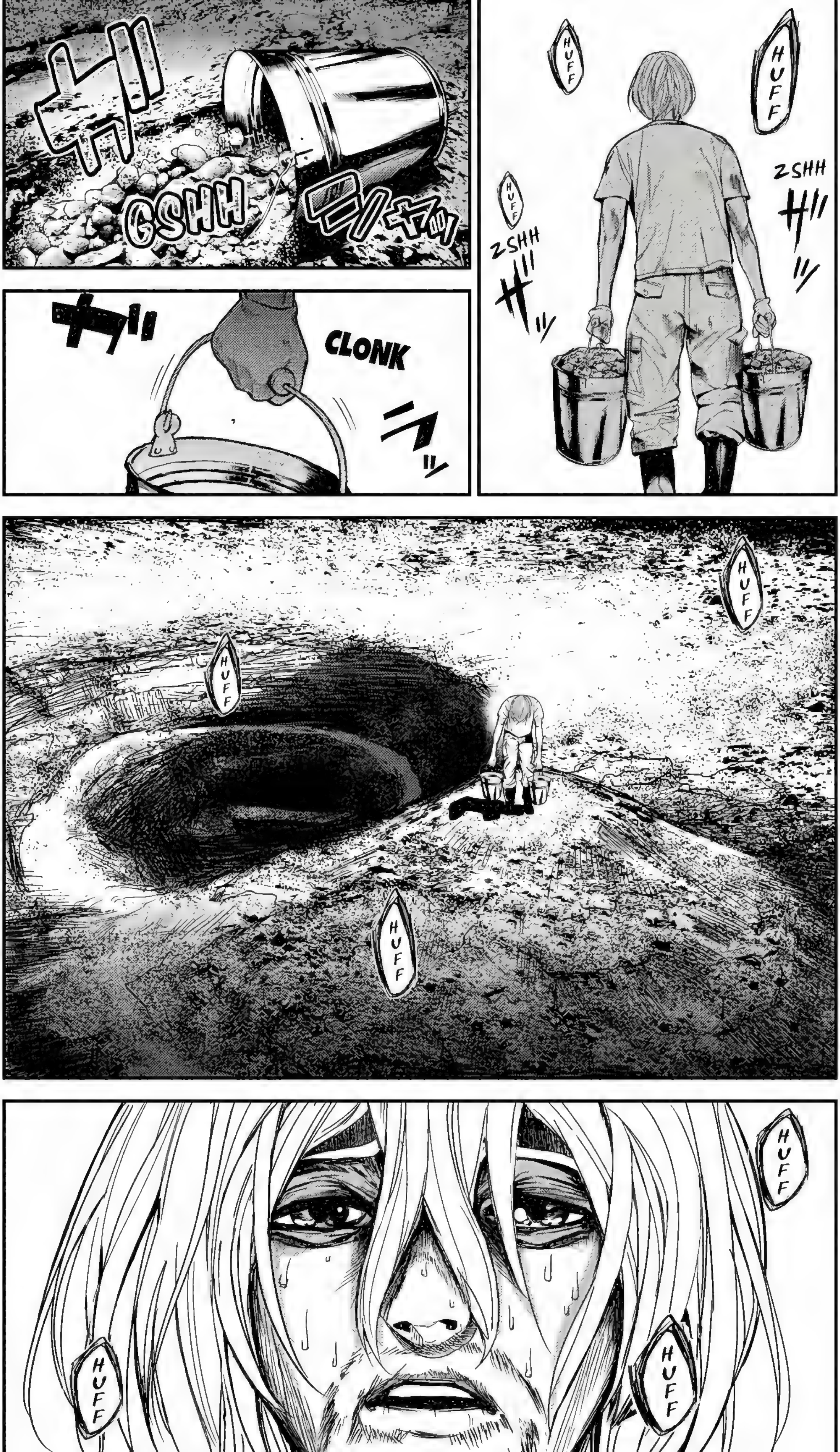

Account Number:
Kodan YM Bank
Kazu,
I'm sorry.
Please don't come
looking for me.
I'm leaving behind
a little something
so you can make
ends meet.
I'm sorry.
ase don't come
looking for me.
m leaving behind
a little something
so you can make
ends meet.

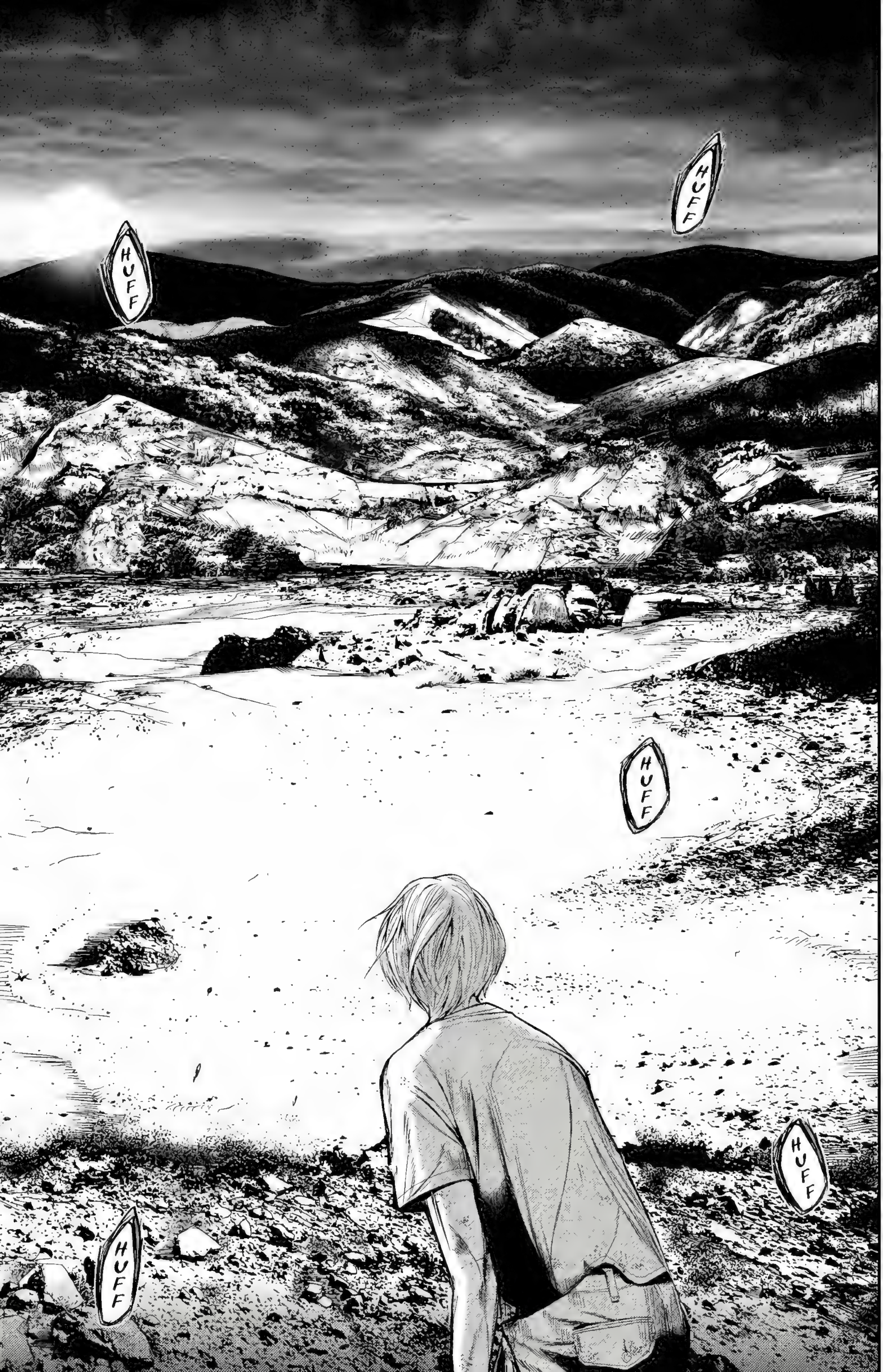

WHAT IS THIS...?
I'E...

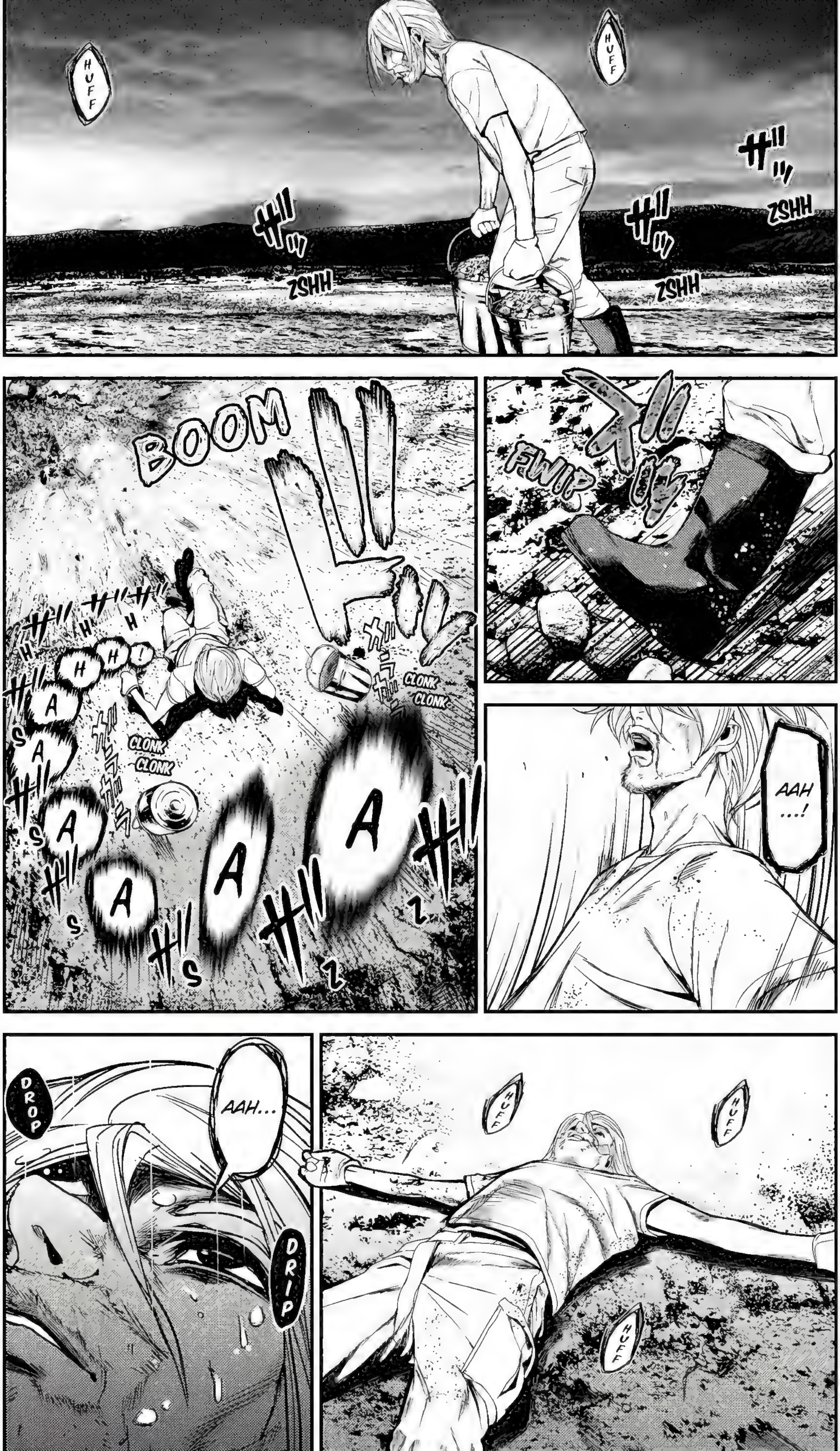

FWSHH
THNK
HUFF
HUFF

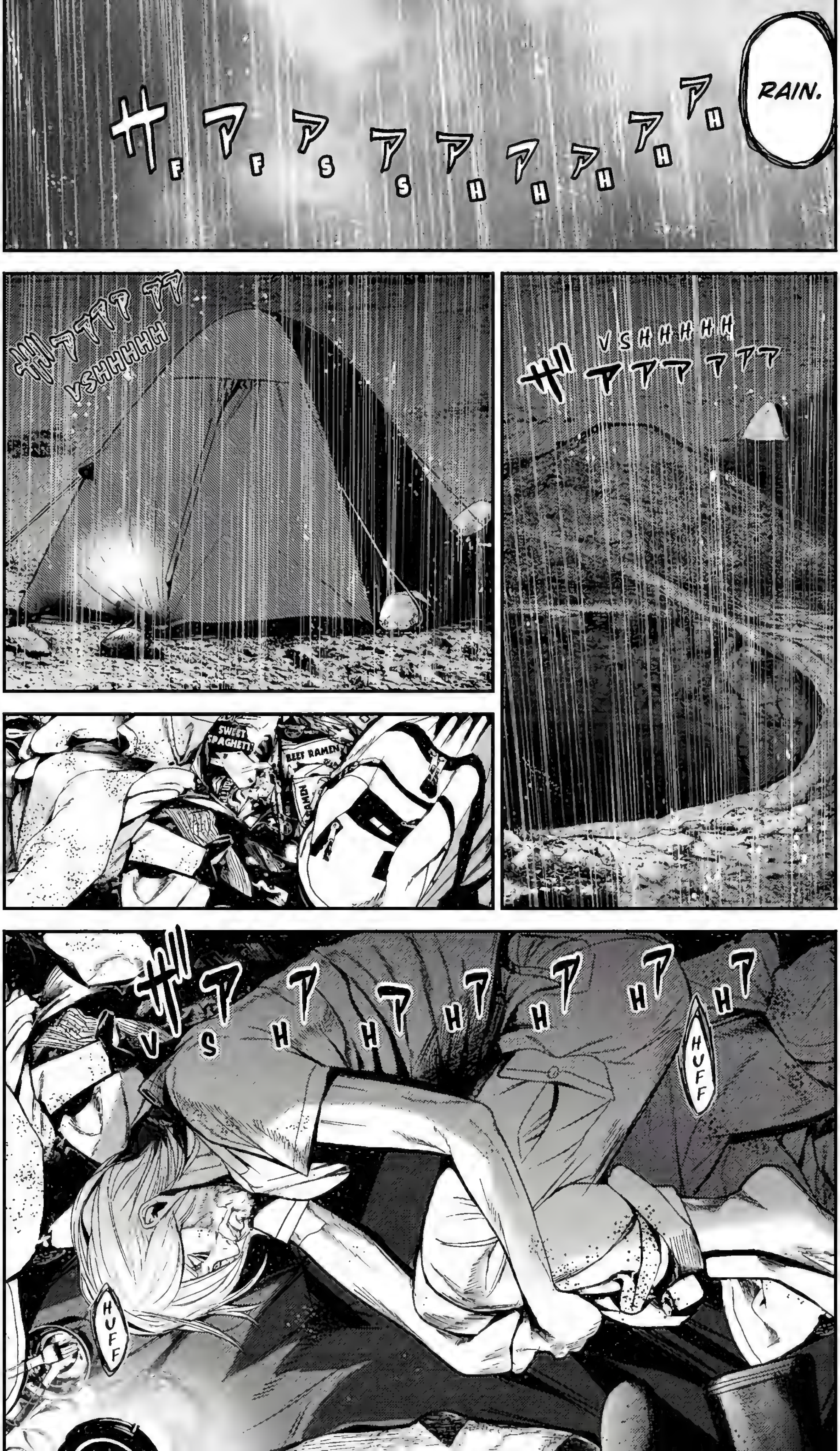

FWSHH
ガッ
GSHH
ジャッ
HUFF
HUFF
ガッ
ジャッ
GSHH
ガッ
ジャッ
GSHH

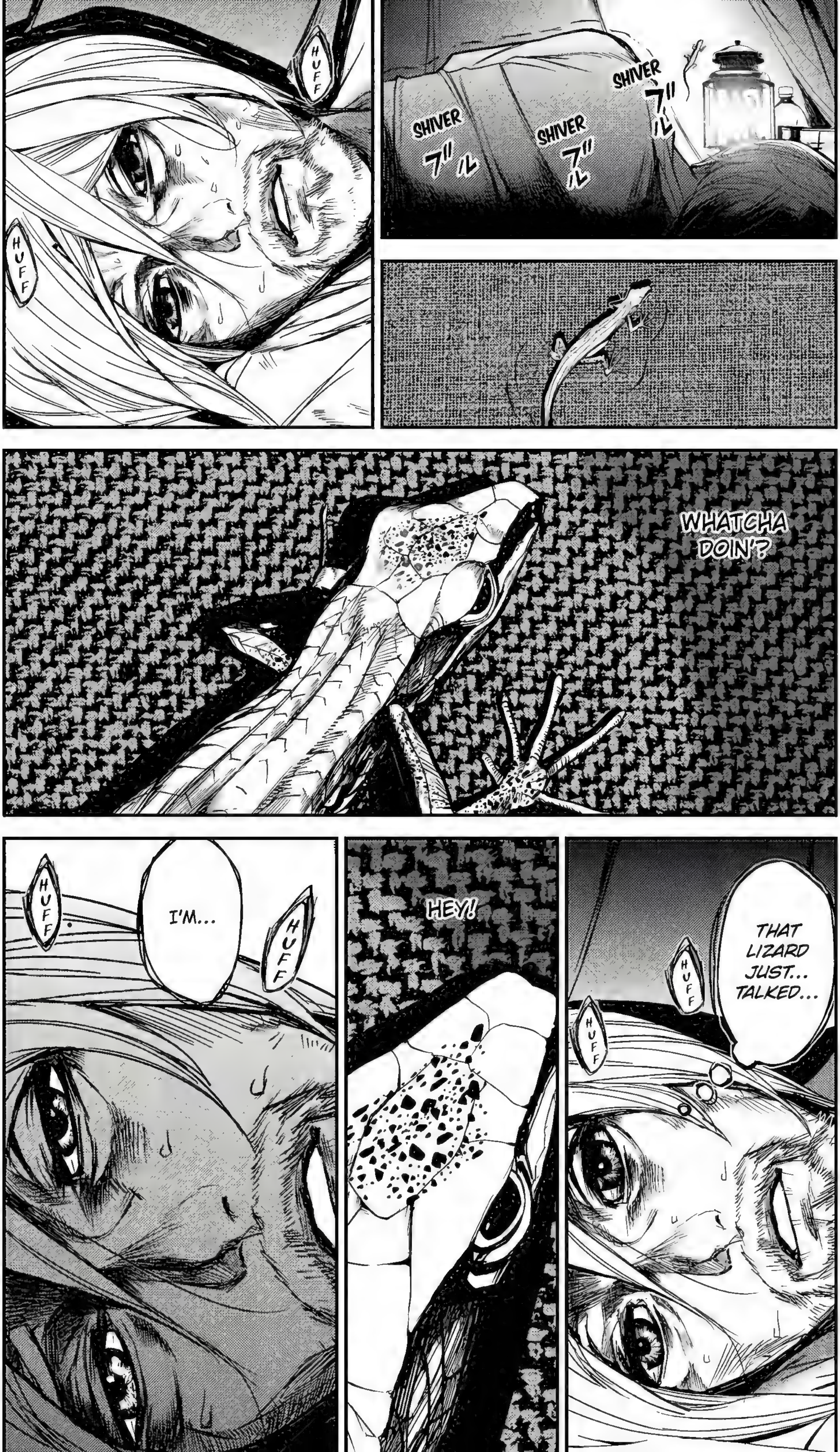


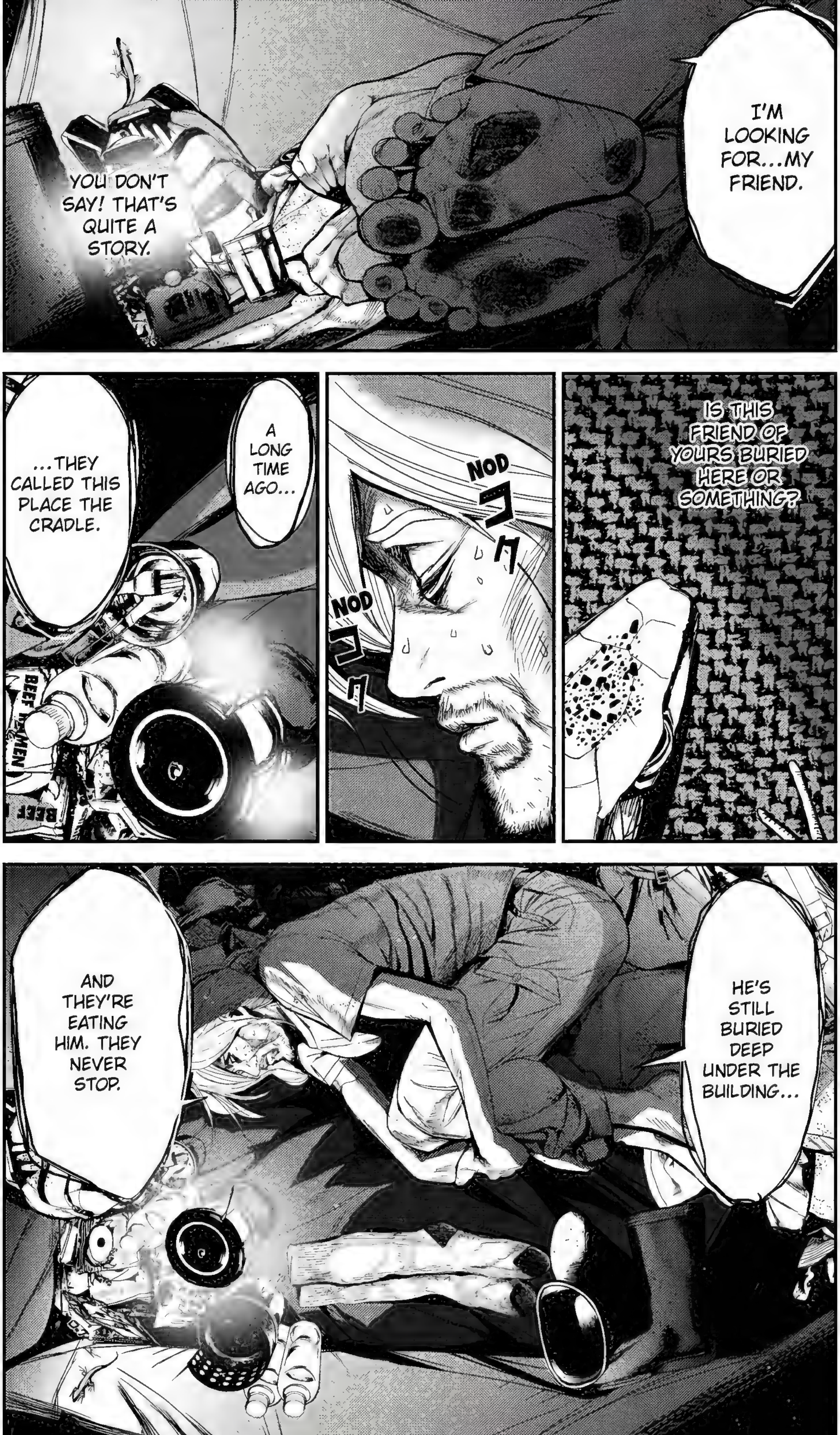

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
ZSHH
ZSHH
GSHH
CLONK
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

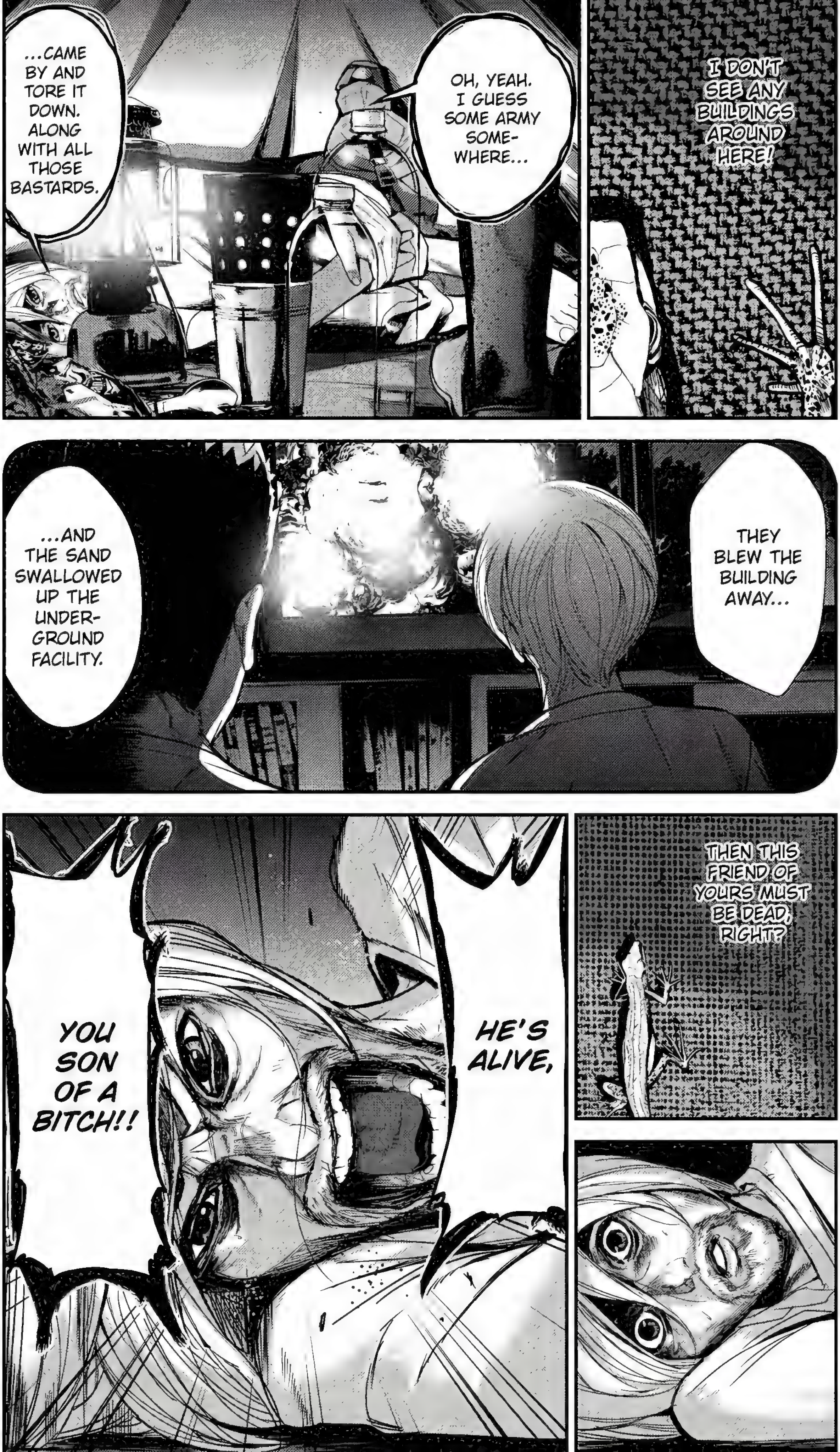

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

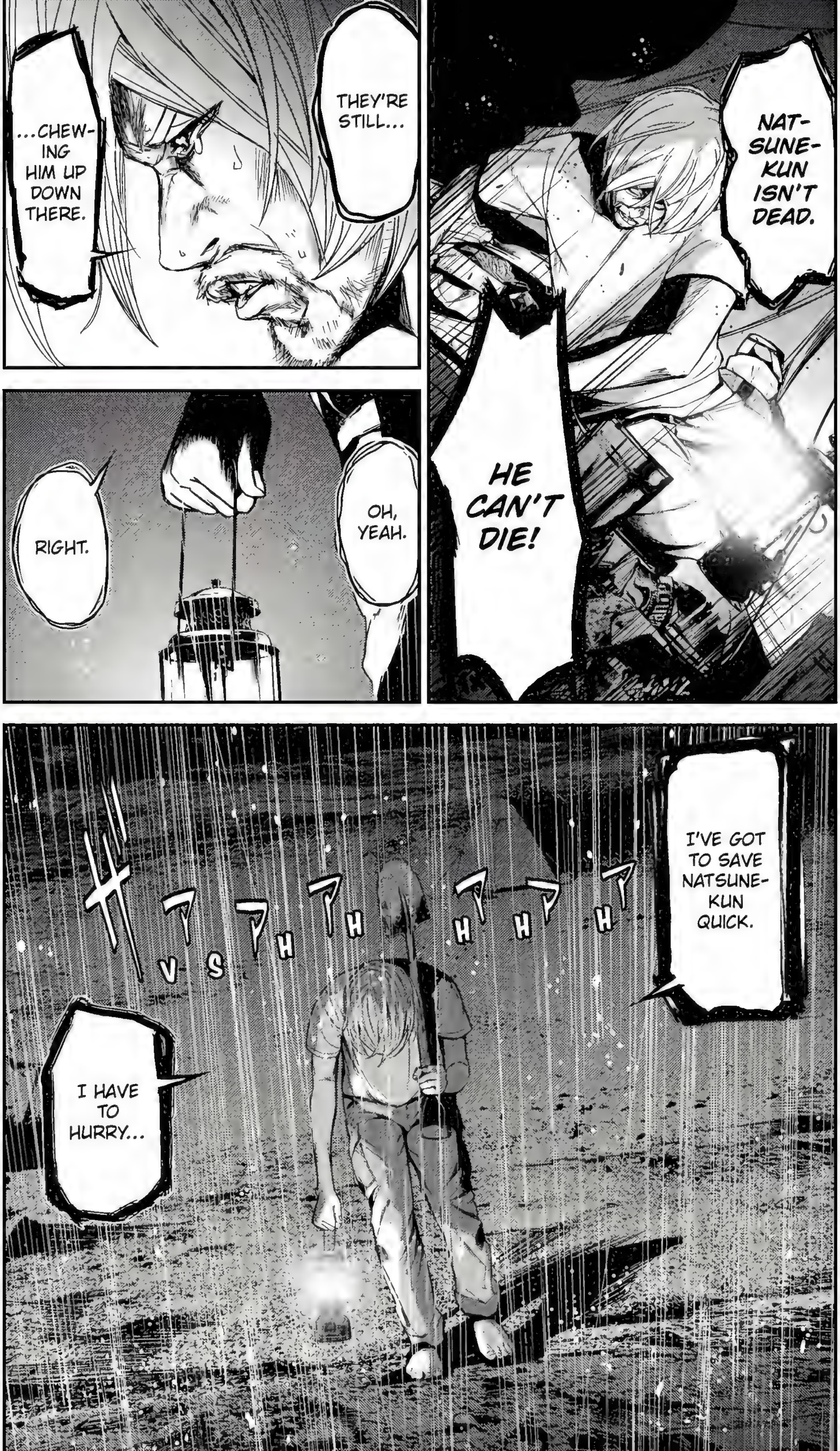

HUFF
HUFF
ザッ
ZSHH
ザッ
ZSHH
ザッ
ZSHH
ズッ
FWIP
BOOM
CLONK
CLONK
CLONK
CLONK
HHH!
HAAAAAA
SSSS
ZZ
AAH...!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
AAH...
DROP
DRIP

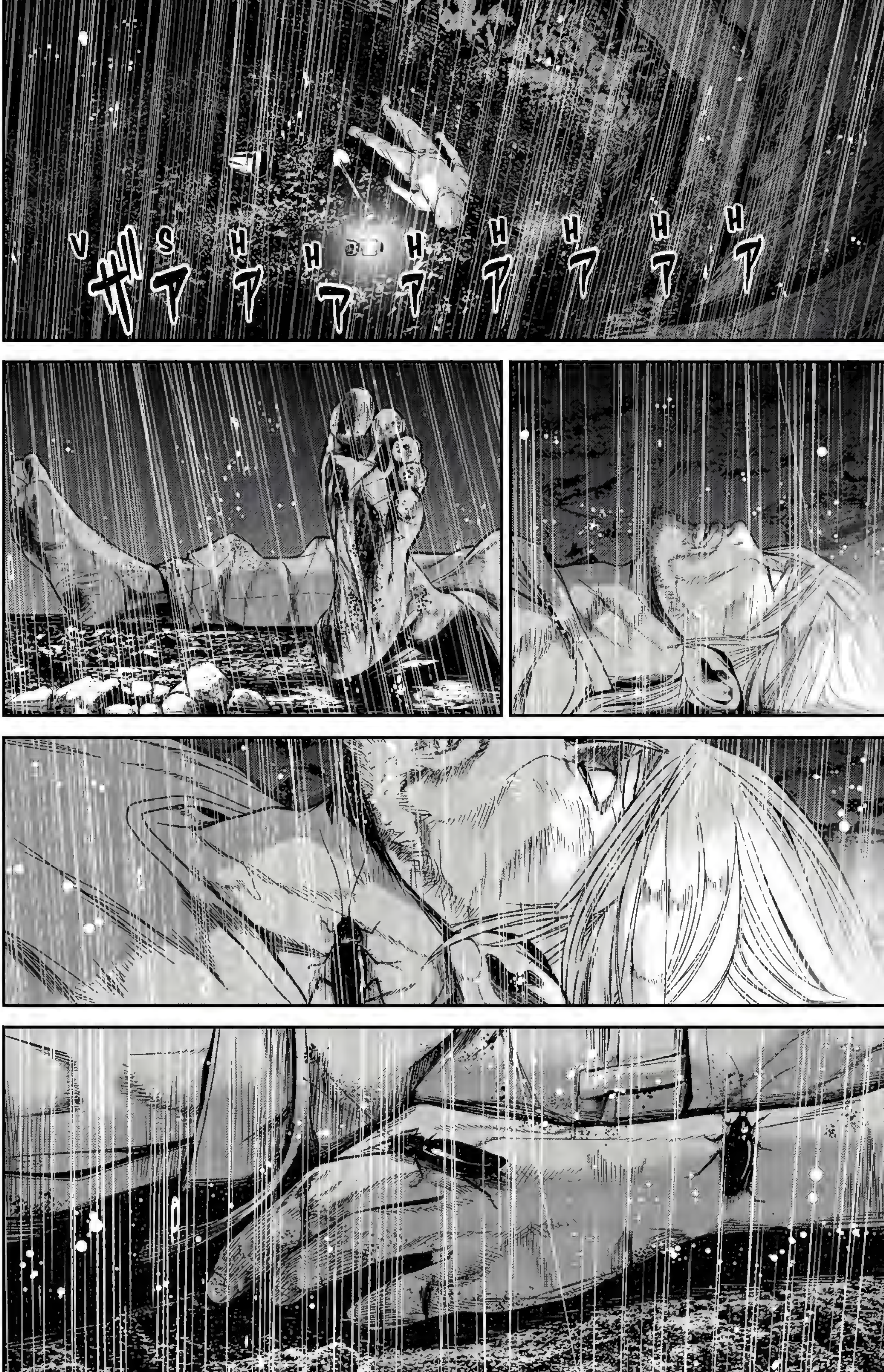

RAIN.
サァァァァァァァァ
FFSSHHHHH
ザァァァァァァ
VSHHHHHH
ザァァァァ ァァ
VSHHHHHH
SWEET SPAGHETTI
BEEF RAMEN
RAMEN
ザァァァァァァァ
VSHHHHHH
HUFF
HUFF

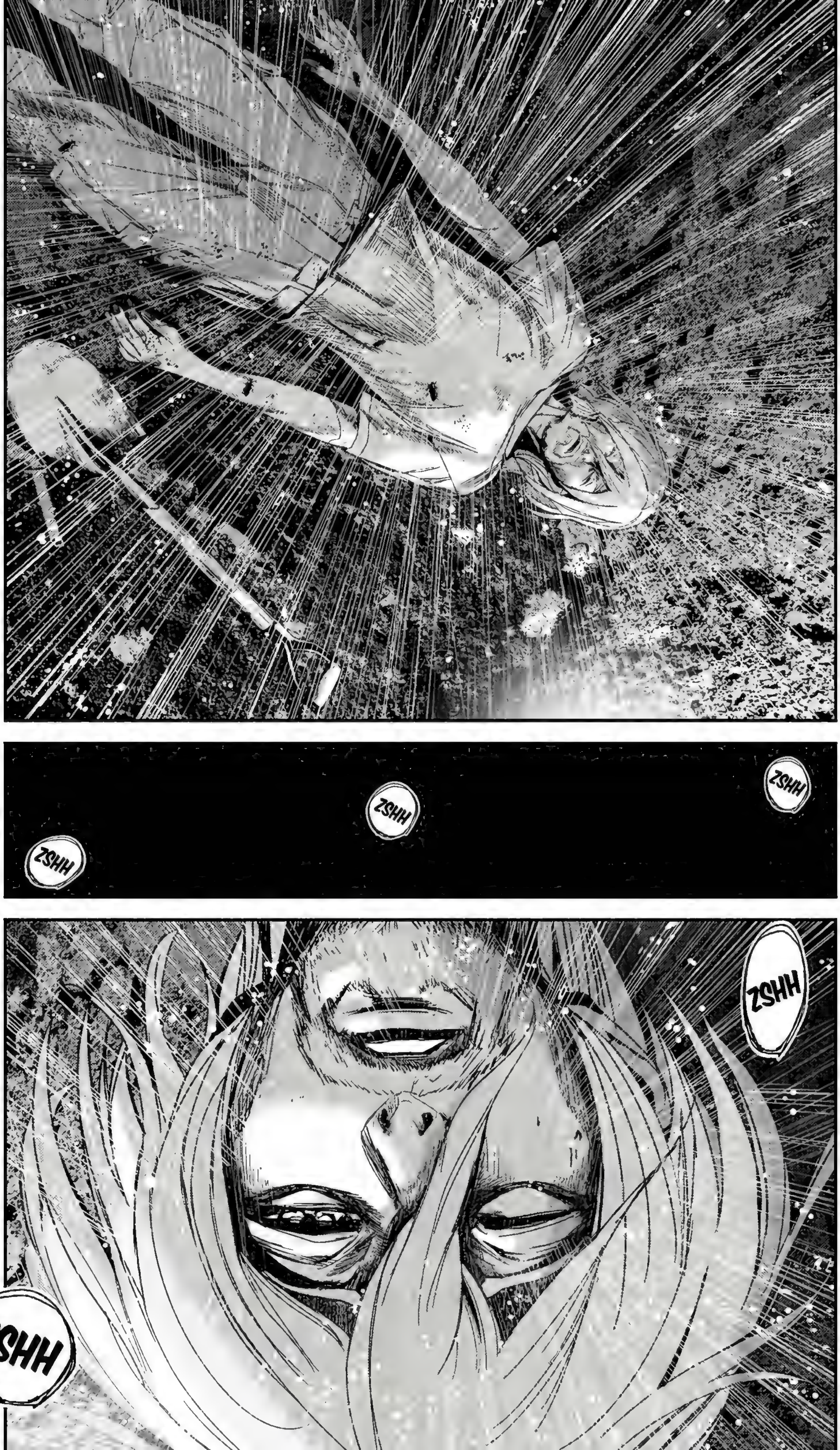

SHIVER ブル
SHIVER ブル
SHIVER ブル
HUFF
HUFF
WHATCHA DOIN'?
THAT LIZARD JUST... TALKED...
HUFF
HUFF
HEY!
I'M...
HUFF
HUFF

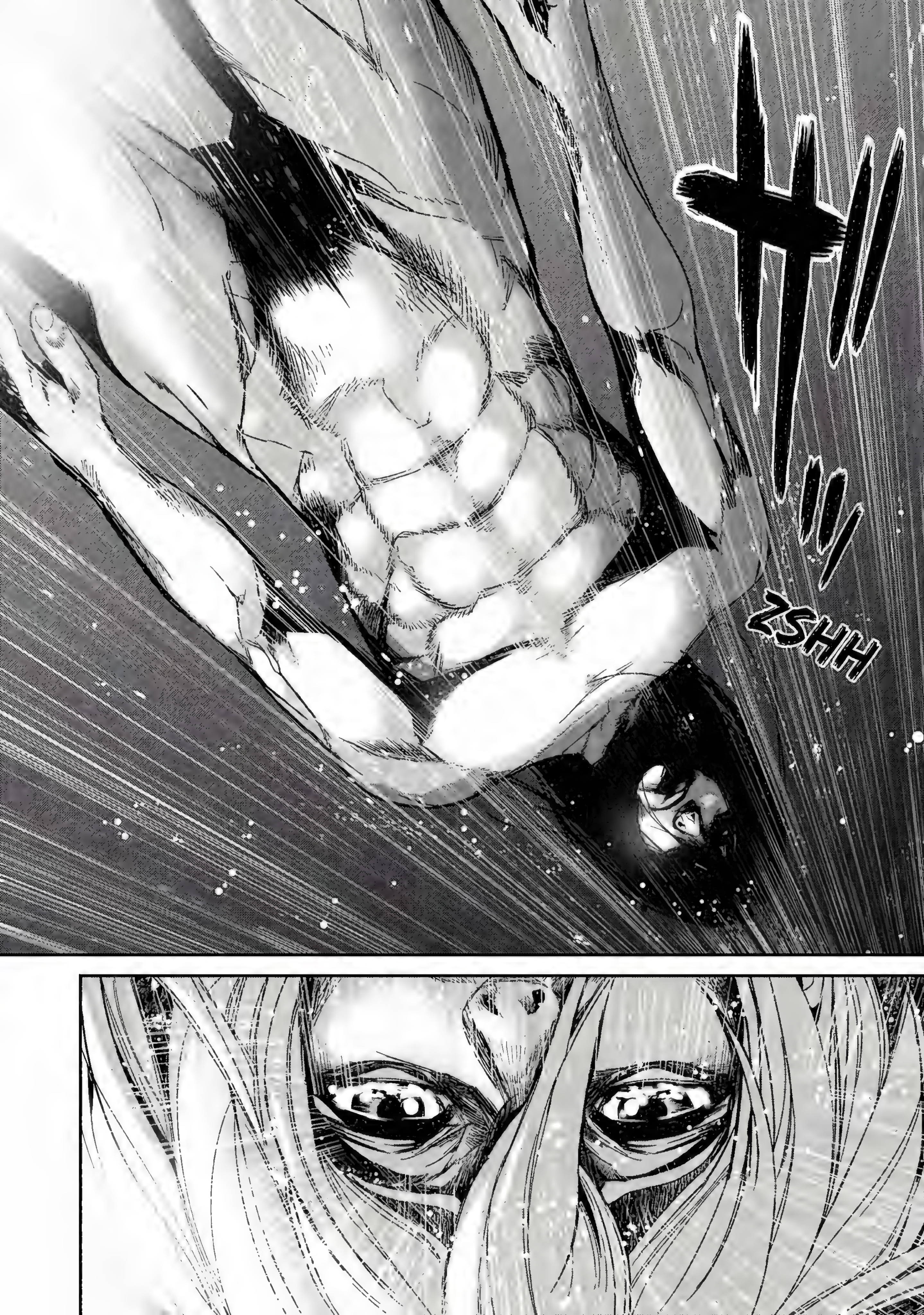

I'M LOOKING FOR...MY FRIEND.
YOU DON'T SAY! THAT'S QUITE A STORY.
IS THIS FRIEND OF YOURS BURIED HERE OR SOMETHING?
NOD
NOD
A LONG TIME AGO...
...THEY CALLED THIS PLACE THE CRADLE.
BEEF RAMEN
HE'S STILL BURIED DEEP UNDER THE BUILDING...
AND THEY'RE EATING HIM. THEY NEVER STOP.

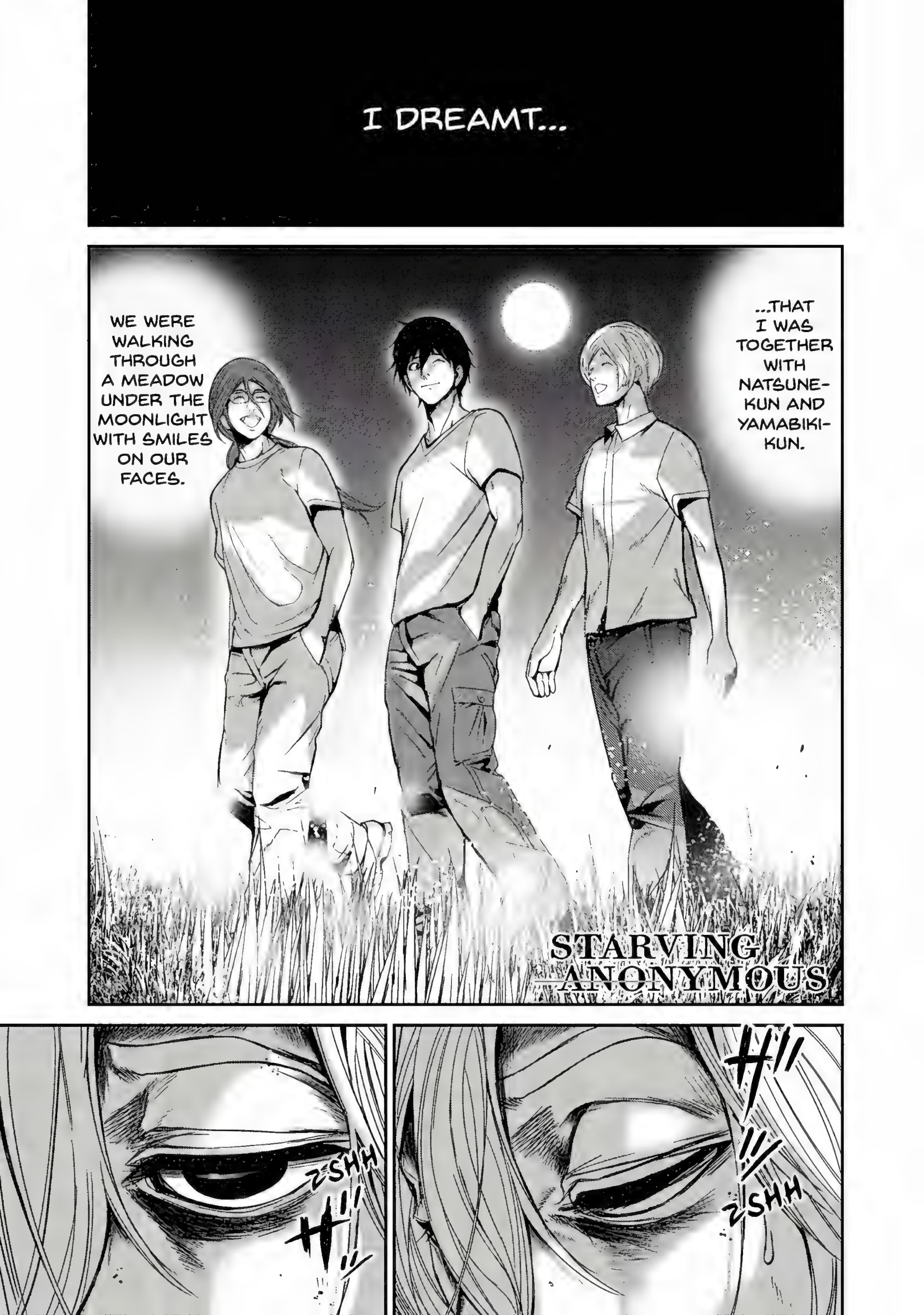

I DON'T SEE ANY BUILDINGS AROUND HERE!
OH, YEAH. I GUESS SOME ARMY SOME-WHERE...
...CAME BY AND TORE IT DOWN. ALONG WITH ALL THOSE BASTARDS.
THEY BLEW THE BUILDING AWAY...
...AND THE SAND SWALLOWED UP THE UNDER-GROUND FACILITY.
THEN THIS FRIEND OF YOURS MUST BE DEAD, RIGHT?
HE'S ALIVE,
YOU SON OF A BITCH!!

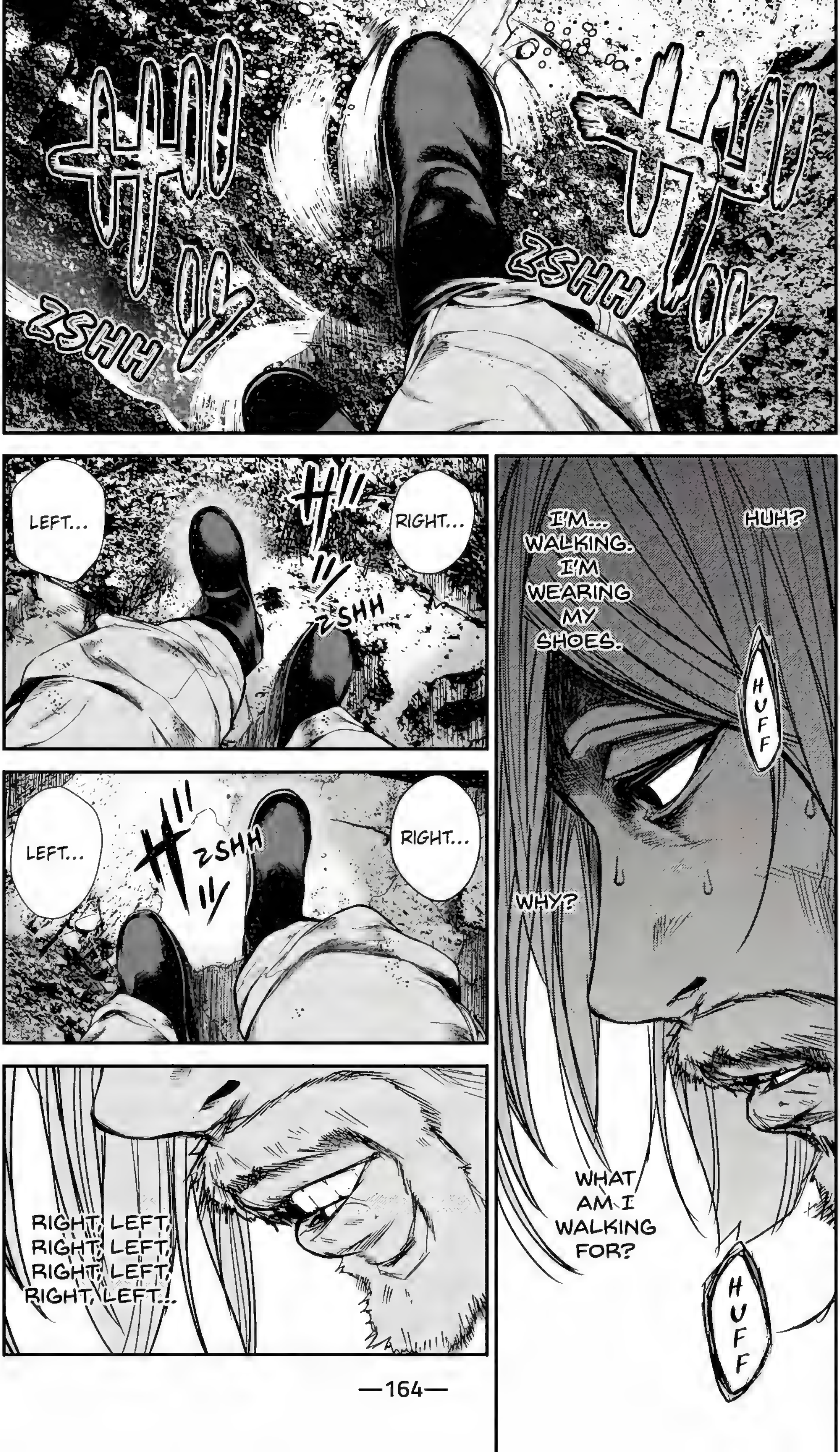

NATSUNE-KUN ISN'T DEAD.
HE CAN'T DIE!
THEY'RE STILL...
...CHEWING HIM UP DOWN THERE.
OH, YEAH.
RIGHT.
I'VE GOT TO SAVE NATSUNE-KUN QUICK.
ハァアアアア
V S H H H H
I HAVE TO HURRY...

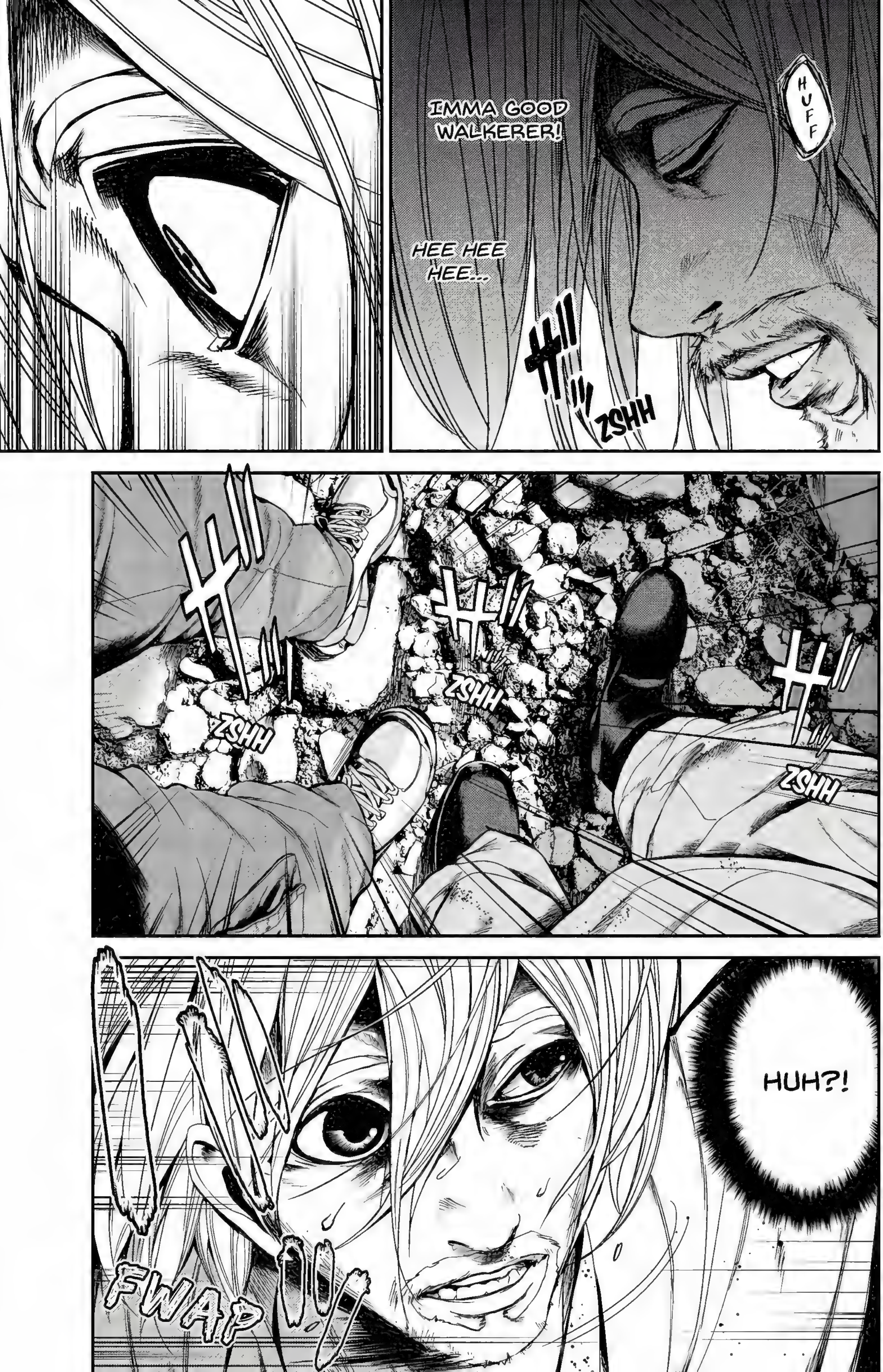

ザアアアアアアアア
VSHHHHHHH

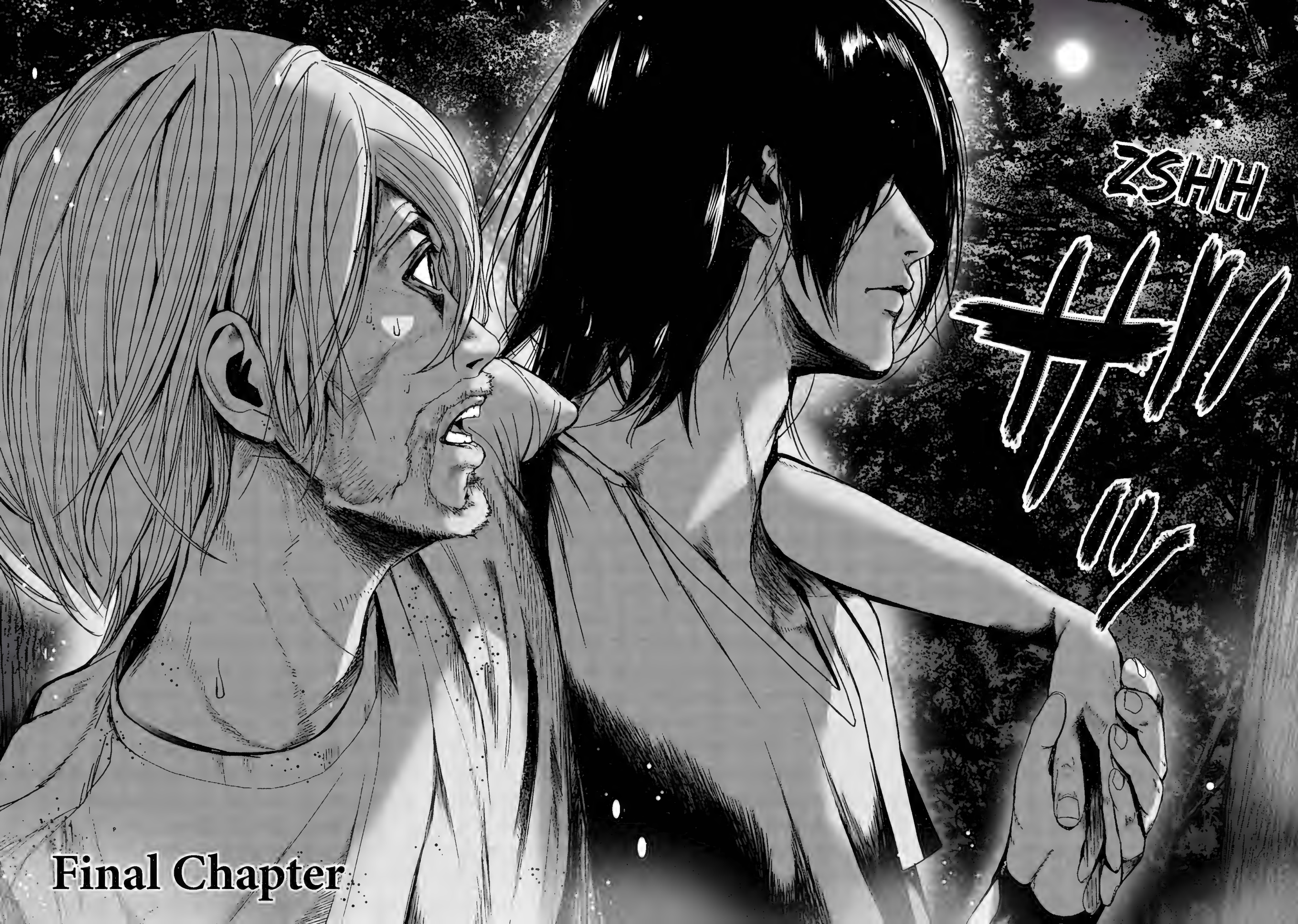

ZSHH
ZSHH
ZSHH
ZSHH
ZSHH


ZSHH

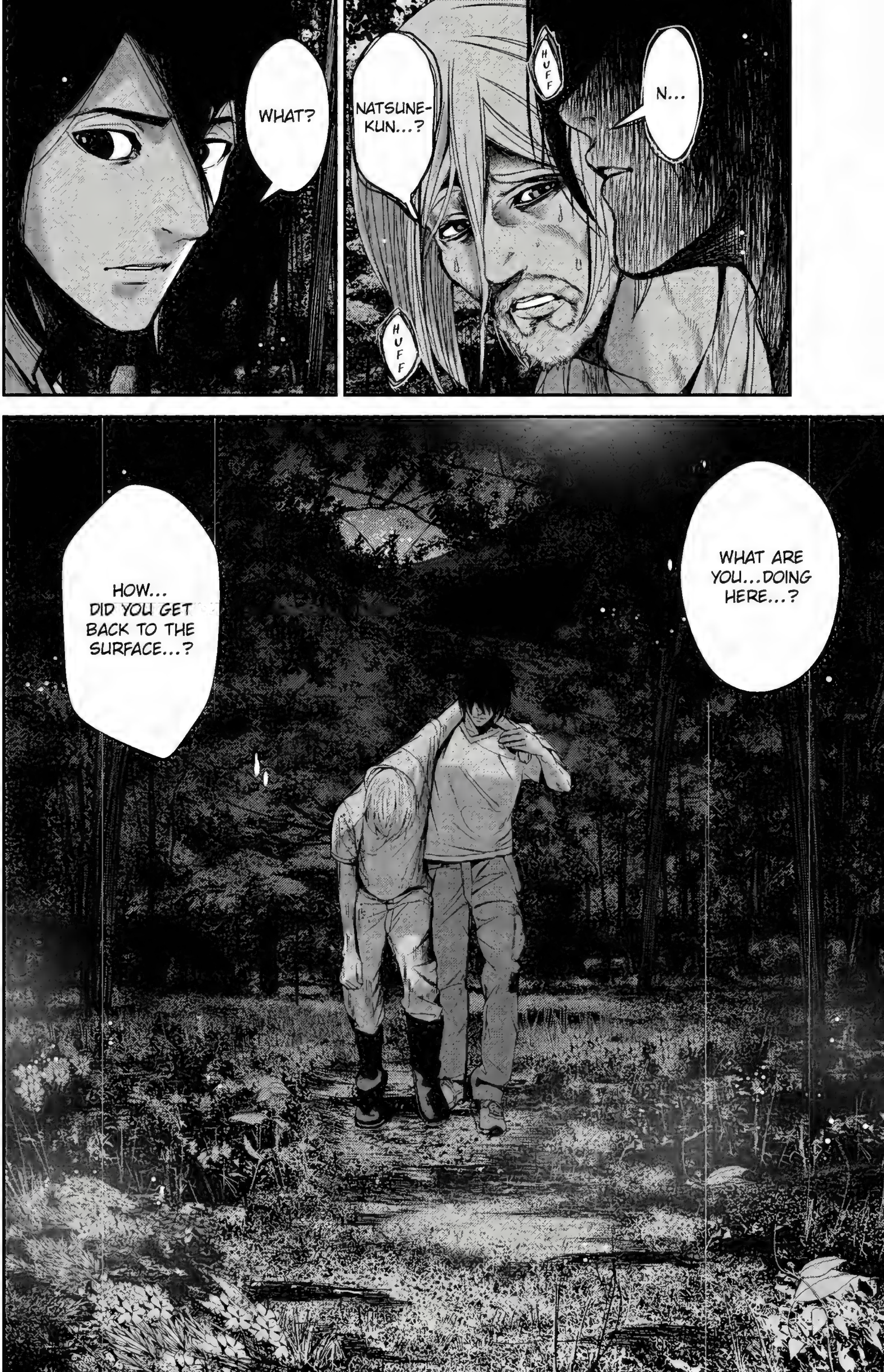

I DREAMT...
...THAT I WAS TOGETHER WITH NATSUNE-KUN AND YAMABIKI-KUN.
WE WERE WALKING THROUGH A MEADOW UNDER THE MOONLIGHT WITH SMILES ON OUR FACES.
STARVING ANONYMOUS
H!!!
ZSHH
ZSHH
H!!

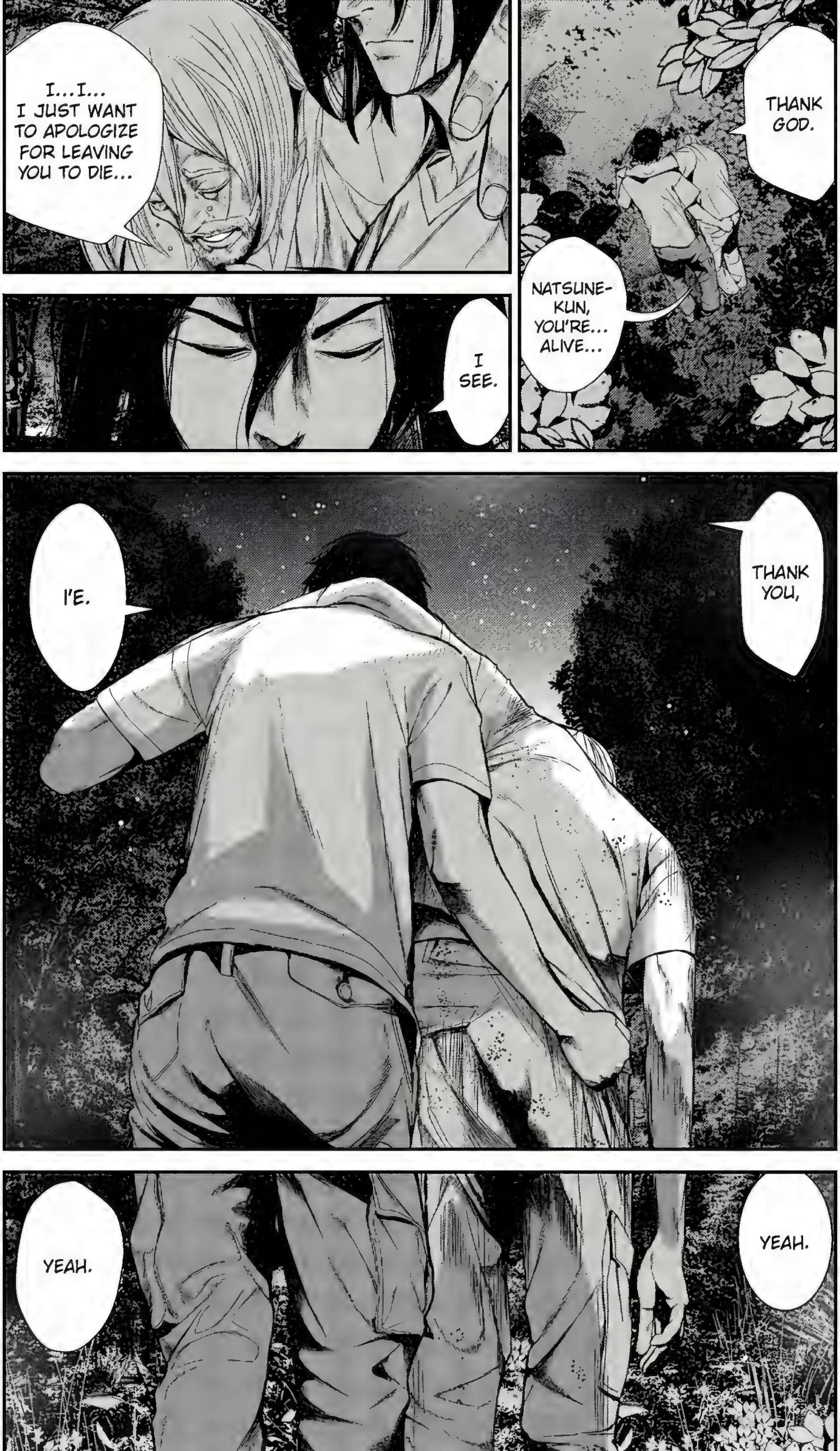

ZSHH
ZSHH
HUH?
I'M... WALKING. I'M WEARING MY SHOES.
HUFF
WHY?
WHAT AM I WALKING FOR?
HUFF
RIGHT...
ZSHH
LEFT...
RIGHT...
ZSHH
LEFT...
RIGHT, LEFT, RIGHT, LEFT, RIGHT, LEFT, RIGHT, LEFT...

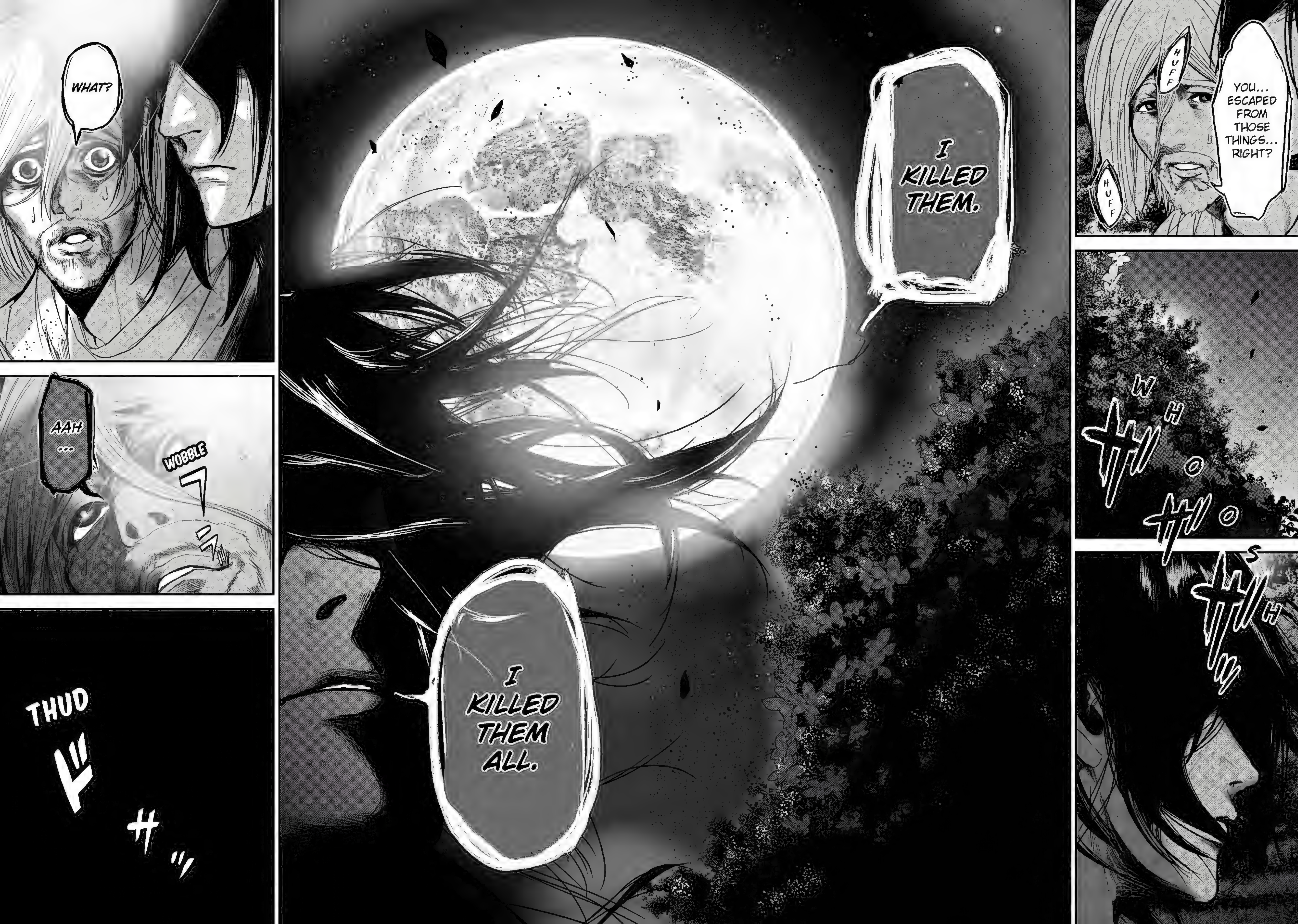

HUFF
IMMA GOOD WALKERER!
HEE HEE HEE...
ZSHH
ZSHH
ZSHH
ZSHH
HUH?!
FWAP

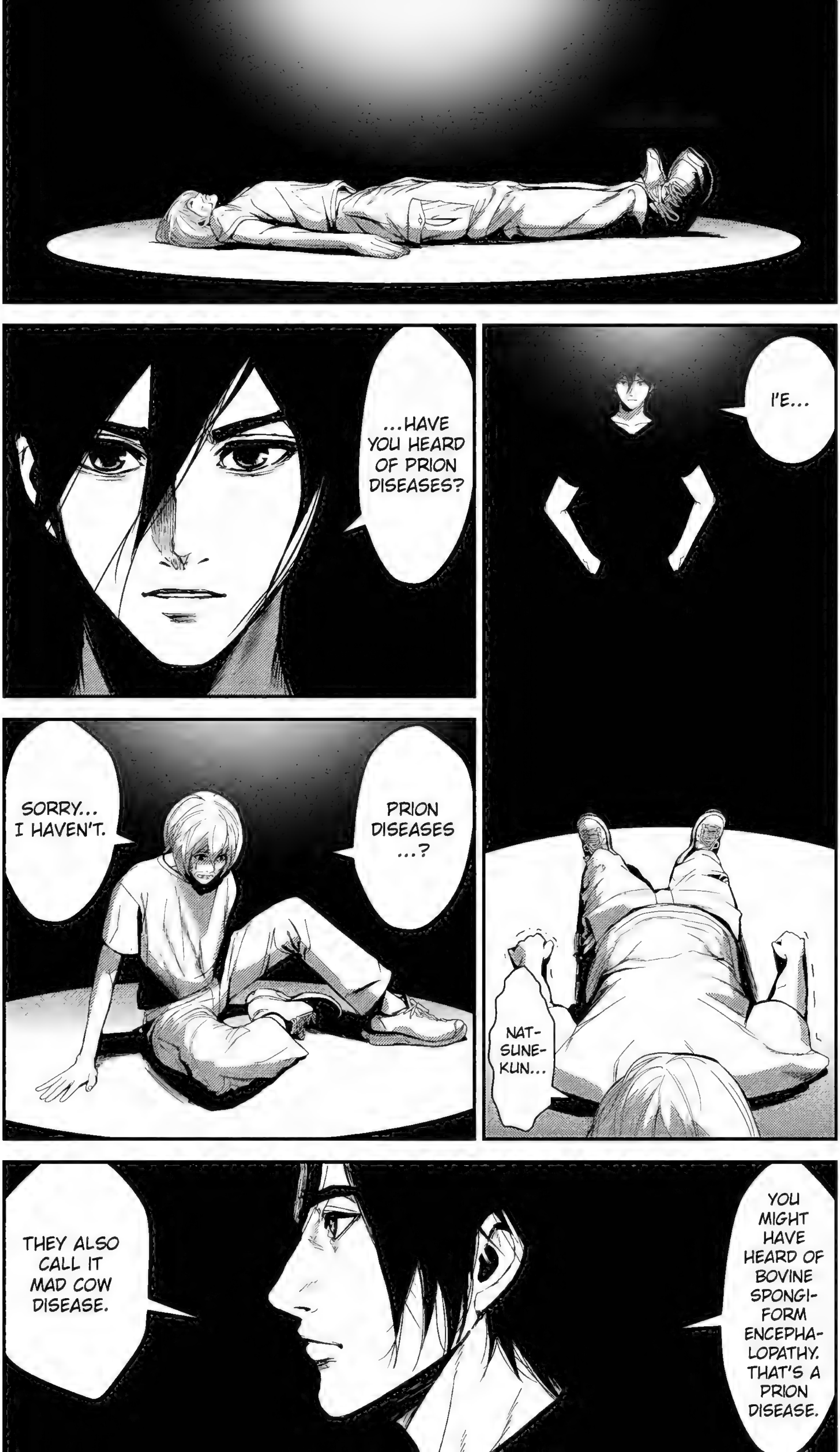


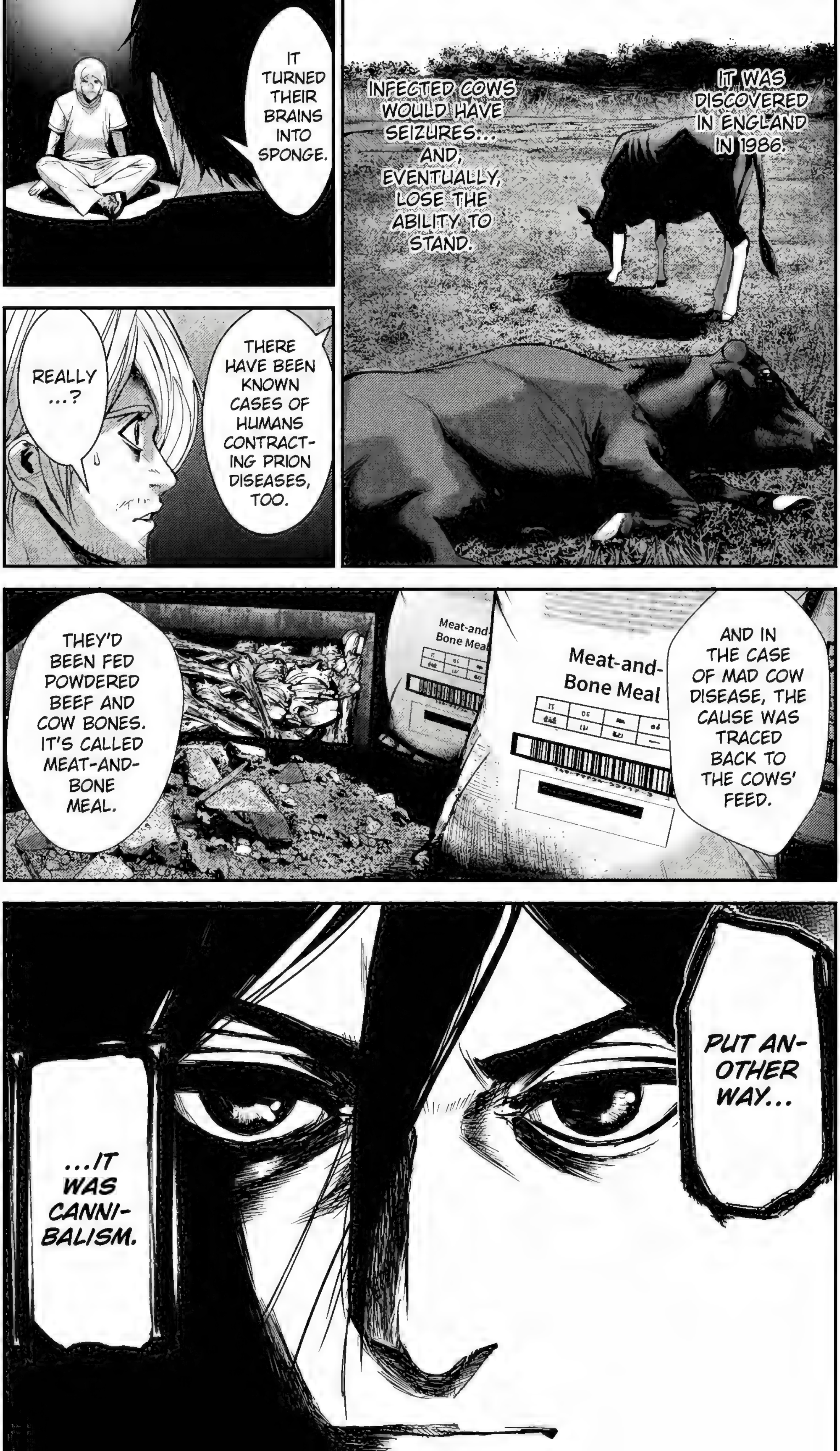
Final Chapter

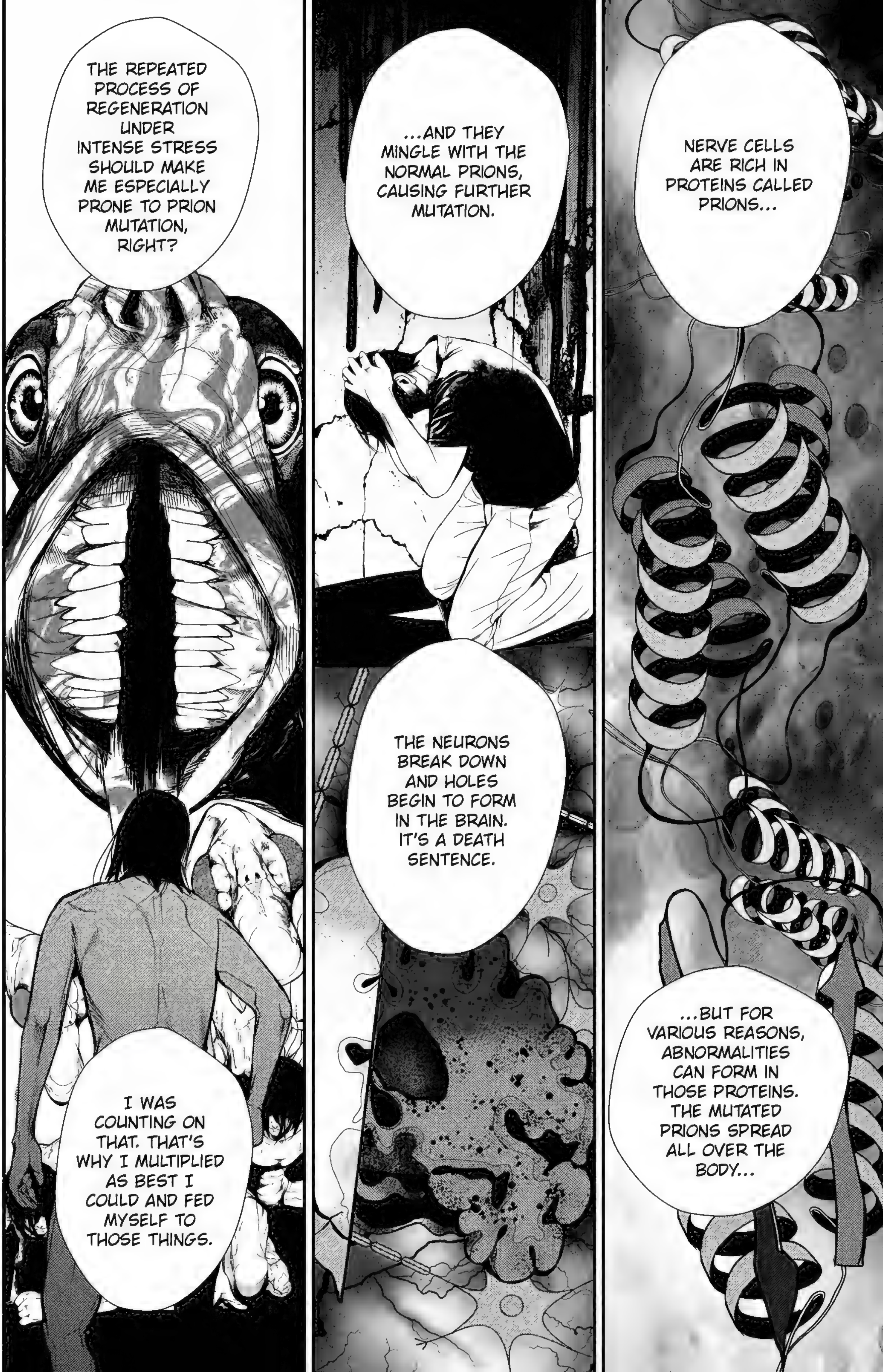

N...
HUFF
NATSUNE-KUN...?
HUFF
WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU...DOING HERE...?
HOW... DID YOU GET BACK TO THE SURFACE...?

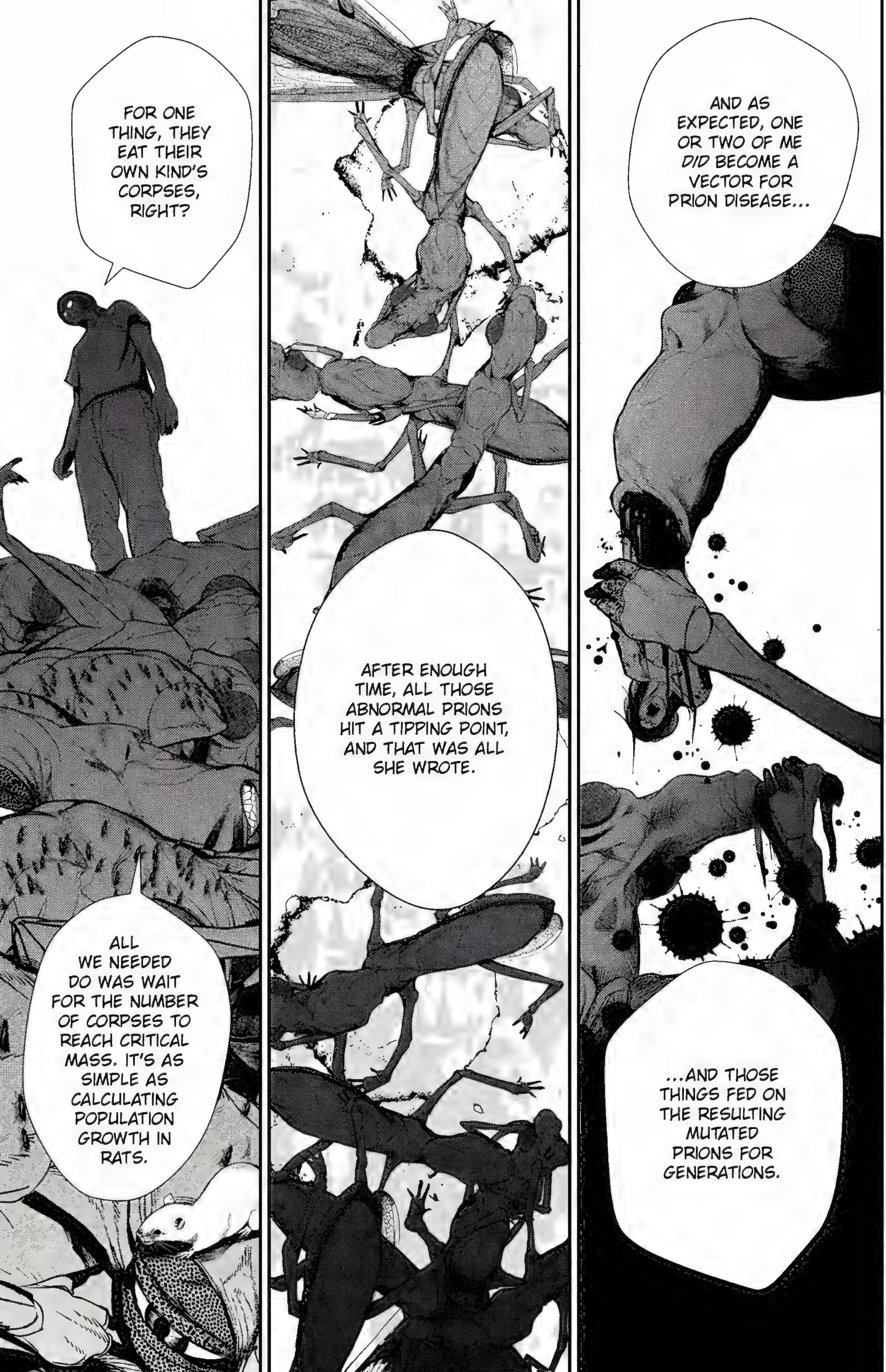

THANK GOD.
NATSUNE-KUN, YOU'RE... ALIVE...
I...I... I JUST WANT TO APOLOGIZE FOR LEAVING YOU TO DIE...
I SEE.
THANK YOU,
I'E.
YEAH.
YEAH.

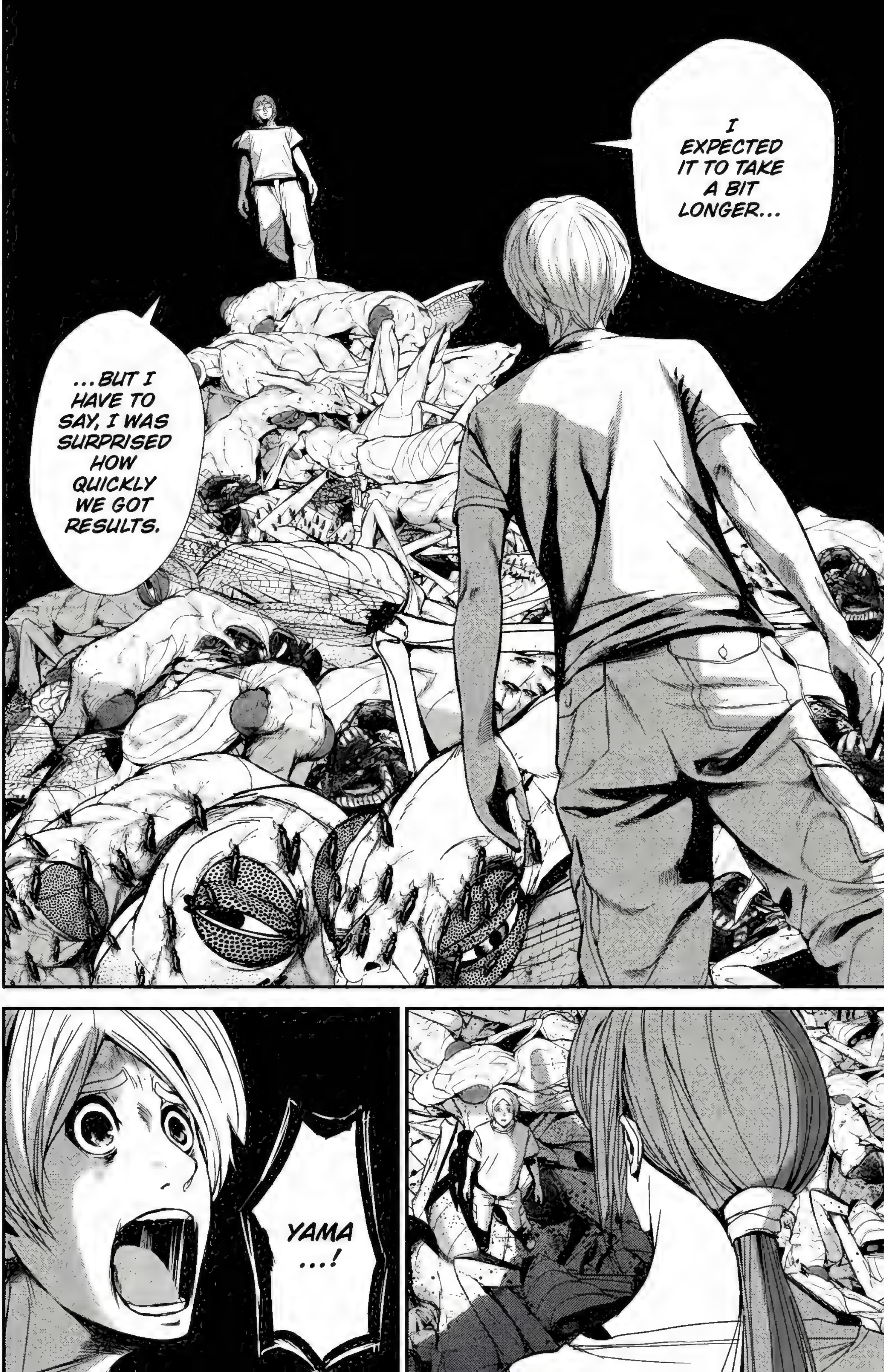

HUFF
HUFF
YOU... ESCAPED FROM THOSE THINGS... RIGHT?
WHOOSH
I KILLED THEM.
I KILLED THEM ALL.
WHAT?
AAH...
WOBBLE
THUD

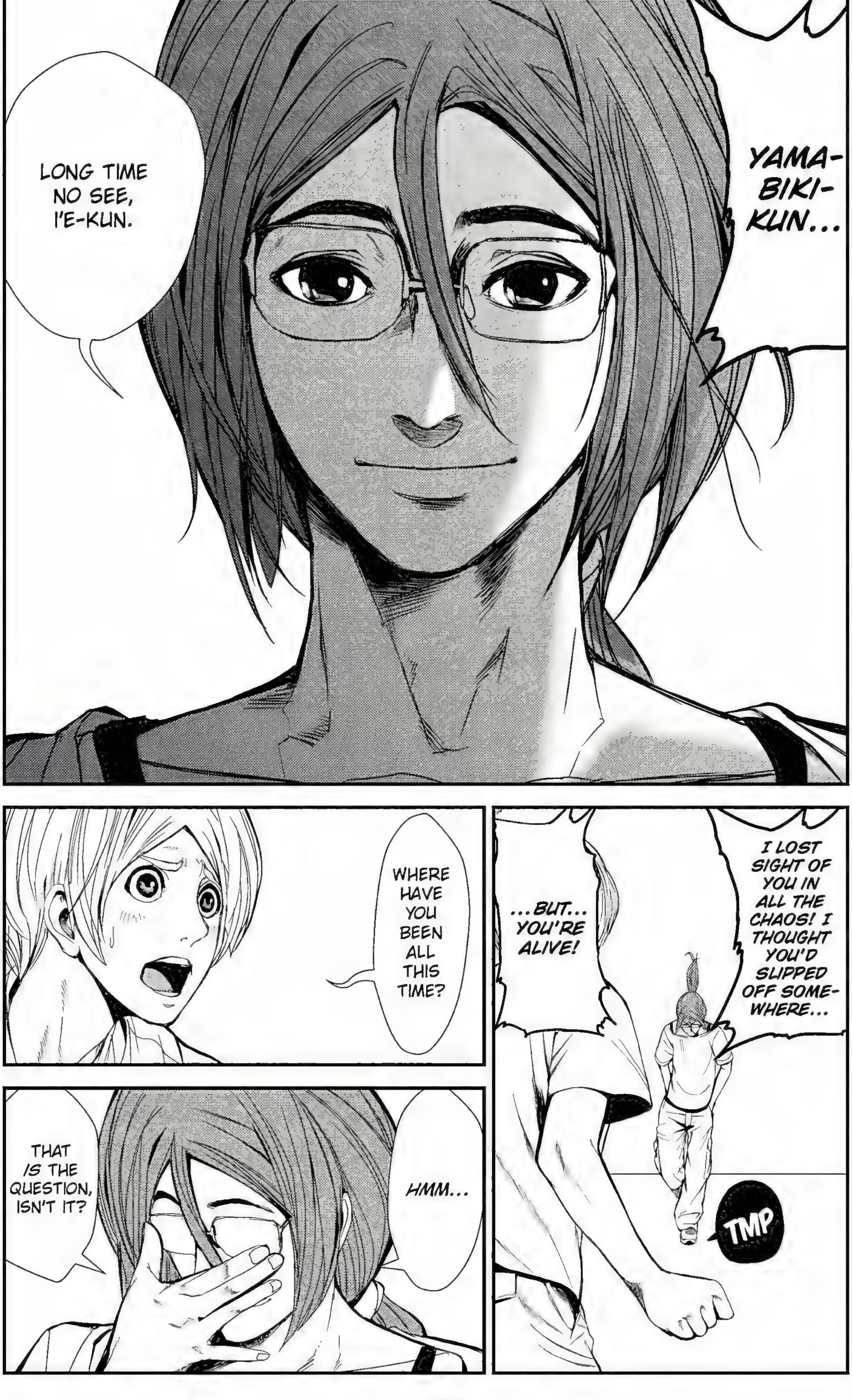

I'E...
NATSUNE-KUN...
...HAVE YOU HEARD OF PRION DISEASES?
PRION DISEASES ...?
SORRY... I HAVEN'T.
YOU MIGHT HAVE HEARD OF BOVINE SPONGIFORM ENCEPHALOPATHY. THAT'S A PRION DISEASE.
THEY ALSO CALL IT MAD COW DISEASE.

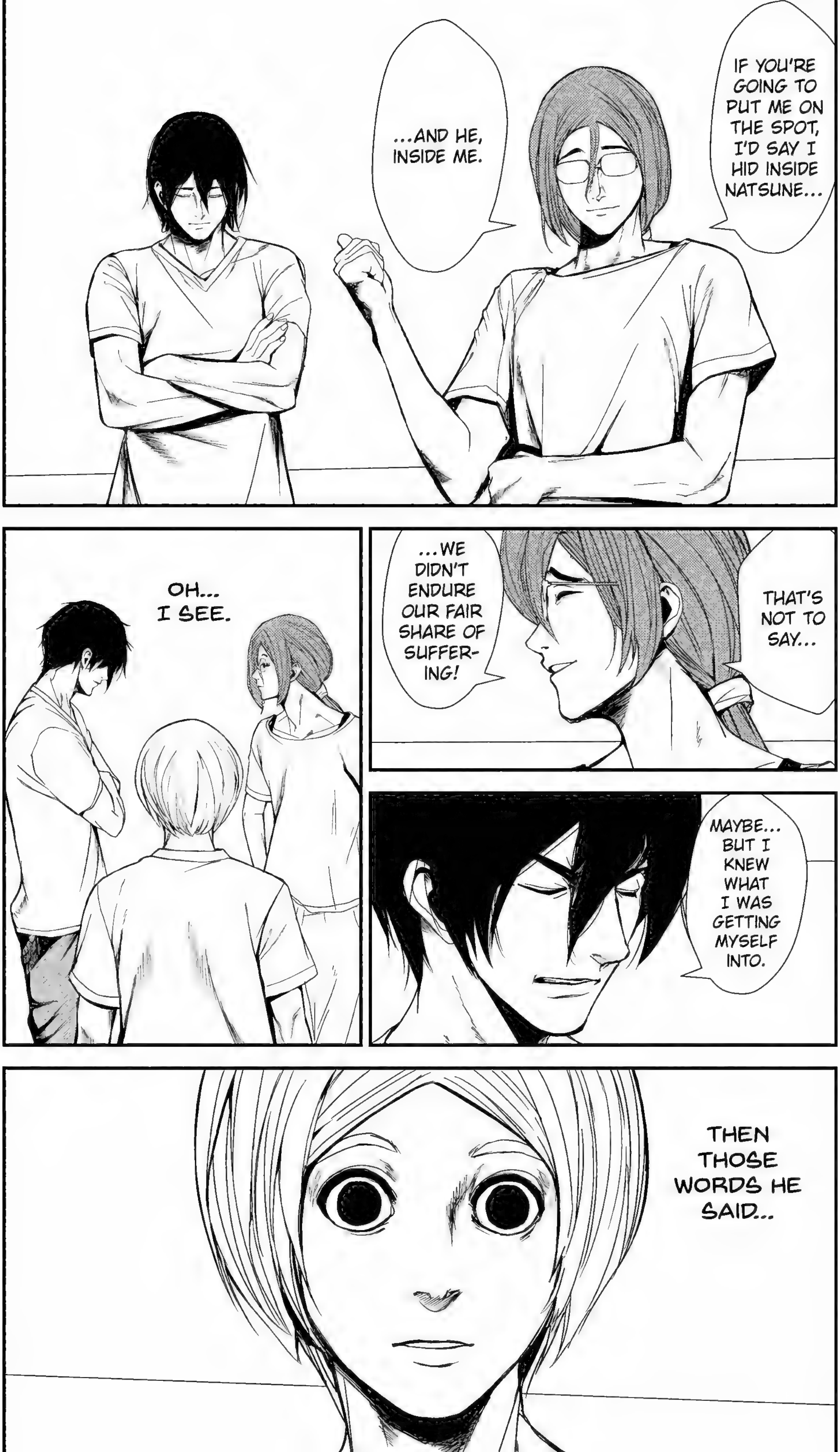

IT WAS DISCOVERED IN ENGLAND IN 1986.
INFECTED COWS WOULD HAVE SEIZURES... AND, EVENTUALLY, LOSE THE ABILITY TO STAND.
IT TURNED THEIR BRAINS INTO SPONGE.
THERE HAVE BEEN KNOWN CASES OF HUMANS CONTRACTING PRION DISEASES, TOO.
REALLY ...?
AND IN THE CASE OF MAD COW DISEASE, THE CAUSE WAS TRACED BACK TO THE COWS' FEED.
Meat-and-Bone Meal
Meat-and-Bone Meal
THEY'D BEEN FED POWDERED BEEF AND COW BONES. IT'S CALLED MEAT-AND-BONE MEAL.
PUT ANOTHER WAY...
...IT WAS CANNIBALISM.

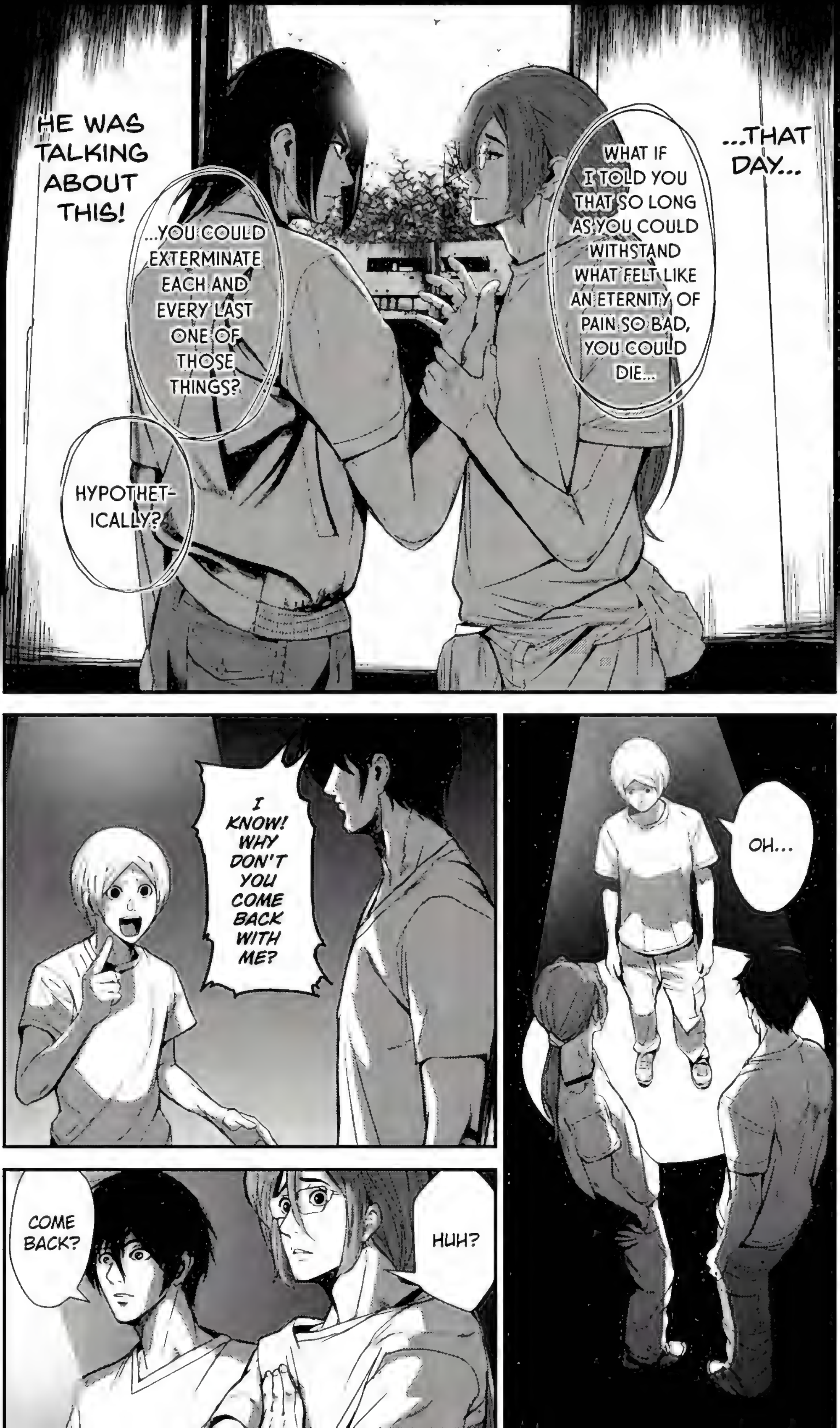

NERVE CELLS ARE RICH IN PROTEINS CALLED PRIONS...
...BUT FOR VARIOUS REASONS, ABNORMALITIES CAN FORM IN THOSE PROTEINS. THE MUTATED PRIONS SPREAD ALL OVER THE BODY...
...AND THEY MINGLE WITH THE NORMAL PRIONS, CAUSING FURTHER MUTATION.
THE NEURONS BREAK DOWN AND HOLES BEGIN TO FORM IN THE BRAIN. IT'S A DEATH SENTENCE.
THE REPEATED PROCESS OF REGENERATION UNDER INTENSE STRESS SHOULD MAKE ME ESPECIALLY PRONE TO PRION MUTATION, RIGHT?
I WAS COUNTING ON THAT. THAT'S WHY I MULTIPLIED AS BEST I COULD AND FED MYSELF TO THOSE THINGS.

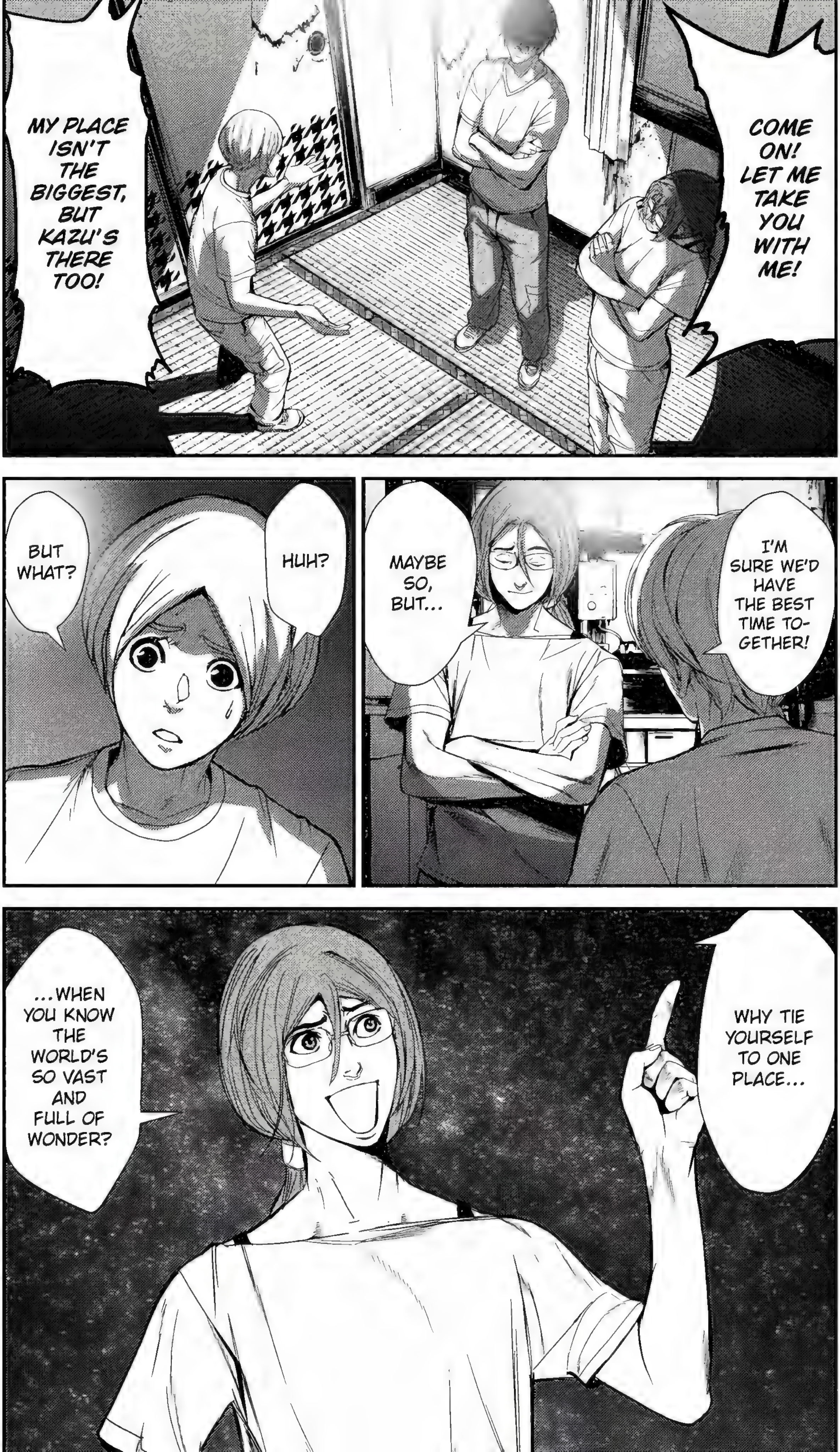

AND AS EXPECTED, ONE OR TWO OF ME *DID* BECOME A VECTOR FOR PRION DISEASE...
...AND THOSE THINGS FED ON THE RESULTING MUTATED PRIONS FOR GENERATIONS.
AFTER ENOUGH TIME, ALL THOSE ABNORMAL PRIONS HIT A TIPPING POINT, AND THAT WAS ALL SHE WROTE.
FOR ONE THING, THEY EAT THEIR OWN KIND'S CORPSES, RIGHT?
ALL WE NEEDED DO WAS WAIT FOR THE NUMBER OF CORPSES TO REACH CRITICAL MASS. IT'S AS SIMPLE AS CALCULATING POPULATION GROWTH IN RATS.

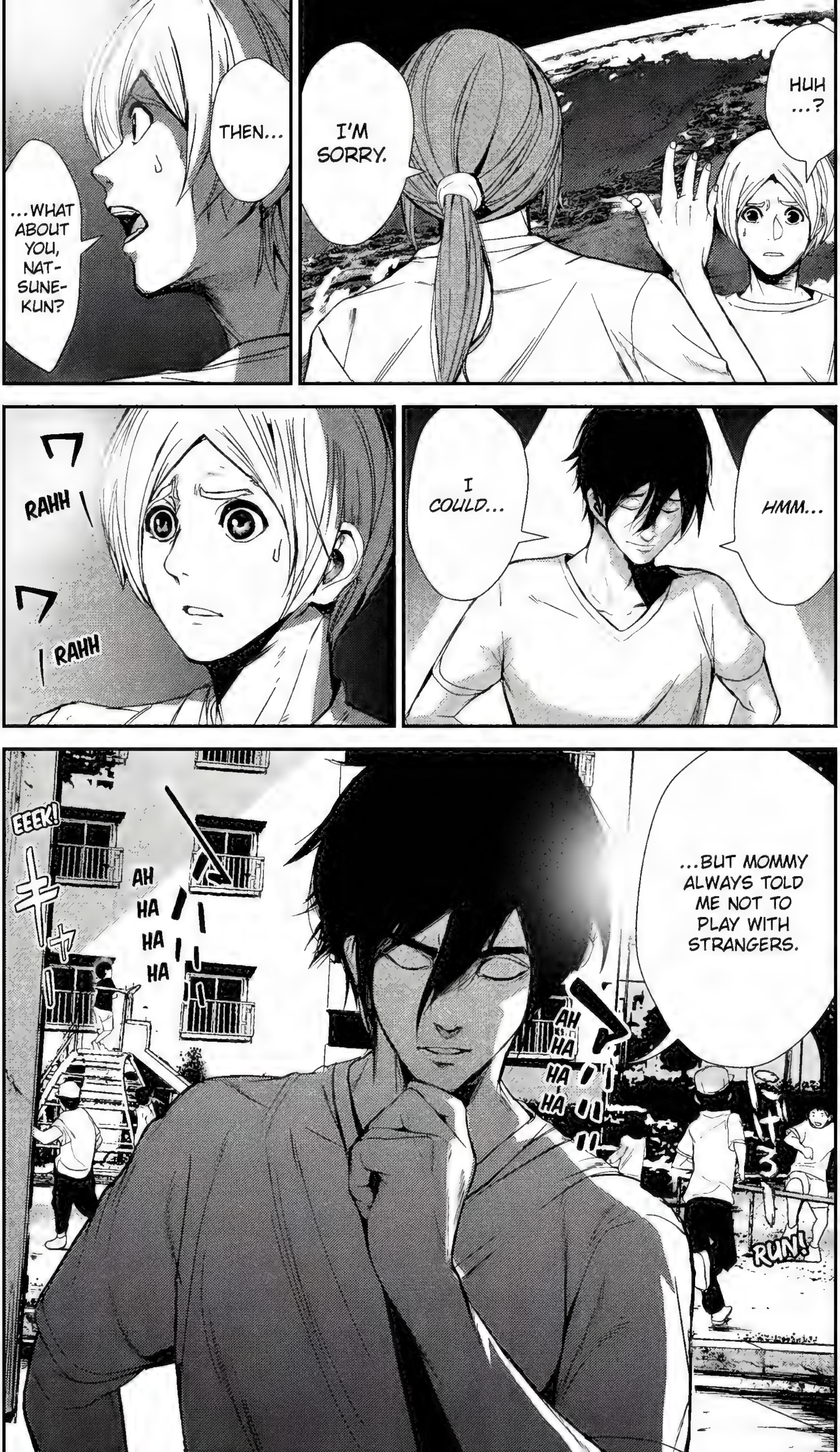

I EXPECTED IT TO TAKE A BIT LONGER...
...BUT I HAVE TO SAY, I WAS SURPRISED HOW QUICKLY WE GOT RESULTS.
YAMA ...!

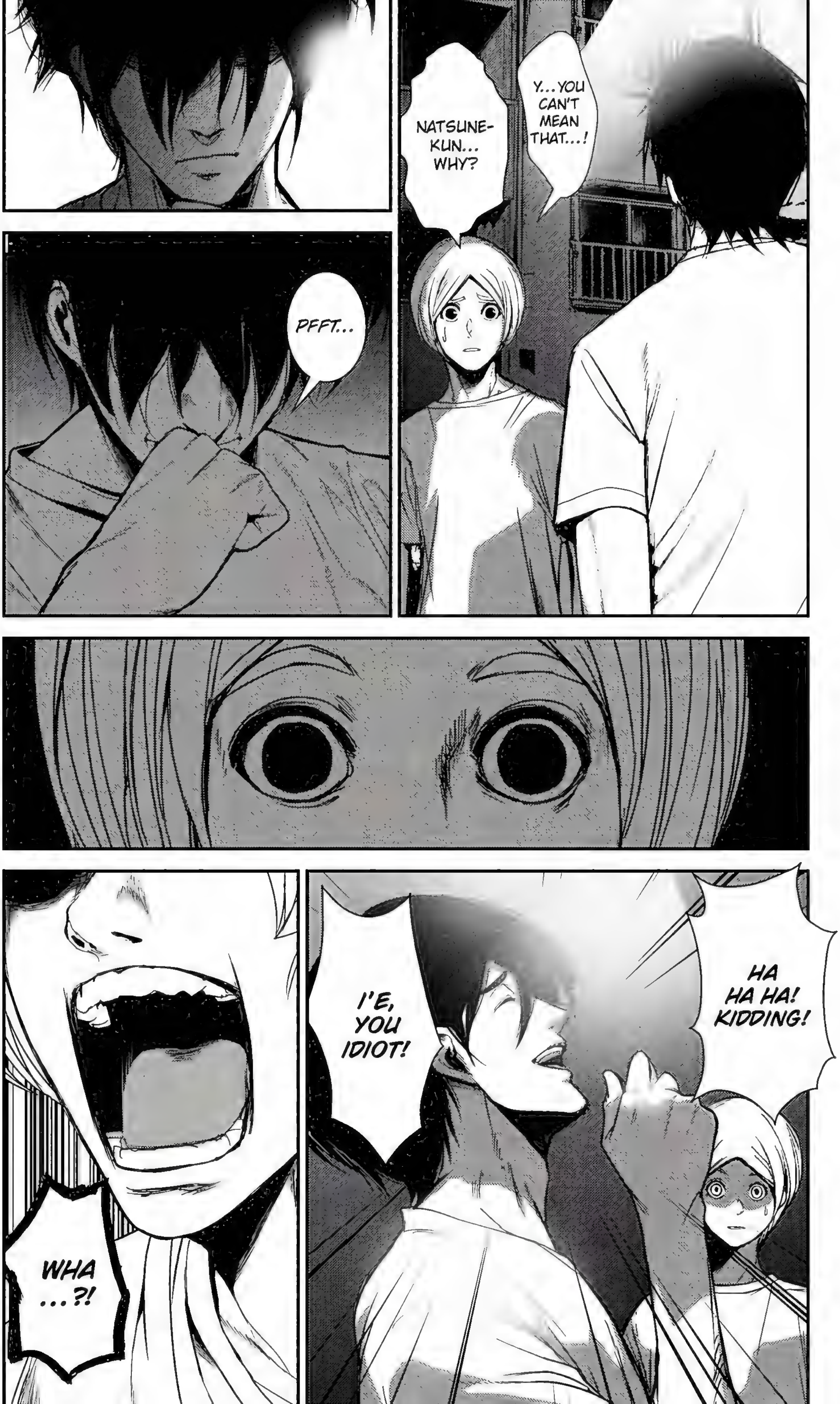

YAMA-BIKI-KUN...
LONG TIME NO SEE, I'E-KUN.
I LOST SIGHT OF YOU IN ALL THE CHAOS! I THOUGHT YOU'D SLIPPED OFF SOMEWHERE...
...BUT... YOU'RE ALIVE!
TMP
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN ALL THIS TIME?
HMM...
THAT *IS* THE QUESTION, ISN'T IT?

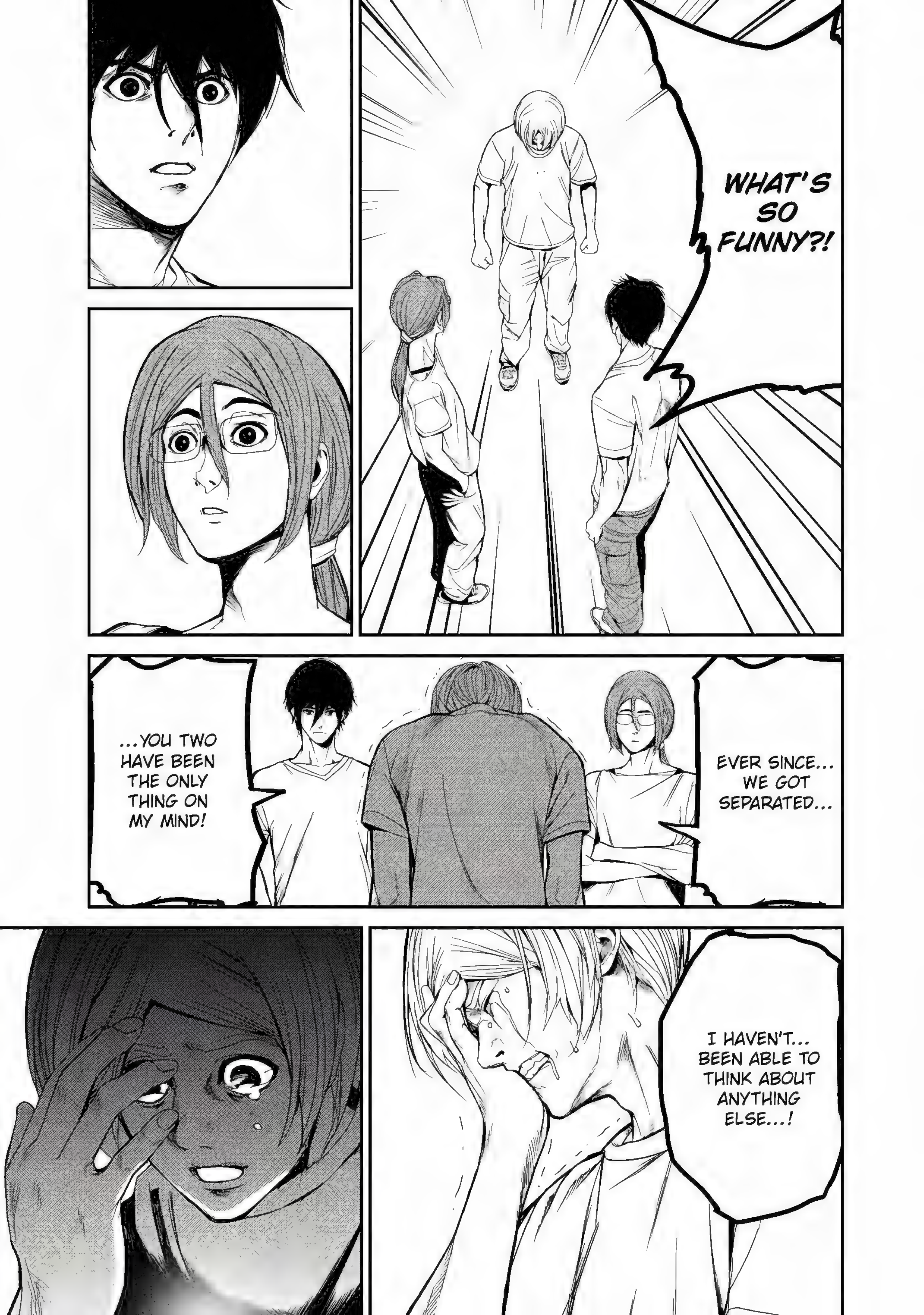

IF YOU'RE GOING TO PUT ME ON THE SPOT, I'D SAY I HID INSIDE NATSUNE...
...AND HE, INSIDE ME.
THAT'S NOT TO SAY...
...WE DIDN'T ENDURE OUR FAIR SHARE OF SUFFERING!
MAYBE... BUT I KNEW WHAT I WAS GETTING MYSELF INTO.
OH... I SEE.
THEN THOSE WORDS HE SAID...

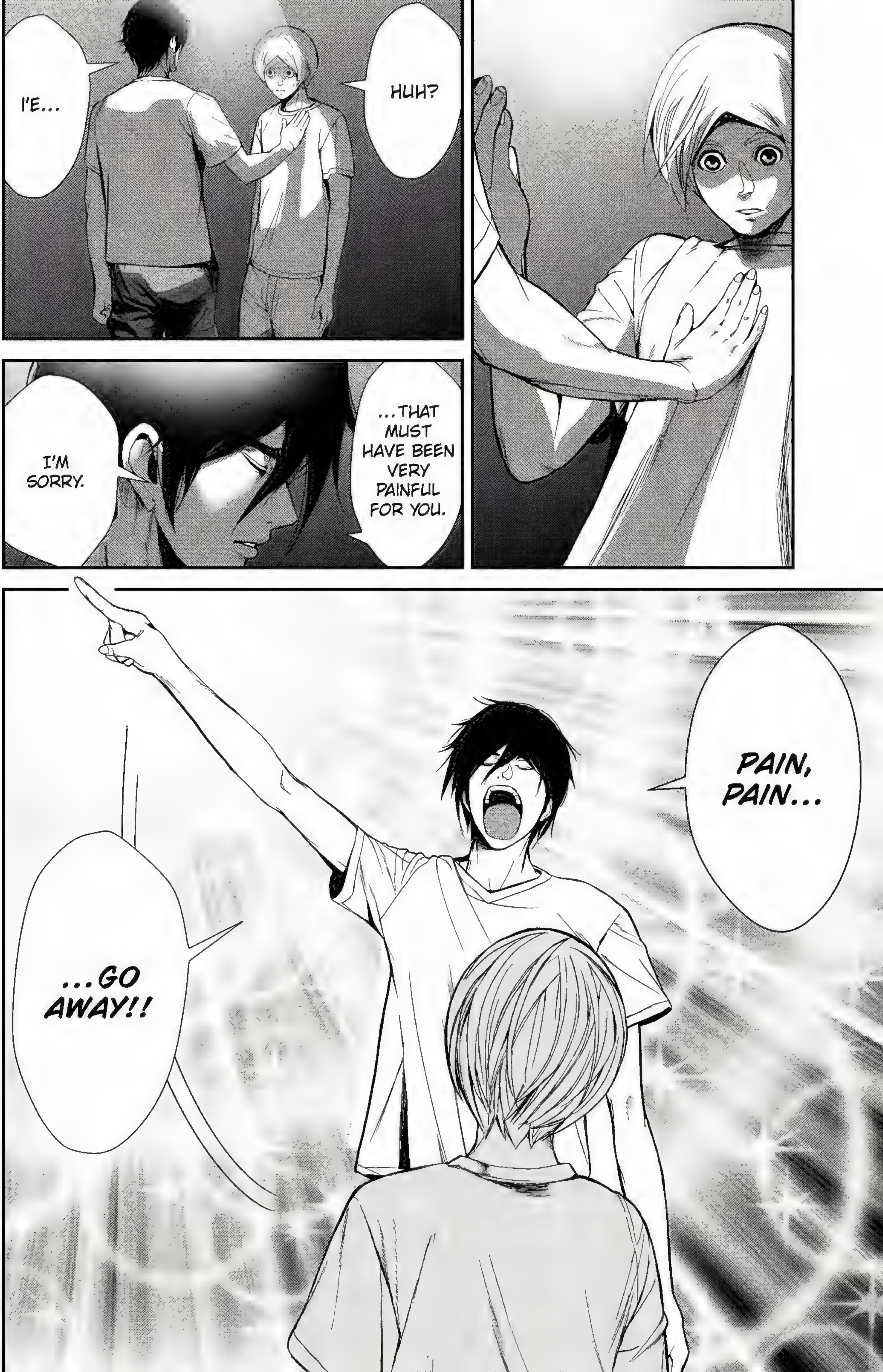

...THAT DAY...
WHAT IF I TOLD YOU THAT SO LONG AS YOU COULD WITHSTAND WHAT FELT LIKE AN ETERNITY OF PAIN SO BAD, YOU COULD DIE...
...YOU COULD EXTERMINATE EACH AND EVERY LAST ONE OF THOSE THINGS?
HYPOTHETICALLY?
HE WAS TALKING ABOUT THIS!
OH...
I KNOW! WHY DON'T YOU COME BACK WITH ME?
HUH?
COME BACK?

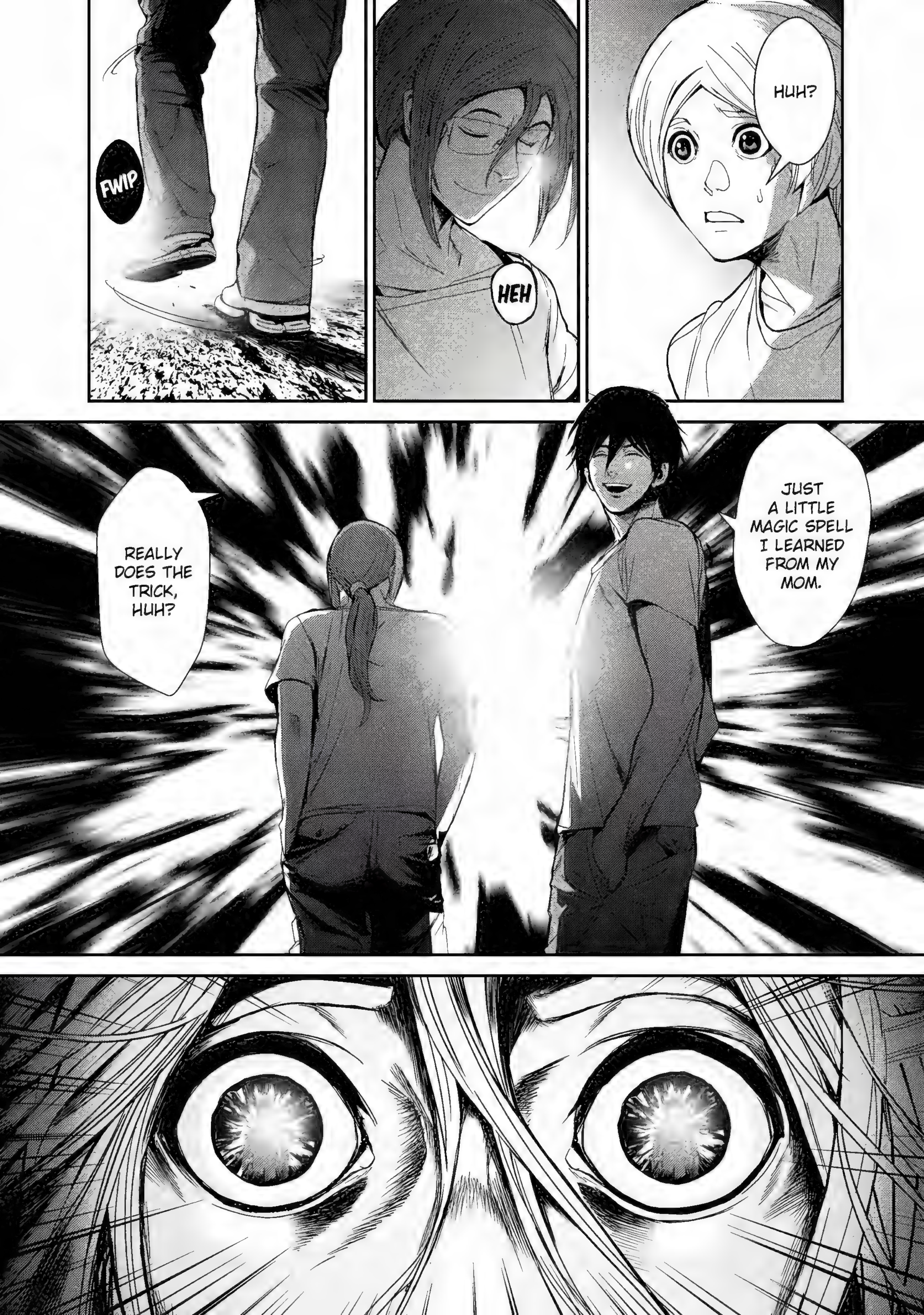

COME ON! LET ME TAKE YOU WITH ME!
MY PLACE ISN'T THE BIGGEST, BUT KAZU'S THERE TOO!
I'M SURE WE'D HAVE THE BEST TIME TOGETHER!
MAYBE SO, BUT...
HUH?
BUT WHAT?
WHY TIE YOURSELF TO ONE PLACE...
...WHEN YOU KNOW THE WORLD'S SO VAST AND FULL OF WONDER?

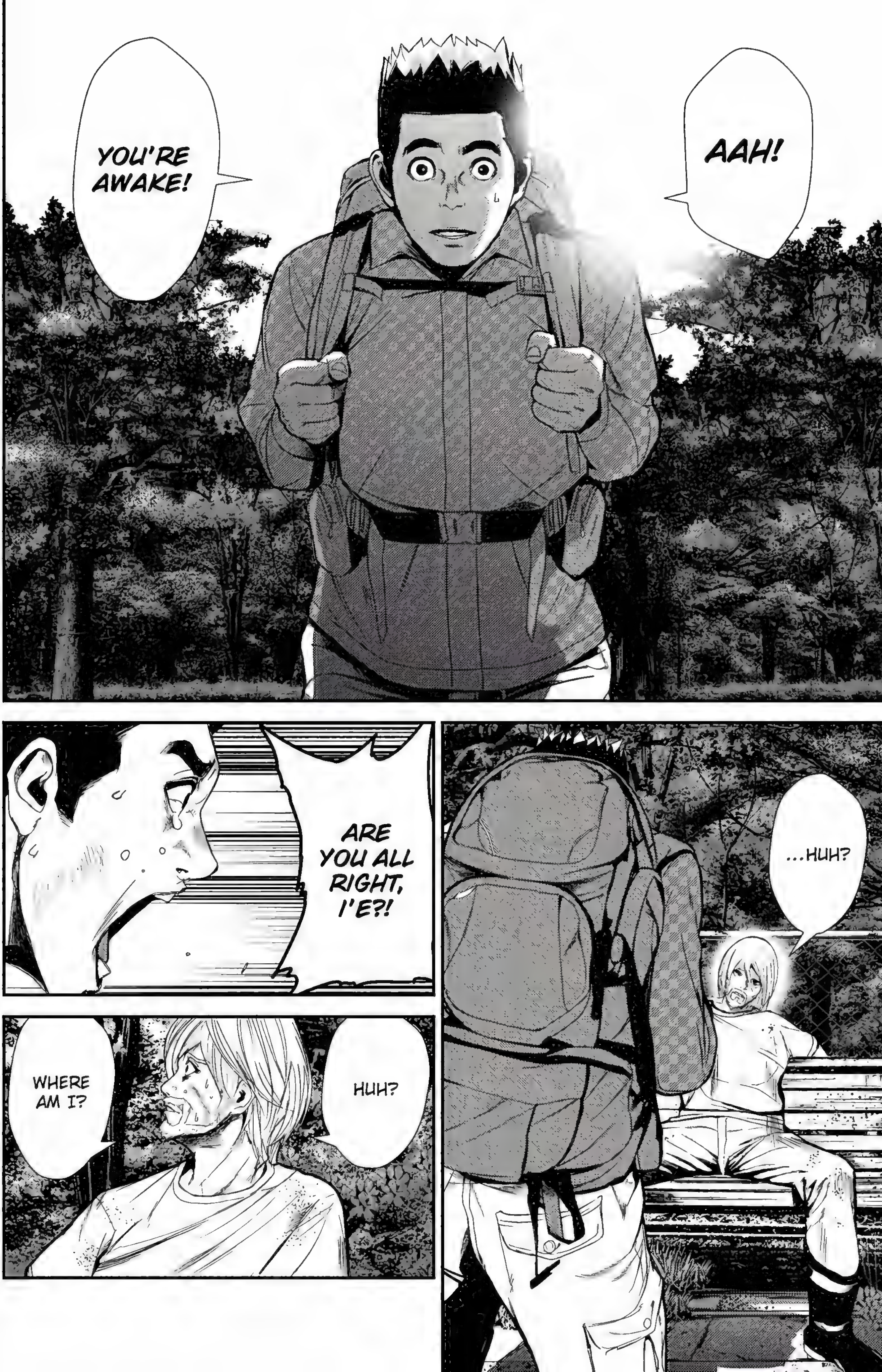

HUH ...?
I'M SORRY.
THEN...
...WHAT ABOUT YOU, NATSUNE-KUN?
HMM...
I COULD...
ワー
RAHH
ワー
RAHH
...BUT MOMMY ALWAYS TOLD ME NOT TO PLAY WITH STRANGERS.
AH HA HA HA
RUN!
EEEK!
キャー
AH HA HA HA

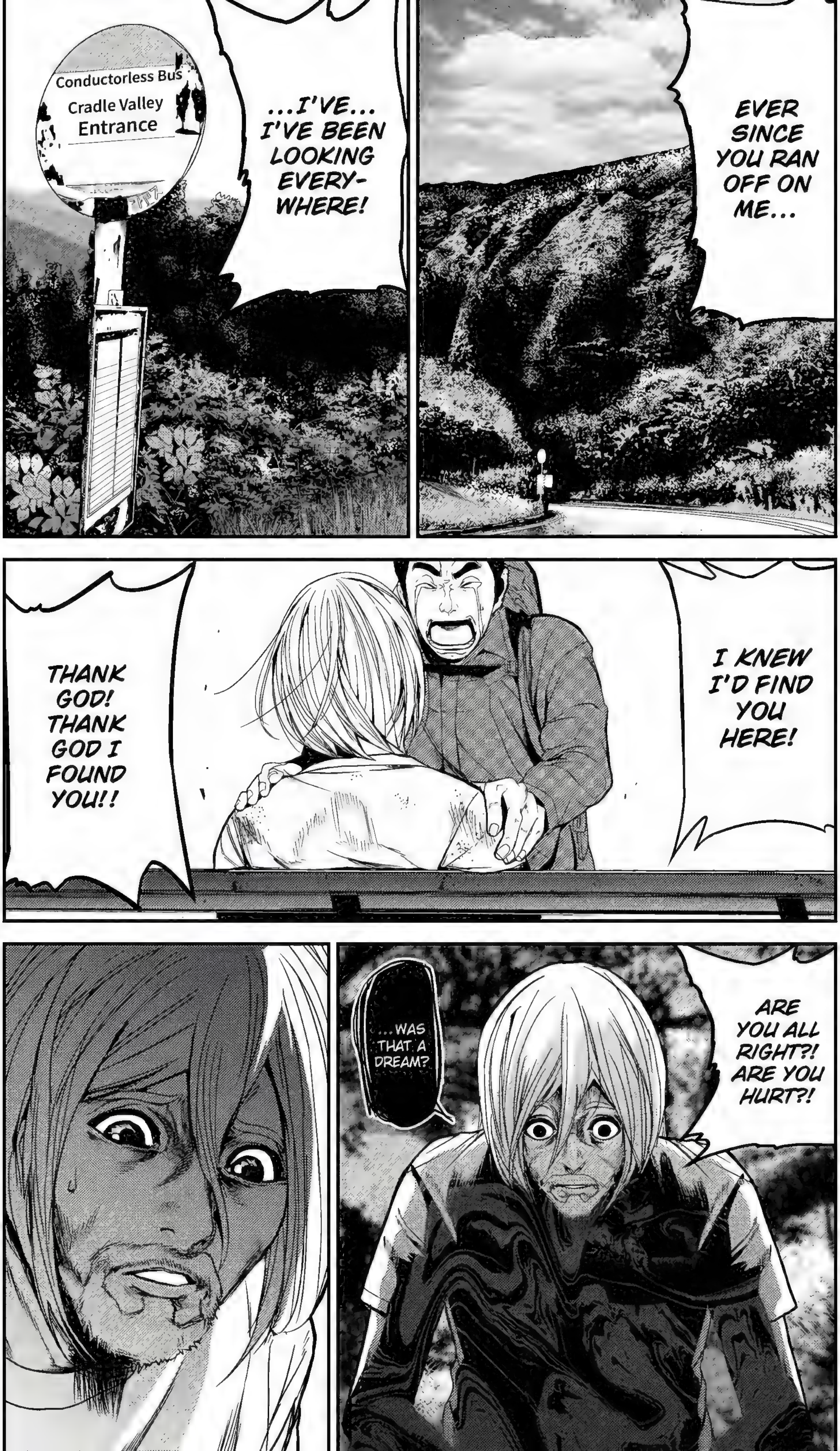

Y…YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT…!
NATSUNE-KUN… WHY?
PFFT…
HA HA HA! KIDDING!
I'E, YOU IDIOT!
WHA…?!

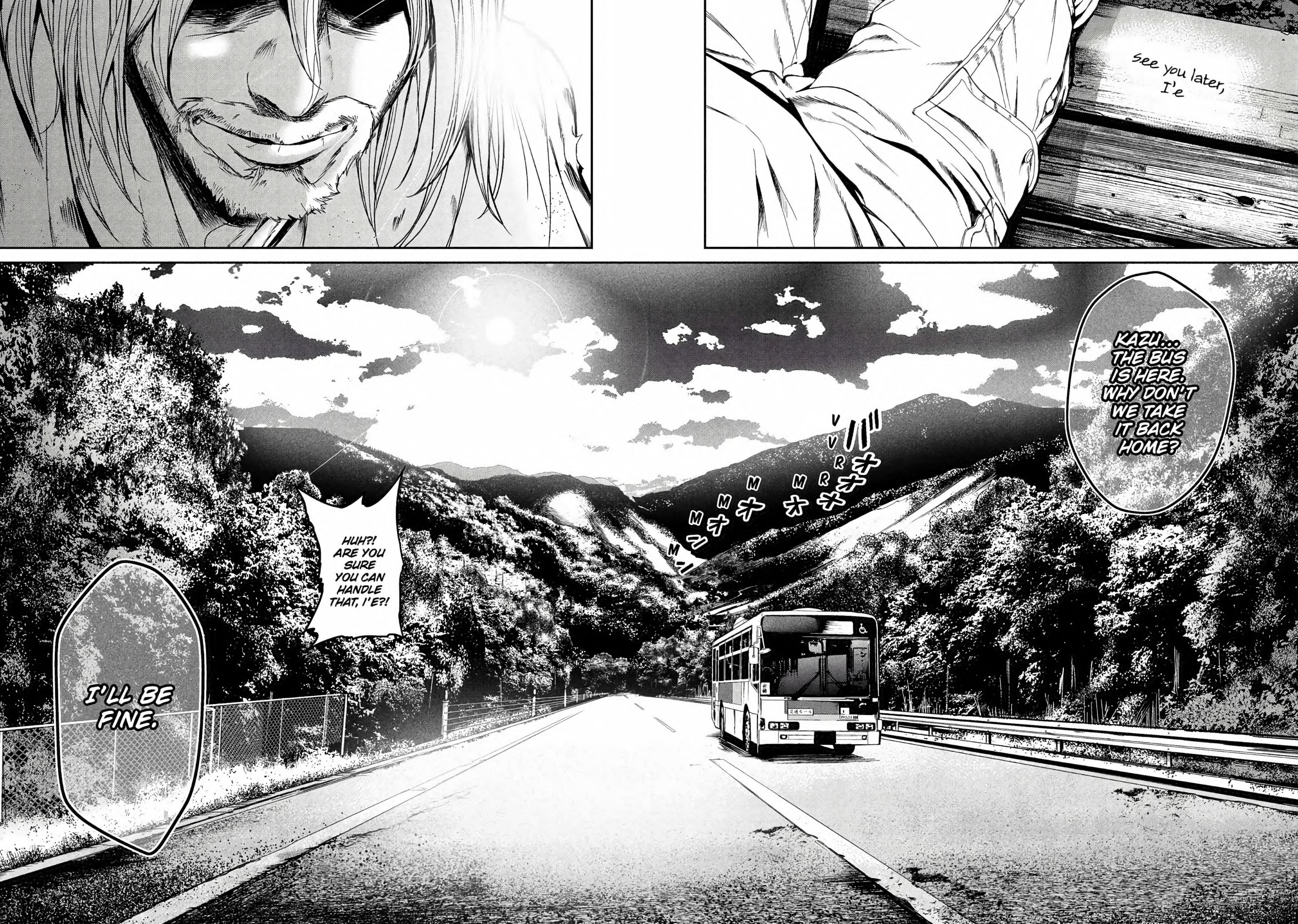

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
EVER SINCE... WE GOT SEPARATED...
...YOU TWO HAVE BEEN THE ONLY THING ON MY MIND!
I HAVEN'T... BEEN ABLE TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE...!


HUH?
I'E...
...THAT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY PAINFUL FOR YOU.
I'M SORRY.
PAIN, PAIN...
...GO AWAY!!


HUH?
HEH
FWIP
JUST A LITTLE MAGIC SPELL I LEARNED FROM MY MOM.
REALLY DOES THE TRICK, HUH?


AAH!
YOU'RE AWAKE!
...HUH?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, I'E?!
HUH?
WHERE AM I?


EVER SINCE YOU RAN OFF ON ME...
...I'VE... I'VE BEEN LOOKING EVERYWHERE!
Conductorless Bus
Cradle Valley Entrance
I KNEW I'D FIND YOU HERE!
THANK GOD! THANK GOD I FOUND YOU!!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?! ARE YOU HURT?!
...WAS THAT A DREAM?


See you later, I'e
KAZU... THE BUS IS HERE. WHY DON'T WE TAKE IT BACK HOME?
VVRRMMMMM
HUH?! ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN HANDLE THAT, I'E?!
I'LL BE FINE.

Starving Anonymous

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STARVING
ANONYMOUS
7
END

Starving Anonymous 7

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